

**Federation Of International Touch Inc.**

[www.internationaltouch.org](http://www.internationaltouch.org)  
P O Box 9029, Moonee Beach, Australia NSW 2045  
[secretary-general@internationaltouch.org](mailto:secretary-general@internationaltouch.org)

<b>TO</b>	<b>ALL NATIONAL TOUCH ASSOCIATIONS (NTA's)</b>			
<b>DATE</b>	<b>September 2016</b>			
	<b>FIT NEWSLETTER</b>			
<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>INFORMATION</b>		<b>REFERENCE</b>	
<b>WELCOME</b>	On behalf of the Federation of International Touch (FIT) President Erick Acker we hope our September Newsletter will bring you up-to-date with recent Touch Events, Tournaments and "happenings" in all our National Touch Associations (NTA's). .		<b>President@internationaltouch.org</b>	
<b>FIT NTA'S UPDATES</b>				
<b>FIT 2016 AFFILIATES UPDATE NATIONAL TOUCH ASSOCIATIONS (NTA)</b>	<b>Africa</b>	Egypt, Kenya, South Africa (SATA) Mauritius	<b>4</b>	<b>Re Admitted Member</b>
	<b>Americas</b>	Chile, USA Touch Canada	<b>3</b>	
	<b>Asia</b>	China, Chinese-Taipei, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Malaysia, Middle East (UAE), Philippines, Qatar, Singapore.* <b>Sri Lanka</b>	<b>11</b>	
	<b>Europe</b>	Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Deutschland, England, France, Guernsey, Hungary, Ireland, Italia, Jersey, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Scotland, Spain, Switzerland, Wales Monaco	<b>19</b>	
	<b>Oceania</b>	Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga	<b>10</b>	
		Total	<b>47</b>	
	<b>Recent Enquiries</b>	Greece.Panhellanic (on-going due to Greek Govt requirements), Jamaica, Georgia, Libya, Nepal, Pakistan Touch Ball Federation.		
<b>FIT TECHNICAL POSITIONS</b>				
<b>SPORTS DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL POSITION APPLICATIONS</b> now being called for *Referee's Chair *Coaches Chair *Youth & Children Chair *Women's Chair	In accordance with policy FIT has declared all Technical Chair positions vacant and we are now calling for nominations. Please refer to the following Policy documents on our website. <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ujjM1KILin-QixQCoZ5IxAb4IVg16HVpklq7Uvav4Qc/edit?usp=sharing">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ujjM1KILin-QixQCoZ5IxAb4IVg16HVpklq7Uvav4Qc/edit?usp=sharing</a> For any interested applicants, please complete the on-line application form <a href="#">Electronic Nomination Form</a> <b>Nominations for positions are to be lodged prior to 16<sup>th</sup> October 2016</b> <a href="mailto:peter.topp@internationaltouch.org">peter.topp@internationaltouch.org</a>		<b>Inquiries to Sports Development Director Peter Topp</b>	
<b>FIT POLICY REVIEW</b>				
<b>UPDATED POLICIES are now available on</b>	As previously advised all FIT policies have been under review. This has been a daunting task for FIT Board of Directors who had no idea of the magnitude of the task to bring our policies into the		<b>Enquiries to Secretary General</b>	



