



2023 SHARKS SHIELD CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

Version 3

Conditions of Entry

The 2023 Sharks Shield is designed to provide quality competition for teams in the lead-up to Queensland State Cup. It is also a qualifying competition for representation in the 2024 NTL South Queensland Sharks campaign.

Dates: Fridays: 8 September, 15 September, 22 September, 13 October, 20 October
Sunday (Finals): 29 October

Time: Friday: 6.20pm; 7:10pm; 8:00pm; 8:50pm (if required)

Locations: Redlands Touch (Cleveland Showgrounds, Cleveland); Gold Coast Touch (Owen Park, Southport), Palm Beach Touch (Mallawa Sports Complex, Palm Beach)

Nominations open: Monday 19 June

Nominations close: 5pm Friday 18 August

1. DIVISIONS & AGE CRITERIA

- a) The divisions offered for the 2023 Sharks Shield will be:
 - Men's
 - Women's

- b) Players must be 15 years of age or older.

2. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Nominating players must meet the following criteria:

- a) Players in each team must be eligible for Affiliate representation under the Queensland State Cup Conditions of Entry.
- b) Players cannot compete in more than one (1) team in any division.
- c) Players may only play for one (1) Affiliate within this competition.
- d) Requests for dispensation must be within the timeframe outlined in these rules. SQBD Touch Football reserves the right to invoke disqualification rules where a team has failed to comply.

- e) The use of un-registered / ineligible players will result in Championship points being forfeited and the team possibly being disqualified from the event.
- f) Player must have turned 15 years of age (* age dispensation may be applied for and will be dealt with on a case by case basis) prior to the first round in the competition

3. REFEREES

- a) Referees will be under the control of the SQBD Management Team. The SQBD Director of Referees will coordinate the organisation and appointments to each game.
- b) Referees will be paid for their duties and be expected to record scores and ensure players have signed on the scoresheet for each team in EVERY game officiated.
- c) It is expected that all Affiliates involved will encourage their referees to support this region-based competition.
- d) This is a pre-selection event for referees to represent at the 2024 NTLs as a member of South Queensland Sharks.

4. TEAM COMPOSITION

Teams must comply with the following:

- a) A maximum of 14 players per team can register for the event with a maximum of 6 players taking the field at any one time.
- b) Should there be only one team nominated in a division, SQBD Touch Football have the right to play this team in another division with consultation with the Affiliate.

5. SCHEDULING AND RESCHEDULING OF FIXTURES

- a) All dates for the entire competition are released above.
- b) Round games will be structured as double-headers for all weeks set for the competition.
- c) All divisions will feature 5 weeks of round games with finals in the sixth week.
- d) In the event of cancelled rounds, every effort will be made to reschedule games using a mutually agreed date.
- e) SQBD reserves the right to adjust round games as deemed appropriate. There will be no appeal over the rescheduling of round games.

6. TEAM NOMINATIONS (individual player details)

Team Nominations must be completed online by no later than 5pm Friday 18 August 2023. Following receipt of team nominations, SQBD will setup teams in MySideline for participants to register to, providing direct links to Affiliates. Payment will be \$0 per player (total fees for the competition). This must be paid at least 48 hours prior to the first round of games.

Affiliate Delegates are to ensure that:

- a) All players taking the field are registered by the due date
- b) SQBD Services and Programs Manager is advised immediately of any changes to Affiliate Delegate contact details
- c) All players abide by TFA and SQBD Code of Conducts
- d) The nominated email address and mobile phone number are monitored as all communication will be conducted electronically

7. COMPETITION FORMAT

The competition will be based on the following:

- a) A round robin format will be utilized for preliminary rounds.
- b) Where pools are required, crossover semi-finals will be played to determine grand finalists.

Position for the Final Series will be determined as follows:

- 1) Teams will be ranked at the completion of the round games based on points and their finishing position.
- 2) If equal – For & Against
- 3) If equal – Percentages
- 4) If equal – Drop Off

Drawn quarter finals, semi finals and finals will be determined by Drop Off.

