



Development Tournament

Policies, Rules & Guidelines



Tournament Rules and Guidelines

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Tournament Rules and Guidelines

Administration / Services

1. Administration

- FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA administration is available Monday to Friday from 9.00 am to 5.00pm
- Office Phone: 03 4032 2188
- E-mail: admin@touchmalaysia.org
- Except public holidays
- URL: www.touchmalaysia.org

2. Referees

Touch is a new and developing sport in Malaysia and so the development of referees is a key area. All enthusiasts, teams, clubs, Universities and organised groups that are looking to participate need to be aware that 'everyone' needs to be involved in the development of referees and especially in the early years of development.

No referee's mean's NO Competition.

In established nations like Australia and New Zealand – teams are not accepted into competition unless they support the tournament / competition via referee support.

The development of referees from within the community participating is essential to overall development of any sport.

The more time and effort the community allocates to the development of referees – the higher the standard of competition can be delivered.

A national body can only support the development pathways for referees. The actual 'referees' must come from the active community the national body services.

Ideally, qualified referees are provided for all games – however, for development tournaments and social or fun events – referees may be in the development stages and learning.

- Referee payments are based on a scale of fees for Single / Dual / Triple games and on accreditation level
- The majority of FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA referees are player referees
- Teams / clubs entering the competition are requested to nominate a referee aligned with their club / team to referee and support the competition
- Team managers entered in the league are required to confirm the referee(s) that will be available to the FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA referee coordinator prior to the competition
- Referees can also nominate themselves for refereeing duties
- Referee courses are held regularly and regular coaching and mentoring is provided by the FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA Referee Director and the FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA Referee Panel and senior officials

3. Information Services

- FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA website is updated regularly
- It provides fixture draws, scores, ladders for all competitions and other important news and information see www.touchmalaysia.org

4. Individual Players

- FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA is often approached by individual players seeking teams
- These individuals will be directed to registered clubs and teams

5. Wet Weather

While FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA will attempt to play all scheduled games, players are reminded that the following may force games to be postponed or called off at very short notice:

- a) Fields closed
- b) Lightning
- c) Safety conditions of the playing fields
- d) Unexpected events

FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA will communicate with team managers so as to update any changes in schedule – and in a timely manner.

6. Team Shirts

- Team uniform is a term of entry / requirement to participate
- No matching numbered team shirt (minimum) – will mean no game
- No team or individual player will be allowed to take the field unless participating in matching (same colour way / design) playing shirt as a minimum

Note: - This is not a decision that can be made / accepted by the opposition.

- Referees will be instructed to either not commence play or stop play and players asked to leave the field should the matching team shirt (minimum) not meet requirements
- Team captains and managers are asked to inform all team members of this requirement
- There will be no exceptions to this rule / BIBS MAY BE SUPPLIED IF NECESSARY

7. Complaints

- Any complaints are to be in writing and addressed to the FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA Administrator
- Any concerns should be lodged by email - admin@touchmalaysia.org

8. Insurance Cover – THERE IS NO INSURANCE COVER

- FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA does not offer persona accident insurance
- All participants do so at their own risk

9. Competition Rules

- Unless otherwise instructed – all competition is conducted under Federation International Touch (FIT) Rules, 4th Edition & Amendments
- FIT rules can be found on the FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA web site – www.touchmalaysia.org – see Policy, Rules & Guidelines tab
- Teams and players registered and participating in competitions conducted by FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA agree to be bound by FIT and FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA rules and procedures, which can be found on the FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA website - www.touchmalaysia.org

10. Amendments to Rules and Procedures

- FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA reserves the right to add, amend or clarify any guidelines, procedures and/or conditions as it deems appropriate from time to time



