



ALL SCHOOLS

**PRELIMINARY
GAMES 2025
POLICY & GUIDELINES**

January 2025



PRELIMINARY GAME POLICY

Background & Guidelines

The 2025 Gold Coast Titans All Schools Touch Football Championships require over 2000 games of touch to be played. Preliminary Games were re-introduced in 2023. *A Preliminary game is simply a Gold Coast Titans All Schools fixture which is played before the actual event in October.* The game may be played in a number of environments, usually a Regional All Schools or an existing local competition where both schools participate. In some cases, the game is organized at a time to suit two closely located schools. The school who has been allocated home status needs to liaise with the opponent school for a time and date to play the game. The game can be played at the home school's venue or they may organize an alternative venue if the visiting school agrees. At all times both schools should communicate to ensure the least stress for both. The home school has the responsibility of organizing a referee, preferably not from their school. An alternative to this may be to use two student referees, one from each school to referee the game and this is the preferred option given there is no costs provided for referees. Games are played under the same rules as the All Schools including time (25 mins duration) Note – in the case of a dispute the GCTAS Tournament Director shall rule and forfeits are a possible consequence if agreement cannot be reached.

Summary

- Preliminary Games are a Condition of Entry and compulsory, however, **not all schools or teams will be allocated a Preliminary Game** and these are usually allocated to best suit the tournament organization and the main draw.
- There are no funds available for Preliminary games including referee fees or medical costs.
- Participation at a Regional All Schools is recommended but **not compulsory**.
- Schools who do not participate at a Regional All Schools may have to organize their own Preliminary games outside the usual school based competitions.
- At all times the QAS Tournament Director will adjudicate on any issues arising from a Preliminary Game.
- Should an allocated Preliminary game not be played by the due date, the game will result in a forfeit against one or both teams as determined by the Tournament Director.
- **All Preliminary Games need to be played before the end of term 3 (Friday 19 September 2025)**

Responsibilities of each School

REGIONAL ALL SCHOOLS and or Alternative Competitions

- 1) Ensure as the team Coach you take responsibility for ensuring you register your team/s with the relevant Regional Administrator.
- 2) Ensure you check the allocation for your Preliminary Game (note – not all your teams may have one!)
- 3) Where the schools are not playing at a Regional event, ensure you communicate with your designated opponent as to how everything will work. (i.e. that the result counts towards QAS, game conditions/rules, referees etc.)
- 4) Ensure you have a method or system in place for recording accurately the scores (tries) achieved by both teams during the game. Some ideas include –
 - Video
 - Separate scorer (individual)
 - A scorecard or result sheet for use by the team official
- 5) Communicate the result of the game by email within 24 hours of completion to the Tournament Director (Peter Bell – peter.bell@qldtouch.com.au)



GAMES PLAYED OUTSIDE AN ALL SCHOOLS EVENT

As part of the Preliminary Game allocation one school will be designated as the home school and this is usually shown by the venue assigned to the game on the draw allocation. (Note – one of the most common complaints from teachers is the failure to return a call or email. Please ensure you liaise in a timely manner with your opponent school.)

HOME SCHOOL

- 1) Contact your opponent school and organize the Preliminary game that has been allocated.
- 2) Organize for the referee/s to do the game (liaise with opponent Coach)
- 3) Ensure the field is appropriate size and marked.
- 4) Communicate the results by email to Peter Bell (verify with opponent)

VISITING SCHOOL

- 1) Await contact by home school.
- 2) Organize parents or similar to transport students to opponent school or venue.
- 3) Provide a student referee if required.
- 4) Communicate the score by email to Peter Bell (verify with opponent)

NOTE – SCHOOLS WHO FAIL TO COMPLETE PRELIMINARY GAMES BEFORE ALL SCHOOLS WILL INCUR A FORFEIT FOR ANY SUCH UNPLAYED GAMES.

YOUR SUPPORT & PROFESSIONALISM IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED – THANKS!!

