Queensland All Schools

REFEREE POLICY & GUIDELINES 2025

(last updated 1 September 2025)

REFEREE REQUIREMENTS / GUIDELINES QAS EVENT

SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITY

It is an important fact that the All Schools event is the biggest of its kind anywhere. Securing adequate referee numbers is critical to the success of the event and as such, every participating school needs to contribute. Therefore, it is the responsibility of each school nominated/participating in the event to provide referees (see part a. below). There are three basic requirements for schools to meet.

a. ***Every school must – as a condition of entry – provide as mandatory, one student referee to the event. Failure to supply the one student referee will see the school's nomination not being accepted.***
b. Apart from the mandatory provision above, a school is also required to satisfy the referee quota being one referee per team nominated up to a maximum of four referees including the mandatory student official. Schools who cannot provide all or part of their referee requirement will be surcharged at **$250** per referee or up to a maximum surcharge of **$750**.
c. Each school must ensure that the referees provided officiate in the divisions nominated on entry. That is, if you nominate Senior teams (18s) then depending on how many Senior teams nominated, you must provide referees to officiate in these divisions. (e.g. 2 junior teams and 2 Senior teams nominated = 2 junior referees and 2 senior referees provided.)

Important – As per #6 below, referees are required to officiate in a minimum of 10 games. If a school is required to provide 2 referees, they cannot ask one referee to do 20 games and claim 2 referees as per their obligation (duty of care to referees shall apply). The referee co-ordinator will monitor the number of games any referee shall do in their best interests.

Schools must ensure their referees (attached to their school) register by the advertised date as per the designated registration link provided by the Referee Co-ordinator.

REFEREE COORDINATOR

The Referee Coordinator is Alex Wong. His contact details are –

aq_wong@hotmail.com

Mobile phone contact - 0410325931

REFEREE REGISTRATION

All referees at the event must register (see below instructions).

- ✓ Step 1 – You must have a SportsM8 account. If you don't have one, create one using the link here. https://sportsm8.azurewebsites.net
- ✓ Step 2 - Then register for the "Gold Coast Titans All Schools 2025" event within SportsM8.
- ✓ Step 3 – Mark when you are available to referee
- ✓ Check your bank details are accurate or you won't be paid.
- ✓ Ensure you correctly note the school you are linked to (student referees must do this). No need if you are not attached to a school and are working as an independent referee.

BASIC QUALIFICATION

1. All referees at the event shall have minimum ***TFA Referee level 1 (one)*** accreditation unless they are a competent registered teacher.
2. All referees 18 years and over must have a blue card (The responsibility for ensuring this is the case, rests with the school where the referee was sourced by the school, and/or QTF if from external sources)

   Note – teachers without accreditation need to be conversant with the TFA 8th edition rules and the relevant QAS variations. Note: The Tournament Director retains the right to reject inexperienced or otherwise unsuitable referees from appointments at the event (see also #19 below).

REFEREE RESPONSIBILITIES

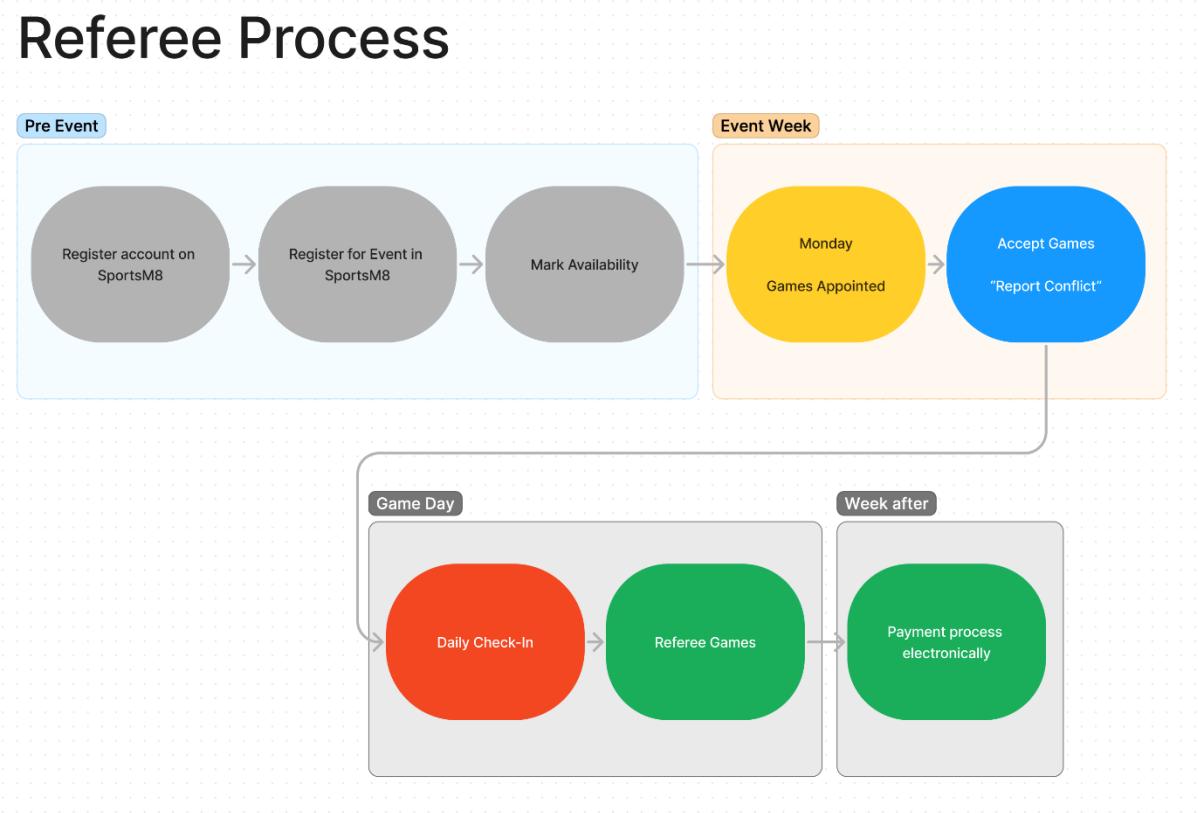
3. Referees 18 years and over must ensure they have a current blue card.
4. Referees are first & foremost under the direction of the Tournament Director and secondly, the Referee Co-ordinator.
5. Referees need to adhere to the QAS Code of Conduct and be especially mindful that they are dealing with younger players.
6. Referees must officiate a minimum of **ten (10)** games if they represent a school as part of that school's referee obligation.
7. **Referees must wear either the official event 'QAS Referee shirt' (pink & black) or the National (TFA) pink uniform. No other variations are permitted. Note - Referees who do not have the uniform will be provided one regardless and the money deducted from their game payments.**
8. All referees need to register on-line as per TFA/QTF Touch Football events.
9. All referees must indicate which division (Junior or Senior) they are to officiate in. (This should be checked with the teacher in charge. See School Responsibility c. above)
10. Referees acknowledge that by accepting an appointment at the All Schools they agree to abide by all conditions contained in this policy.
11. All participating referees are required to read the Referee Policy and sign off on this when registering at the event.