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11. General Information

- Due to team entries in various categories and divisions the competition in some categories may be structured differently
- Total rounds of competition will be dependent upon total entries in each category of competition
- Every team is welcomed – however, due to field availability and time constraints entry may be based on a ‘first to register / pay’ basis as team entries may need to be limited
- Men’s, women’s & mixed teams are often invited to nominate in various playing categories and in a range of playing divisions including A, B & C divisions
- See the FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA Events Calendar tab at www.touchmalaysia.org for event information and associated

13. Game Times

- The full schedule of fixtures dates and times will be provided on close of entries and well before the start of competition so as to allow teams to plan

13. Team Composition

- FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA competition is 6-a-side
- Unless otherwise instructed the maximum number of 14 players able to register and compete for any ‘one’ team in tournaments
- Only 14 players maximum are allowed to play for a team in any one game
- Teams are asked to register and pay for 14 players per team
- The minimum age for participants in Open age competition is 16 years (must be 16 years old by December 31st 2015)
- Special circumstances can be considered – especially when the competition is a social, developmental or ‘fun’ tournament

14. Team Nominations

- Teams wishing to play in FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA competition must nominate by registering their team in a category and division of competition via the FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA online system
- Player registration is a simple process and takes just a minute
- The team and player registration must be supported by full payment
- Players registered cannot be changed after the close of player registrations

Acceptance of nominations is contingent on the following:

1. The nomination is completed prior to the close of nominations
2. Full payment is made

15. Team Names

- Each team is to propose a team name when completing their nomination
- Names deemed to be offensive or in poor taste will be rejected
- Teams must have different names
- A team proposing a name that has already been registered will be asked to propose an alternative name
- Team names will be restricted to 25 letters and spaces in total

16. Team Fees

- May vary from competition to competition
- The official draw and total games per team will be confirmed on close of entries / completion of the official draw



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- It is the responsibility of the team manager – registering the team and managing game day to ensure that all players are members and legitimate

17. Team Managers & Captains Responsibilities

Team contacts / coordinators are to ensure that: -

- All players taking the field are registered prior to participation
- All player details are true and correct on the team registration form
- Team fees are paid in-full by the due date
- It is the responsibility of the team manager to ensure fees are paid as required
- FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA should be advised immediately of any changes to contact details of a team manager
- Team managers who deliberately include incorrect information on team sheets / or allow ineligible players to participate may be suspended and team competition points forfeited
- Managers are required to ensure all players abide by FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA Rules and Procedures (including uniform, footwear, code of conduct and offensive language policies)

18. Competition Administration

- FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA, from time to time will invite members to form an Advisory Committee
- The role of this Advisory Committee is to provide an avenue for advice, guidance and feedback relating to the management and rules of competition and other development matters
- The Advisory Committee will include FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA nominated members also
- The membership is not fixed and appropriate input is welcomed from all teams
- All final decisions are made by FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA Administration and are final

19. Registrations/Player Eligibility

- Member registration is completed via the online system
- The team registration form is often completed and submitted by a nominated team manager
- All individual player details must be included by the individual by following the step x step instructions
- A team found playing an unregistered player may lose the competition points from that round of fixtures and the team manager may be disqualified by FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA
- Any breach may be highlighted to the Advisory Committee and the outcome announced / or managed by the Tournament Director
- Players may register and play in different categories of competition – Men and Women in Mixed competition
- Players can only represent in one team in the same category / division

Note: - 'A' division registered players can only play in the 'A' team division of any competition.

20. Masters Eligibility

The age eligibility to compete in a Masters category will be determined by the age category – 'must be of age by the 31st December of the previous year'



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21. Player Releases

Not relevant for Tournaments

22. Player Development Policy

Not relevant for Tournaments

23. Grading

- FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA will prepare draws and grades based upon nominations
- This approach will apply to individual players also as an individual player of greater experience and ability can heavily influence a lower division game
- FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA will avoid byes in the competition where possible
- FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA reserves the right to re-grade teams where results are obvious that the team is in the incorrect grade and based on previous results
- This could apply to individual players also

24. Results

Teams will be awarded the following competition points: -

- 3 points for a win
- 2 for a draw
- 1 for a loss and
- Zero (0) points to any team that forfeit

Note: - Regarding Forfeits

- Teams that win on forfeit will be awarded 3 points for the win only
- In grades where teams might be disadvantaged by inconsistencies with respect to byes, 3 points will be awarded for each bye
- No points 'for and or against' will be awarded for a bye round
- At the completion of a game it is the responsibility of a team official / captain to sign the score sheet
- The individual responsible for confirming the score sheet is required to go to the substitution area and 'sign-off'.