<b>FIT website.</b>	<p>current environment, ensuring consistent language is used in all policies, and that appropriate links are created and in place.</p> <p>In some instance revision has been completed and three more are listed for approval by the FIT Board at their next Meeting. Updated Policies are now available on our website <a href="http://docs.internationaltouch.org/">http://docs.internationaltouch.org/</a></p> <p>In other instances, FIT Policies are still undergoing review process but until this is completed, <b>the current policy will remain in place.</b></p>	<p>Bill Ker</p> <p>Secretary-General@internationaltouch.org</p>
<b>FIT EXTERNAL RECOGNITION &amp; MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS</b>		
<b>WADA</b>  <b>INOC</b>	<p>FIT and WADA are in final negotiations - focused on mainly on drug testing budgets. Talks are on-going.</p> <p>FIT membership application is reliant on being a WADA signatory acceptance.</p>	
<b>2017 FIT AFFILIATION FEE INCREASE REMINDER</b>		
<b>FIT AFFILIATION FEES INCREASE</b>	<p>FIT would take this opportunity to remind NTA's to factor in the 2017 Affiliation Fee increase in their Budget for next year. As recommended by the Income Stream Committee members in 2015 and ratified by the FIT Board, the 2017 Affiliation fees have been increased by 100% in most instances.</p> <p><b>For NTA enquiries please contact Secretary General for advice.</b></p>	<p>Contact FIT Secretary General Bill Ker</p>
<b>NTA NEWS</b>		
<b>SOUTH AFRICIAN TOUCH ASSOCIATION (SATA)</b>	<p><b>Junior Inter-Provincial (JIPT) SATA</b> are very excited about hosting their biggest Junior Tournament with almost sixty teams nominated to date – this is in accordance with their 20yrs strategy adopted a few years ago and SATA is delighted with increasing team participant numbers.</p> <p><b>Varsity and Masters Inter-Provincial (VMIPT)</b> SATA recently kicked off their new Inter-Provincial tournament in Durban for the Varsity and Masters players focusing on the U21, U25 and O25 players- these age groups may be reviewed as the Tournament grows.</p>	
<b>IRISH TOUCH ASSOCIATION (ITA)</b>  <b>ALL IRELAND CUP</b>	<p><b>ALL IRELAND CUP /LIAM CARROLL CUP</b> President Rory Hickey advised of ITA's inaugural All Ireland Cup played very shortly with eight (8) invited teams.</p> <p>The Trophy has been named after Liam Carroll who together with Rory and others was responsible for the introduction of the sport of touch into Ireland. Liam searched about the game on-line and downloaded the FIT rules; he was also on the first ITA committee and played in our first representative match in Edinburgh in 2006. Sadly Liam was diagnosed with cancer last year, so ITA felt it an appropriate gesture to acknowledge his contributions to the sport of touch &amp; the first All-Ireland Cup will be named in his honour.</p>	
<b>CONGRATULATIONS</b>		
<b>TOUCH FOOTBALL AUSTRALIA(TFA)</b>	<p>After the Australian Rugby Union Women's 7's success at the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio, TFA CEO Colm Maguire spoke with ESPN</p>	<p>Details of the article</p>



<p>Former TFA representative players included in Australia Rugby Union 7's Olympic Gold Medal winning side in Rio</p>	<p>columnist Greg Growden highlighting the number of former female touch representative players who were members of this Australian ARU Olympic Gold Medal winning team. Seven team members were earlier Australian Touch representatives in Youth, Women's or Mixed Divisions. These girls learned their skills playing touch football and ARU admitted they "targeted" a number of female players from other codes to be part of their 2016 Olympic team. <i>View this interview using the link below:</i>  <a href="http://www.espn.com.au/olympics/story/_/id/17297715/touch-football-pride-australia-women-sevens-olympic-gold">http://www.espn.com.au/olympics/story/_/id/17297715/touch-football-pride-australia-women-sevens-olympic-gold</a></p>	<p>by Greg Growden Olympic Story</p>
<p><b>2016 NEW SOUTH WALES TOUCH STATE CUP 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY</b>  Dates: 02-04 December  Venue: Port Macquarie</p>	<p>This year's New South Wales Touch Association (NSWTA) State Cup will be the 40th Anniversary of this Tournament (having been played twice in 1985) and is the oldest and one of the most prestigious events on the Touch Football Australia (TFA) calendar. The NSWTA State Cup was first played in Port Macquarie in 1977 the Men's Open Division (only) was contested and won by Cronulla</p> <p>NSWTA State Cup has grown greatly in team numbers , and in 2016 there are over 260 teams nominating across multiple Men's, Women's &amp; Mixed divisions in age groups from U20s to 055's . Since inception various international teams have participated, with Scotland, Japan, PNG, Singapore and South Africa all having sent teams. In 2016 teams from Japan and Ireland have already nominated, together with overseas referees seeking assessment.</p> <p>The logistics of this Event played in December over three days are staggering. Over 5000 participants, more than 750 games, with 350 referees, utilising over twenty five fields bringing some 7000 visitors to the region and hosts a fantastic Sunday night party.</p> <p>For NTA's interested in sending teams, please contact either NSWTA General Manager, Dean Russell <a href="mailto:dean.russell@nswtouch.com.au">dean.russell@nswtouch.com.au</a>  Sport Manager Daniel Rushworth <a href="mailto:daniel.rushworth@nswtouch.com.au">daniel.rushworth@nswtouch.com.au</a></p>	<p>Contact NSWTA www. nswtouch. com.au</p>
<p><b>NTA'S TOURNAMENTS ADVICE &amp; RESULTS</b></p>		
<p><b>NTA TOURNAMENTS ADVICE &amp; INFORMATION</b></p>	<p><b>International Calendar of Events</b> -For NTA's who either host yearly Touch Tournaments or are considering hosting an international event, FIT can add your Event to our website.  Please contact forward details of your Tournament including, Title, Date, Divisions, Event Organiser &amp; Contact details to  <a href="mailto:gary.reynolds@internationaltouch.org">gary.reynolds@internationaltouch.org</a></p>	<p>Contact FIT Event Chair Gary Reynolds</p>
<p><b>NTA NEWS &amp; NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS RESULTS</b></p>	<p><b>News &amp; Events in your Country</b>  FIT website is an international forum for NTA's news and we encourage NTA's to forward National Championships results including divisions contested and photos. These can then be posted on the FIT website for all interested NTAs, players, coaches and referees Contact: <a href="mailto:alex.tsang@internationaltouch.org">alex.tsang@internationaltouch.org</a></p>	<p>Contact FIT Promotions &amp; Marketing Direct Alex Tsang</p>
<p><b>2016 NTA'S TOURNAMENTS</b></p>		
<p><b>TOUCH USA</b>  <b>MIDDLE EAST TOUCH</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>USA Touch Championships / 13-16th October in Florida, USA</b>  Contact <a href="mailto:oj@usatouch.org">oj@usatouch.org</a></li> <li>• <b>Middle East Touch Champs / October 21 in Dubai, UAE</b>  Open Men's Women's, Mixed &amp; Vets</li> </ul>	<p>Contact OJ Hawea Contact John</p>



