











## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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# 2026 Confirmed: The Championships Return to Coffs Harbour

Touch Football Australia (TFA), in partnership with Strategic Sponsor Destination NSW and the City of Coffs Harbour, today confirmed that The Championships 2026 will be hosted at C.ex Coffs International Stadium, Coffs Harbour from Wednesday, 4 March to Saturday, 7 March 2026.

A flagship of the national Touch Football calendar, The Championships will return in a <u>refreshed format for 2026</u> following review and consultation with key stakeholders. The refinements are designed to balance participation growth with pathway development, while enhancing the overall experience for participants, referees, and spectators alike.

Key updates include the return to a four-day schedule, revised game lengths, updated eligibility requirements to align with other major competitions, and new player permission rules across specified divisions.

As Australia's premier national championship event for adult participants, The Championships (formerly known as the National Touch League) attracted more than 150 teams in 2025 and is expected to again welcome strong participation and vibrant supporter engagement when it returns to the Mid-North Coast in March.

After a short period hosted in other regions, The Championships have been a fixture at C.ex Coffs International Stadium since 2013, a testament to TFA's enduring partnership with the region. Alongside the DoorDash National Youth Championships in October 2025, these events continue to deliver significant economic benefit to Coffs Harbour and New South Wales, cementing the region's legacy with the sport.

## **TFA Chief Executive Officer, Marcus Ashcroft said:**

"We're excited to return to Coffs Harbour for The Championships and to continue our long-term partnership with the Mid-North Coast region.

"The 2026 edition will see important changes to ensure the event continues to deliver for both pathway and participation outcomes. We remain committed to a whole-of-sport approach in reviewing and evolving The Championships into the future."





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## City of Coffs Harbour Mayor, Nikki Williams said:

"The City takes great pride in being the home of Touch Football and it will be a blast to once again host the premier event, The Championships.

"For the players, officials, supporters, and for the City, this is not just about the on-field action at the C.ex Coffs International Stadium. It's the total package of experiences that embrace the tournament – the warm welcome by locals through to all the things to do and see on the Coffs Coast, from the stunning beaches through to the lush rainforest hinterland."

### **Event Details**

The Championships 2026 will be held at C.ex Coffs International Stadium in Coffs Harbour, NSW from Wednesday, 4 March to Saturday, 7 March 2026.

Entry is free and all spectators are welcome.

The Championships is proudly supported by the NSW Government through its tourism and major events agency, Destination NSW alongside City of Coffs Harbour.

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