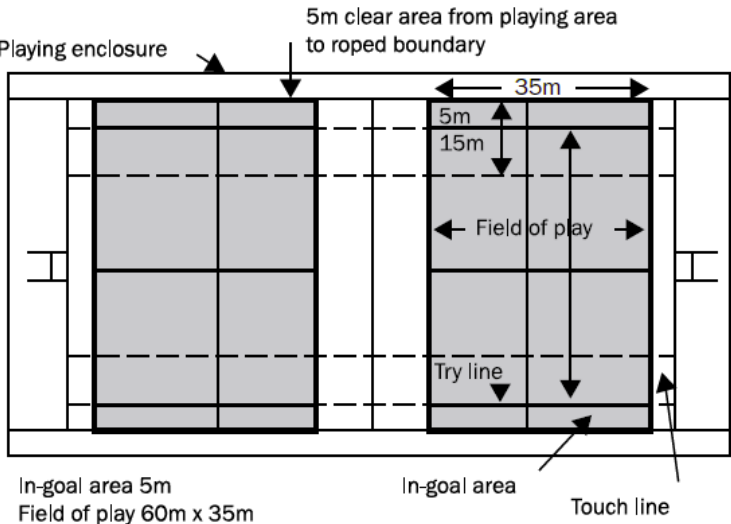


## 2019 Foxtel Touch 7s Laws

<p><b>The Ground</b></p>	<p>There are two options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Half field (60m x 35m)</li> <li>• Third field (60m x 25m)</li> </ul> 
<p><b>The Ball</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Size 4</li> <li>• Under 11 and below – Size 3</li> </ul>
<p><b>Number of Players</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 players</li> <li>• A team may have up to 5 substitutes.</li> <li>• Teams can make an unlimited amount of substitutions during play.</li> <li>• A player being substituted must cross the touch line and tag their replacement player (slap hands) before the replacement player can enter the field of play.</li> <li>• If a player is injured, the referee may signal to allow a replacement player to enter the field of play before the injured player has left the field of play.</li> <li>• If there is a serious injury, the referee should stop play so that player can be treated.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Time</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 x 7-minute halves, 2 min half time.</li> <li>• There is no time off for injury or other stoppages.</li> <li>• If time expires and the ball is still in play, the match finishes upon the next Ball Place or Turnover, or when the ball is next dead. (If played in a gala day format, immediate finish mid-play on a central signal is acceptable).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Scoring</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A try is awarded 5 points.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Kick-off and Restarts</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All kick-offs are punt kicks. After a try, the scoring team kicks off from the centre of the half-way line.</li> <li>• The receiving team at a kick-off must be at least 10m back from half-way.</li> <li>• If a kick-off is unsuccessful in any way (eg. wrong kick, doesn't go 10m, goes dead, in touch on the full, etc) a Ball Place is awarded at the centre of half-way to the receiving team. (In matches with young players or low skill players, another chance to kick off correctly may be provided by the referee).</li> <li>• There is a 5m radius circle 'exclusion zone' around a player attempting to field the ball after a kick-off where the ball is kicked above head height on the full. No opposing player can enter this zone until the receiving player has played the ball or the ball bounces (Penalty).</li> </ul>
<p><b>The "Touch"</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A touch is when the player with the ball is touched by an opposing player with a minimum of one hand.</li> <li>• A player making a touch has the option to call "Touch!" as they make a successful touch if they think the touch may not be recognised.</li> <li>• Touches are not permitted above the shoulders (Penalty).</li> <li>• Touches with force are regarded as dangerous play (Penalty).</li> <li>• When a player is touched, the player has two options: to Offload or Ball Place.</li> <li>• The referee will keep a count of how many times a team has been touched.</li> <li>• If the ball or the ball-carrier touches the referee and either team gains an advantage, the referee adds one to the touch count and the game is restarted with a Ball Place.</li> </ul>
<p><b>The "Offload"</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After a player has been touched, they can pass the ball to a teammate.</li> <li>• This must happen within 2 seconds of the touch.</li> <li>• The player can take a maximum of 2 steps before passing.</li> <li>• If the player offloads the ball, there is no offside line for defending players and general play continues.</li> <li>• If a player takes longer than 2 seconds or runs further than 2 steps, the referee will blow the whistle and order a Ball Place.</li> <li>• The third time the referee needs to intervene to order a Ball Place during a set of seven touches, a Turnover will be awarded to the defending team. (For more experienced players this may be reduced to three interventions in the match, with all further interventions resulting in a Turnover).</li> <li>• If a player is touched within 2 metres of their opponent's goal line, they may Offload or Ball Place (on the 5m line), but will not be able to score a try themselves. They may score if their foot is on the goal line when touched.</li> </ul>