<p><b>NSW TOUCH STATE CUP</b> Port Macquarie Australia.</p>	<p>&amp; this year META is hosting a new division for Youth Teams. Contact <a href="http://www.MiddleEastTouchChamps.me">www.MiddleEastTouchChamps.me</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>NSW TOUCH STATE CUP - December 2 -4, Port Macquarie</b> Annual Touch Tournament catering for many divisions Contact <a href="http://www.nswtouch.com.au">www.nswtouch.com.au</a></li> </ul>	<p>Larkins NSWTA Events ,Daniel Rushworth</p>
<p><b>2017 INTERNATIONAL TOUCH TOURNAMENTS</b></p>		
<p><b>2017 WORLD MASTERS GAMES (WMG)</b> New Zealand.</p> <p><b>Touch Tournament Dates : April 21 -25</b> <b>Venue:</b> Bruce Pulman Park, Papakura, Auckland, NZ</p>	<p><b>World Masters Games 2017: Touch</b> Be part of the World's biggest multi-sport event and join 25,000 athletes from 100 countries as the World Masters Games (WMG) comes to Auckland, New Zealand. Registrations for the 2017 WMG Touch competition are still open, and with sports filling up quickly doesn't miss out on the biggest sporting event in the world.</p> <p><b>Touch Competition Information</b> Grades: Masters Men's (open &amp; social), Masters Women's (open &amp; social) and Mixed (open &amp; social)</p> <p>Players and referees alike this is the peak sporting and officiating opportunity of the year. To get involved in this epic event visit <a href="http://Touch.NZ">Touch NZ</a> to register as a referee.</p> <p><b>Why not play for a title to brag about whilst having a heck of a good time doing it. Use the following Hyperlink to view the Touch Specific flyer <a href="#">Link to Masters Games Flyer</a></b></p>	
<p><b>2017 SUPER TRANS TASMAN OPEN TEST SERIES: HOST : TFA</b> <b>Date: 10-14 May, 2017</b> <b>Venue: Kawana, Sunshine Coast, Australia</b></p>	<p>Touch Football Australia (TFA) is hosting a 2017 Super Trans-Tasman Open Test Series and invites National Touch Association (NTA's) to send their national teams to participate in Men's, Women's &amp; Mixed Open divisions.</p> <p><b>EOI Form can be obtained by contacting Tim Wylde</b> <i>Complete &amp; return this form by 23 December 2016 to TFA</i> <a href="mailto:tim.wylde@touchfootball.com.au">tim.wylde@touchfootball.com.au</a></p>	<p><b>Details</b> <b>Tim Wylde</b> <b>TFA</b> <b>Partner</b> <b>Services</b> <b>&amp;</b> <b>Sponsorship</b></p>
<p><b>2018 INTERNATIONAL TOUCH TOURNAMENTS</b></p>		
<p><b>2018 FIT (YTWC) YOUTH TOUCH WORLD CUP</b></p> <p><b>HOST : Touch Malaysia</b> <b>VENUE: Putrajaya Sports Complex Kuala Lumpur.</b> <b>Date: 2018 July/Aug</b> <b>(tbc)</b></p>	<p>Since the announcement of the 2018 Youth Touch World Cup (YTWC) FIT has received forty-nine responses from NTA's to our EOI advising possible attendance.</p> <p>FIT Secretary General &amp; Events Commission Chair will visit Malaysia and Kuala Lumpur /Putrajaya Sports Complex in October for venue &amp; accommodation inspections, Malaysian Touch and Ground officials will participate in these Meetings and FIT anticipates being able to confirm 2018 YTWC Dates after this visit.</p> <p><b>Six Team Divisions &amp; Number of NTA'S EOI's received to date</b> 1) Men's U20s Division x 10; 2) Women's U20s Division x 9 3) Mixed U20s Division x 7: 4) Boy's U18s Division x 8 5) Girl's U18s Division x 8 6) Mixed U18s Division..x 7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FIT can cater for many more teams so if your NTA is considering attendance in one or more team divisions please complete EOI form as return asap. <a href="http://goo.gl/forms/IVQuq50UnWBnmd0B2">http://goo.gl/forms/IVQuq50UnWBnmd0B2</a> <i>Please note that NTA's EOI's are not a binding document; FIT requires an indication of team nominations as according to our policy there must be a</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>Expressions of Interest (EOI) On-line form hyperlink Advised below</b></p>