Note: -

- **It is not the responsibility of the referees** involved to locate the team captain to sign-off score cards after a game is completed
- If the score card is not signed-off – the result of the game will not be registered
- If the team captain / management, feel that the score sheet is incorrect the team official / captain does not have to sign the score card
- This matter may need to be investigated via tournament administration if the score cannot be agreed by the referees and the opposing captains
- It is recommended that referees and team captains agree the half time score
- Any discussion on the result of a fixture **MUST** be addressed immediately after the game – and should involve a representative of both teams; the referee's engaged and if required a game day representative

25. Finals Series

A finals series may be contested dependent on total team entries in the category / division

Semi Finals: The top four (4) teams will compete in the championship series -

Semi-Final 1: - Position 1 v Position 4

Semi-Final 2: - Position 2 v Position 3

Grand Final: Winner of 1st Semi-Final plays the winner of the 2nd Semi-Final. If there is more than 1 pool of teams participating – pools will cross with Pool A / 1 v Pool B / 2

Positions for the Final Series will be determined as follows:

1. Competition points - if equal
2. Difference (for and against) - if equal
3. Percentages - if equal
4. Drop off played to determine position

DIFFERENCES

- The difference is determined by subtracting the total of Touchdowns scored 'against' from the amount of Touchdowns scored 'for'.
- The team with the best difference will obtain the higher position
- If teams have the same 'difference' the percentage system would then apply.
- PERCENTAGES
- The percentage is determined by placing Touchdowns 'for' over Touchdowns 'against' and multiplying by 100
- If teams have the same 'percentages', then a drop off will be played between the two teams to determine the final ranking

26.	Club Champions
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Not relevant for tournaments

27.	Most Valuable Player Award – Not relevant unless specified
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- Each team captain / manager must nominate two players from their team that they believe were the 'Best & Fairest' / Most Valuable Players for that fixture
- The point system that awards players with 3 points and 1 point accordingly
- This must be recorded on the score card at the end of the game when opposing captains sign off

Note: -

- Failure of a team to nominate two players per game (3 points or 1 point) will mean the referees will not sign-off on the score card AND THE GAME WILL BE REGISTERED AS INCOMPLETE
- No result will be registered for that fixture
- FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA will tally the votes and award an MVP for each category / division at end of the season

28.	Code of Conduct / Judiciary
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- Except as provided in this section FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA and all teams and participants agree to be guided in respect of judiciary and code of conduct matters
- See www.touchmalaysia.org Policy, Rules & Guidelines tab
- FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA requires all players, coaches, managers, referees, parents and other spectators to behave in a sportsmanlike, respectful, non-abusive and non-violent manner at all times
- Team coaches, managers and captains are responsible for the behaviour of all players and spectators
- FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA will not tolerate inappropriate behaviour on or off the field at competition
- This is in line with the Sport Code of Behaviour adopted by FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA for all participants
- Players / Officials will at all times comply with the reasonable and lawful directions, requests and instructions of FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA officials
- Players / Officials causing wilful damage to property will be required to take responsibility for that damage and make appropriate restitution