Player Qualification for Finals:

- a) To be eligible for the final series, players will be required to have played a minimum of four (4) round games
- b) Player lists with games played will be provided with score sheets for the final series. These may be requested by Affiliate Delegates at any time throughout the competition.

Game Duration:

- a) All games (INCLUDING FINALS) will be full length games, 2 x 20-minute halves with a 5-minute half time.
- b) All drawn semi finals and grand finals will be decided by DROP OFF.
- c) The tournament timekeeper will control the start and finish time of games. A hooter will be used to signal the various start and completion times.
- d) Tournament control will control DROP OFF times with the referees.

8. RULES

- a) All games to be played under the current TFA (8th Edition) rules.
- b) Interchange boxes will be used for this tournament. Substitute players must remain in their interchange area for the duration of the match.
- c) During games teams may have up to 14 players in the sub box in playing attire. No other similarly attired individuals may be in the box area at any time during the game. This applies to all spectators, team supporters and personnel other than coaching and managing staff. Failure to comply will see forfeiture of that game's points.
- d) All divisions are to comprise six (6) to a side, on the field.

9. UNIFORMS

- a) All playing uniforms must include numbered shirt, shorts and socks (socks must be visible) and regulation footwear (refer TFA Rules). Numbered shirts must correspond to the team registration sheet and duplicate numbers are not allowed.
- b) All playing uniforms must match. Any player who does not comply will not be permitted to participate in any match until he/she does comply.

10. COMPETITION POINTS

For all round games competition points will be awarded on the results obtained:

Win	=	Three (3) points
Draw	=	Two (2) points
Loss	=	One (1) point
Forfeit	=	Zero (0) Points

Game Card – At the conclusion of games the referees will seek the signature of the team official (coach/manager or other designated person) to verify the game result. Results need to be confirmed prior to signing. There will be no appeal or discussion relating to incorrect scores. Once a card has been signed – that result will stand.

Protests / Appeals should be written and in the hands of the Administration within twenty minutes of the game in question. (Please note – protests regarding referee decisions will not be accepted). All protests shall be adjudicated on by the SQBD Touch Football Tournament Committee.

11. AFFILIATE CHAMPIONS

After the completion of finals matches, all semi-finalists will be assigned points in accordance with the table below. These points accumulate across both divisions for each Affiliate. The Affiliate with the most points will be declared the Affiliate Champion and have their Affiliate name engraved into the Sharks Shield for 2023.

	MEN'S	WOMEN'S
1st	100	100
2nd	90	90
3rd	80	80
4th	70	70

The winner of the Grand Final will be ranked 1st with the runner-up ranking 2nd. We will have a play-off match to determine 3rd and 4th places in each Division.

If two (2) or more Affiliates finish on equal points, then the Affiliate Champion will be determined in the following manner (in order from 1st to 6th):

1. The Affiliate with the most premierships
2. The Affiliate with the most second (2nd) places
3. The Affiliate with the most third (3rd) places
4. The Affiliate with the most fourth (4th) places
5. The Affiliate with the most tries
6. The Affiliate with the best overall for-against

In the event that Affiliates cannot be divided after these 6 points have been applied, multiple winners will be awarded.

12. TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS

a) Referees:

- a. Referees will be under the control of the SQBD Director of Referees.
- b. Referees must hold a minimum TFA Level 1 referee accreditation to officiate at this tournament and are to be registered via SportsM8.
- c. Referee allocations will be completed 7-days prior to games.
- d. All referees are expected to have ACKNOWLEDGED games within SportsM8 at least 5 days before game day or risk having these games re-allocated.

b) Tournament Control:

All tournament issues will be controlled by SQBD Touch Football or the Tournament Coordinator appointed by SQBD Touch Football.

c) Judiciary / Disputes Committee:

A judiciary/disputes committee will be appointed by the SQBD Touch Football Tournament Committee or appointed Tournament Coordinator.