REFEREE APPOINTMENTS & PAYMENT (see overview below)

12. **ALL REFEREES ARE REQUIRED TO "CHECK IN" WITH THE COORDINATOR EACH & EVERY DAY THEY OFFICIATE** (Failure to do so may mean you are recorded as a no show and your games given to another referee).
13. **All game allocations/appointments are done on Monday of the week of the event with all games for Wed through Fri being allocated.**
14. Referees must ACCEPT their allocated games in SportsM8 before Wednesday. If they don't they will be removed and the games reallocated to someone else (putting their schools at risk in not meeting the referee quota requirement)
15. Referees are appointed by the Referee Coordinator (Alex Wong) and his team. Student referees will not be appointed to games where their own school is playing and should alert the coordinator if this occurs.
16. Referees are paid in accordance with the fee structure below.
17. Payment is by bank transfer only and is made within the following week of the event provided the correct banking details are provided by the referee.

18. Failure to complete registration and or provide the necessary bank details by the close of the event may mean payments are delayed. Note: Qld All Schools Touch will not chase officials and there is an absolute deadline for payments to be made. It is the responsibility of all referees to ensure their details provided are accurate.
19. ***<u>In the interests of participant schools and their students, the Tournament Director shall retain the right to reject any referee deemed unsuitable from officiating at the event</u>***

<u>OVERVIEW OF THE REFEREE PROCESS</u>



20. *REFEREE PAYMENT SCHEDULE*

Levels 1 to 3	*Levels 4 to 6*	*Incentives*
$10 per triple	$15 per triple	13 games completed extra $30
$15 per double	$20 per double	18 games completed extra $80
$20 per single	$25 per single	23 games completed extra $130

RELEVANT EVENT RULES

While the event is primarily under TFA 8th edition rules there are a few alterations unique to All Schools that Referees need to be conversant with. They are summarized below –

- *All games* (including the Finals Series) *shall be 25 minutes in duration – no halftime break, with both teams afforded the tap off opportunity (see below).*
- Teams shall not be required to reverse direction on the scoring of a try during round games
- Both teams shall have a chance to tap off to commence the game. The team that wins the toss shall have the choice whether they tap first or defend as per TFA 8th edition.
- However, the *QAS variation is that both teams are afforded the opportunity to TAP* and consequently if the team that tapped first does not score, play shall come back to half way for a tap for the second team. Play shall continue as usual from this point.
- Teams who defend first do not receive a tap on scoring in the opening set (e.g. from an intercept)
- Teams may substitute players at any time during the tap off process.

1. ***Drop Off***

- Drop Off Procedure shall be – the team that defended first at the start of the game shall have the tap in the drop off as per TFA 8th edition.
- Both sides commence the drop off with 4 players. (TFA 8th ed. Rules)
- However, *QAS variation is that the initial time period will be 3 minutes not 2 minutes hopefully affording both teams possession in the drop off.*
- In the Mixed division teams may have no more than 2 males on the field during the drop off.

2. ***Sub Box Management*** *(QAS variation)*

The sub box – Only 17 persons are allowed in the sub box area, being 14 players and 3 staff. No other team members or parents etc. should be in the area. Referees should direct any extra persons or spectators away from the area.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Q. What are my Referee obligations when I have entered the following teams into All Schools. 13 Boys, 13 Girls, 15 Boys, 15 Girls and 18 Mixed?

A. *You have entered 5 teams. This means you have to supply 4 referees in total because this is the maximum required, one of which must be a student from your school. Further, because you have entered teams in both Juniors (13s & 15s) and Seniors (18s) you need to ensure at least one referee is refereeing games in both divisions. E.g. 3 can do Juniors and one Seniors or 2 and 2 etc.* ***Your referees cannot all officiate in the Junior divisions, and no one does any 18s games.***

Q. We travel to the event on a bus together. Does our student referee have to referee games outside the times we are at the event?

A. *No. Your student referees are only required to be at the grounds (and marked available in SportsM8) when your teams are there playing. They must ensure they tell the coordinator this so he can allocate games during these times. At all times the 10 game rule shall apply.*

Q. We cannot find referees at all. Can teaching staff fulfil their referee obligations?

A. This is not ideal and while we would allow for this year, it won't be possible to continue this in subsequent years and your entry would not be accepted.

Q. What is the consequence of not completing the 10 game requirement?

A. *You will be surcharged $25 per game not completed.*