<p><b>The “Ball Place”</b></p>	<p><u>Attacking team</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After a player has been touched, they can turn and face their own goal-line and place the ball on the ground.</li> <li>• A Ball Place must take place at or directly behind the mark where the touch occurred.</li> <li>• A supporting attacking player then plays the ball and play continues.</li> <li>• If a supporting attacking player doesn’t immediately play the ball, the referee may call “Use it! If the attacking team do not then use the ball the referee may award a Turnover.</li> </ul> <p><u>Defending team</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If a touched player opts for a Ball Place, defending players must move back behind an offside line 5 metres from the mark of the Ball Place.</li> <li>• Defending players cannot move forward until the ball is played by the supporting attacking player (Penalty).</li> <li>• A defending player who is offside at a Ball Place can only take part in play after retreating behind the 5 metres line from the previous Ball Place (Penalty).</li> </ul>
<p><b>The “Turnover”</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Once a team has been “touched” seven times, the referee should immediately award a Turnover to the other team. The touch count restarts at zero.</li> <li>• That team restarts play with an offload at the place of the 7<sup>th</sup> touch</li> <li>• The opposing team must stand 5m back from this offload</li> </ul>
<p><b>Knock-on and Forward Pass</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A knock-on or forward pass by either team results in a Turnover.</li> <li>• If the referee judges that the non-infringing team may gain an advantage from play continuing, the referee should allow play to continue, but call out the infringement and reset the touch count to zero as play continues.</li> <li>• Any intentional contact with the ball from the defending team where the ball is re-gathered by the attacking team results in the touch count being reset to zero</li> </ul>

**Quick throw-in**

- When the ball or a player with the ball goes into touch, play is restarted by a quick throw-in.
- The team who did not last touch the ball before it went into touch will take the throw-in.

Attacking team

- The throw-in may be taken anywhere from where the ball crossed the touch line into touch, back to the goal-line of the team throwing in.
- If the ball is kicked out over the touch line on the full, the throw-in may be taken anywhere from the place in line with where the ball was kicked, back to the goal- line of the team throwing in.
- A quick throw-in must travel straight or towards the throwing team's own goal-line.
- The quick throw-in must travel 5 metres before being caught or played by a teammate of the thrower. The thrower cannot throw-in to themselves.
- The referee may award a Turnover if the quick throw is taken incorrectly.

Defending team

- Defending players at a quick throw-in must be behind an offside line 10 metres from the place where the quick thrown-in is taken. Defending players cannot move forward until the ball is thrown in.
- A defending player who is offside at a quick throw-in can only take part in play after retreating behind the 10 metres line from the quick throw-in (Penalty).

<p><b>Kicking</b></p> <p><b>Option 1</b></p> <p><b>Option 2</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are two options with respect to kicking in general play depending on age group and skill set of the participants.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No kicking in general play allowed.</li> <li>• If a player kicks the ball, the referee awards a Turnover to the non-infringing team, at the place where the ball was kicked.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kicking is permitted at any time during the game.</li> <li>• Heavy contact is not allowed when trying to regather the ball after a kick (see Foul Play).</li> <li>• If a player from the kicking team re-gathers the ball, the touch count is not reset and continues. If an opponent first plays the ball following a kick and it is regathered by the kicking team, the touch count is reset to zero.</li> <li>• Any player in front of a teammate kicking the ball must not move forward or toward the ball until they are run onside by the kicker or a player who was behind the kicker (Penalty).</li> <li>• There is a 5m radius circle 'exclusion zone' around a player attempting to field the ball after a kick where the ball is kicked above head height on the full. No opposing player can enter this zone until the receiving player has played the ball or the ball bounces (Penalty).</li> <li>• If an opponent charges a kick down, or the ball is touched in flight by an opponent after being kicked, the exclusion zone no longer applies.</li> </ul> <p>If a player is touched in the act of kicking, the referee should play on unless the touch clearly preceded the kick. If a player kicks after clearly being touched, the referee will blow the whistle and order a Ball Place.</p>
<p><b>Penalties and Advantage</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the referee stops play for a Penalty infringement, play restarts with an Offload by the non-infringing team. The infringing team must stand back 5m from this Offload. The touch count is reset to zero.</li> <li>• If the infringement occurs before the first touch of a set of 7, the referee may advance the mark for the Penalty 10 metres up the field from the place of the first infringement. The referee will manage the infringing team back 5 metres from the new mark before allowing the Offload to be taken.</li> <li>• When a Penalty infringement occurs, and the referee judges that a team may gain an advantage from play continuing, the referee should allow play to continue, but call out the infringement and reset the touch count to zero as play continues.</li> </ul>

<p><b>In-Goal</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the ball becomes dead in in-goal (except when kicked dead from in the field of play), play restarts with a Ball Place to the defending team, 5m out from their goal line.</li> <li>• If a team kicks the ball through their opponents' in-goal and it goes dead, the defending team chooses to have a Ball Place either 5m from the defending team's goal line, or at the place where the ball was kicked.</li> <li>• If a player is touched inside their own in-goal, play restarts with a Ball Place to the team in possession, 5m out from their goal line</li> <li>• If a player is touched inside their opponents' in-goal (at least one foot on the goal line), they may ground the ball to score a try.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Foul Play</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tackling is not permitted. Any action intended to bring an opponent to ground is considered dangerous play (Penalty)</li> <li>• When the ball is loose on the ground and being contested, there is to be no heavy contact. This includes bumping, pushing or driving another player from the ball. The primary responsibility for this is with the team who last played the ball.</li> <li>• Yellow Cards (2 mins temporary suspension) and Red Cards (Send Off) may be used. There is no replacement of a player who receives a card.</li> <li>• Dangerous play, dissent, or any act contrary to good sportsmanship, will not be tolerated (Penalty). A Yellow Card may be appropriate.</li> <li>• Kicking or throwing the ball into an opponent intentionally is considered foul play (Penalty). A Yellow Card may be appropriate.</li> <li>• Time wasting is considered foul play and players who intentionally waste time (including by intentionally or repeatedly infringing) should be strongly sanctioned. A Yellow Card may be appropriate.</li> </ul>