- Such players / officials may also expect to be suspended or dismissed from participating further in competition and potentially future FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA organised or sanctioned competition
- Referees are entitled to caution players, coaches and managers
- Captains are responsible for the behaviour of their teams on the field (and spectators off field) and will be the primary communication link between teams and the referees
- Referees may require a player to be replaced temporarily, to go to the 'sin bin' for a period of time, or to leave the field of play for the remainder of the game
- Coaches, managers, and spectators displaying inappropriate behaviour may be asked to move away from the sidelines or ends of the field
- Referees at their discretion may take action against teams for the conduct of their coaches and managers if in the referees' judgment cited persons are displaying inappropriate behaviour
- Referees are the sole judge of fact
- A player sent from the field for the remainder of a game in a tournament receives an automatic one (1) match suspension unless the Judiciary Chairman / Tournament Director considers further action is warranted
- The Judiciary Chairperson / Tournament Director has on consideration of any report the right to refer the matter to a Judiciary for determination of increase, decrease or retention of the automatic suspension
- Any player who receives three separate periods of time in three separate games, will be cited to appear before the Judiciary / Tournament Director to show cause as to why he / she should not be given an automatic suspension or more if the Judiciary considers further action is warranted
- Any player who is given a period of time more than twice in any one game, will also receive an automatic one (1) match suspension
- The suspension applies to the next match in which the 'individual' participates, in the same category and division
- It does not include 'byes' or if the player belongs to a team that forfeits a match
- Games forfeited to the suspended player's team will count
- Written incident reports submitted to FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA citing a player, team, club, or official or other person for misconduct will be forwarded to the Judiciary Chairperson / Tournament Director for consideration
- The Judiciary Chairperson / Tournament Director may decide to dismiss the matter or convene a Judiciary to consider appropriate action
- Incident reports are available on the FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA website and at the game day administration area

29.	Doping Policy
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- The WADA Doping Policy is the policy accepted by FIT as its official policy, which relates to the FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA position on all doping practice matters. Copy available on the FIT website:

http://www.sportingpulse.com/assoc_page.cgi?c=14-4863-0-0-0&sID=64321

30.	Blood Rule
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- Any player with a bleeding cut or abrasion is to leave the field immediately and have the cut or abrasion cleaned and covered
- At this time any blood stained clothing must also be either cleaned or replaced
- If the player does not leave the field immediately the referee will stop the game and ask the player to leave the field (normal substitution rules apply)
- Once the flow of blood has been stemmed, the cut or abrasion cleaned and covered and any blood stained clothing and equipment cleaned or replaced, the player may return to the field and continue to play

31. Medical Assistance

- A basic first-aid kit is available at the game day administration area
- It is recommended that clubs / teams have a first aid kit for their members also
- FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA has an approved Concussion in Sport Policy for all affiliated events
- Please see the FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA website for further details
- Appropriate medical support will be on site at tournaments

32. Scheduling of Fixtures

Note: -

- Safety of participants and officials at all time will take precedence over the competition programme
- If games are cancelled because of wet weather or other reasons, teams / clubs will be notified
- If time constraints prevent this, the use of modified game duration or 'double points' fixtures or alternative options may be implemented
- FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA reserves the right to amend the fixture schedule as deemed appropriate
- There will be no appeal over the rescheduling of fixture matches

33. Forfeits

- Teams must be in attendance at their playing field five (5) minutes before the commencement of their match
- So as to ensure teams are on field on time – it is advised that they go to the appointed field prior to the end of the game in play and take the field 'immediately' the whistle blows for the end of the previous game
- It is the responsibility of each captain to report to the referees before the commencement of the game so that the toss of the coin can be affected without loss of time

Note: -

- If a team is not at the field or delaying taking the field at the commencement time / official start time as per the central game control the attending team can be awarded the win of the toss by the referee
- The offending team will receive a maximum of **two (2)** minutes from the commencement of the game (siren/whistle) to position the team on the field and be ready to commence play
- A team must have a minimum of 4 players to start a game and a minimum of 3 female players in any mixed game
- If the offending team is not in attendance after the two (2) minutes has expired, the game will be deemed a forfeit and the non offending team will be awarded three (3) competition points
- Should it be necessary for a team to forfeit or request a deferred fixture the team contact must advise the FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA official so as to request any change
- There are no refunds of game fees for forfeits to either team