13. ACCESSING DRAWS, RESULTS AND LADDERS

Fixtures, Results and Ladders will be displayed on the SQBD website:

www.sharkstouch.com

The website will be updated once all game cards have been received.

14. CHILD PROTECTION ACT

In accordance with the Queensland Child Protection Act and instructions issued by the Queensland Sport and Recreation "Guidelines for Sport and Recreation Organisations – Working with Children Check and Child Protection", SQBD & Affiliates will comply with this legislation.

It is a requirement of this legislation that ALL coaches, assistant coaches, managers, team management, medical staff and referees involved in the competition are compliant with this legislation.

It is the responsibility of each Affiliate to ensure all appropriate Team Delegates meet the blue card requirements.

15. LIVESTREAMING, VIDEOGRAPHY, PHOTOGRAPHY AND SOCIAL MEDIA

SQBD will oversee the production of professional videography at all round games regardless of venue, along with the livestreaming of games (where possible).

All participants involved will be bound by the Queensland Touch Football 'Social Media Policy'.

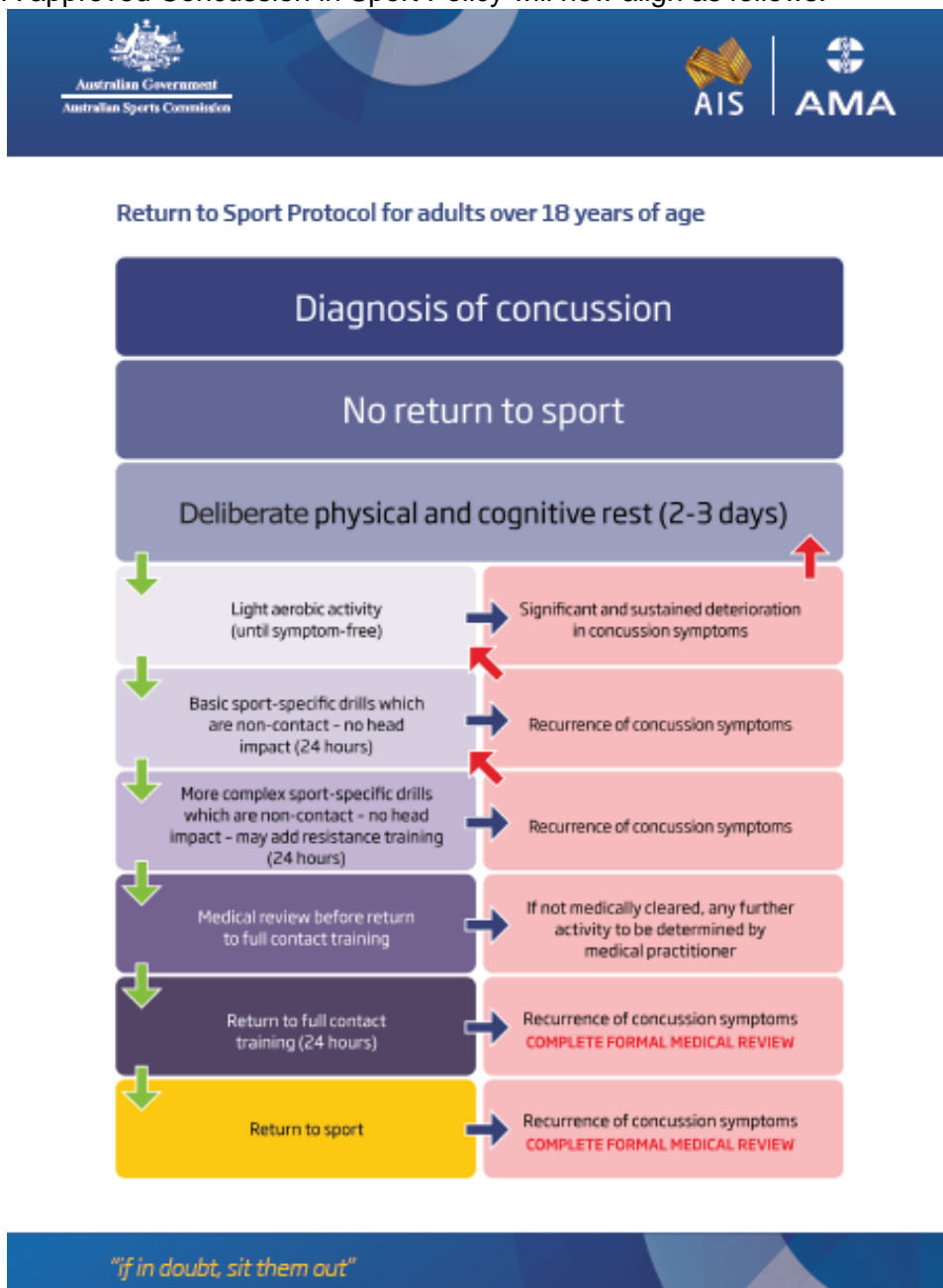
All persons accept that by participating in this event they may be photographed and that these images may be used by SQBD for promotion of the sport. SQBD may not pass any image/s onto a third party unless prior approval is sought. If you do not wish for your image/s to be used, you must notify SQBD in writing.