	<i>minimum of four (4) teams to enable any division to be contested.</i>	
<b>2019 TWC DATE &amp; VENUE</b> 	<b>FIT TOUCH WORLD CUP</b> <b>Date:</b> Commencing 28 April 2019 <b>Host Nation:</b> Touch Malaysia <b>Venue:</b> Putrajaya Sports Complex, Kuala Lumpur; Malaysia <b>Site Visits &amp; Accommodation Enquiries</b> For assistance, please contact Touch Malaysian Bryan O'Connor : <b><a href="mailto:bryan@touchmalaysia.org">bryan@touchmalaysia.org</a></b>	<b>Proposed Dates</b> <b>28 April</b> Opening Ceremony & First day of Competition
<b>UNAFFILIATED COMPETITIONS</b>		
<b>SINGAPORE</b> Please be advised there is an unaffiliated competition operating in Singapore.	Should any NTA hosting a Touch Tournament receive team/s nominations from Singaporean team/s to play in FIT endorsed Events, please contact our National Touch Association (NTA), Touch Football Singapore (TFS) for official endorsement of teams or officials. Should these team from an unaffiliated competition be included in any Tournament draw, then in accordance with the FIT unaffiliated rules , any NTA's teams or officials (referees) cannot participate as to do so may invoke future playing bans.  – This has already caused angst for NTA's teams and FIT does caution all NTA's to check with Touch Football Singapore before accepting team nominations from Singapore.  <b><a href="mailto:bryan@touchsingapore.org">bryan@touchsingapore.org</a></b>	<b>For any assistance please contact Touch Federation of Singapore Bryan O'Connor</b>
<b>PLEASE BE AWARE OF PLAYER PARTICIPATION UNAFFILIATED COMPETITIONS</b>		
Recent issues have arisen where representative players either visit or return "home" participate in unaffiliated games.  Owing to FIT Unaffiliated Rule participation in unaffiliated games can and does incur international playing penalties.	FIT urges all NTA's teams and representative player to be aware of international playing bans for participating in an unaffiliated competition/s in the following (but not limited to) circumstances. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>All Players including those selected in national teams or squads</b> who then travel to other countries and invited to play a game of touch should enquire about the "status" of that competition <b>prior to participation</b>. Enquiries can be made to the National Touch Association (NTA) of that country or alternatively contact FIT for clarification - <b>irrespective of any local assertions</b> they may receive as participation <b>could</b> affect their current or future representative status.</li> <li>• <b>NTA's who select players (either by birthright or who have met residency criteria in their country)</b> in their representative team (either 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Representation), should ensure that player/s has not participated in an unaffiliated competition in their previous country of residence prior to his/her selection.   <b><i>Should any NTA have any enquiries regarding unaffiliated status , please contact FIT for clarification</i></b> </li> </ul>	
Should NTA's have any enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact FIT for advice,		
Kind regards  <b>William (Bill) Ker, Secretary General</b> <b><a href="mailto:Secretary-general@internationaltouch.org">Secretary-general@internationaltouch.org</a></b>		