34. Interrupted Games

- In the event of a lightning storm, washout or other circumstance where games that have commenced cannot be completed – to be managed by the Tournament Director based on current and associated circumstances

35.	Sub Boxes
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- Sub Boxes will be positioned where appropriate
- The same sub-box (used by both teams) may be in operation during competition
- In a situation where a player in possession has no opponent between themselves and the scoreline, a defender cannot enter one area of the Sub Box with the substituting defender exiting from the opposite area of the Sub Box
- Should such a situation occur, with the substitute defender's presence preventing a touchdown, the referee will automatically award a penalty touchdown and send the offending defender to the sin bin
- The return of that player to the game will be at the Referee's discretion. Such substitutions can only occur with the exchanging players making contact with each other

36.	Apparel
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- Players / teams must wear matching uniforms – all team shirts must be of an identical colour way and design.

Note: -

- Skins / undergarments are permitted and do not have to match in colour. These garments should be hidden under outer sports garments.
- Your team may choose from matching playing tops, shorts/bottoms or matching one-piece outfits
- All players must wear socks
- All players are to wear identifying numbers, not less than 16cm in height, clearly displayed on the rear of the top or one-piece outfit
- Ideally numbered 1-14
- No two players of the same team may wear the same number
- Numbers cannot be temporarily taped to shirts
- Swapping of shirts between team members is absolutely not permitted
- Teams without correct uniforms will not be permitted to take the field until a suitable team uniform has been secured. The game will be forfeited

Note: - If teams cannot fulfil this basic requirement of a numbered, matching team uniform (shirt minimum for competition) – please re-consider entering the competition.

NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE TO THE TEAM UNIFORM RULE.

(Footwear (FIT Rule 3.3))

- Shoes with screw in studs or cleats are not to be worn by any player
- Light leather or synthetic shoes with soft-moulded soles are permitted, provided individual studs are no longer than 13mm in length; the measurement being taken from the sole of the boot.

Jewellery and Fingernails

- All players must remove all jewellery including elastic wrist bands prior to the game. Jewellery that cannot be removed must be taped. Fingernails must be kept short or must be taped.

37.	Balls
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All teams must use an official ball supplied by FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA in all competition

Balls can be purchased from FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA administration.



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Note: - FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA will not be able to supply balls for team warm ups prior to games

38. Spectators

- Spectators remain under the direction of FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA officials while they are within the area of the playing fields
- Spectators who direct abuse to the match referees or players will be asked to move away from the playing field
- If the spectator does not comply, the referee may stop the match until such time as the spectator moves away
- The PLAYING FIELD and sub box is an area that is only accessible to teams and coaching staff competing in the relevant time slot
- There is **no spectator access** to the playing / sub box area

39. Coaching Positions & Assessments

- A coach is permitted to only coach from within the sub box
- If a coach elects to take up a position at the end of the field they must remain 5 metres behind the dead ball line. (This position is only available on a limited number of fields at tournament location)

Note: - The coach in this position must not communicate with players on the field or the referee.

- Coaches are reminded that they are under the jurisdiction of the referee
- The FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA Coaching Panel may conduct assessments of Coaches throughout competition

40. Images

- All persons accept that by participating in this event that they may be photographed and that these images may be used by the FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA for training purposes or the promotion of the sport
- If you do not wish FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA to be able to use your image/s you must notify FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA in writing.

For further information or clarification on any of the rules, policies or guidelines above – please feel free to e mail your queries to: admin@touchmalaysia.org

41 Refunds

All players are requested to read and understand the Rules & Guidelines as FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA cannot offer refunds on game fees or membership refunds.

Special consideration will be given in extreme cases such as a move or family emergency.

FIT TOUCH MALAYSIA does not pro-rate or refund fees for missed games or non-attendance.

For further information, please contact admin@touchmalaysia.org

End.