16. CONCUSSION POLICY

The Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) and the Australian Medical Association (AMA) have established a joint Position Statement on Concussion in Sport and have launched concussioninsport.gov.au – an Australian-Government funded website providing simple but specific advisory tools for athletes, parents, teachers, coaches and medical practitioners.

How to recognise concussion and what are the symptoms / signs of concussion and further information can be found here <https://concussioninsport.gov.au/>

The TFA approved Concussion in Sport Policy will now align as follows:



17. FORFEITS

- a) Teams must be in attendance at their designated playing field five (5) minutes before the commencement of their match. It is the responsibility of each team captain to report to the referees **two (2) minutes** before the commencement of the game so that the toss of the game can be affected without loss of time.
- b) It is the responsibility of the referees appointed for the game to adhere to the time frames set down in this clause.
- c) If a team is not at the field at the advertised starting time of the game, the attending team can be awarded the winning of the toss. The offending team will receive a maximum of FIVE (5) minutes from the commencement of the game (hooter/whistle) to position the team on field and be ready to commence play.
- d) If the offending team is not in attendance after the FIVE (5) minutes has expired, the game will be deemed a forfeit and the non-offending team will be awarded a 5-0 win and three (3) competition points. The offending team will receive a 0-5 score and no competition points.
- e) Should the non-offending team agree to participate in the match following the expiration of the FIVE (5) minute time limit the game result will stand.
- f) The appointed representative of an offending team may be required to meet with the SQBD Touch Football Tournament Committee to determine the team's further participation.
- g) Forfeits for any reason in the final series, negates the forfeiting team's right to participate further in the tournament.

18. RIGHT TO AMEND

SQBD Touch Football reserves the right to amend any of the above conditions of entry. Should there be an amendment, the nominated team contact and the school contact will be advised.

19. FORCE MAJEURE

If SQBD Touch Football is unable to perform, in whole or part any obligation under these regulations of a Force Majeure event, SQBD Touch Football is relieved of that obligation under these regulations to the extent and the period it is unable to perform.

In addition to Policies, SQBD Touch Football has no obligation to refund to any individual or team any fees paid if it is unable to perform by reason of a Force Majeure event.

Force Majeure event

For the purpose of these regulations a force majeure event includes but is not limited to any or all of the following:

- Acts of God including flood, drought, earthquake, storm, cyclone, fire, explosion, epidemic or;
- War;
- Terrorism;
- Riot or Civil Disturbances;
- Permanent injunction of any duly constituted court;
- Any fact, circumstance, matter or thing beyond the reasonable control of SQBD Touch Football.