

ENGLAND TOUCH CLUB TOOLKIT



GETTING STARTED
THE RULES
MEMBERSHIPS
COMPETITIONS
REGIONAL REPRESENTATION
GROWING YOUR CLUB



GETTING STARTED

WHO ARE ENGLAND TOUCH?

England Touch is the governing body for Touch in this country. Unlike other Rugby organisations, England Touch's sole focus is Touch, from grassroots development all the way up to the national elite teams that represent us at the European Touch Championships and Touch World Cup.

Most importantly, England Touch is here to support all of our affiliated clubs and players, whether with tips for how to grow your club; competitions to play in against other clubs from across the country; providing a pathway for players to represent their region or country; insurance for players and clubs; advice on club policies and a central framework for areas such as good governance, etc; and contacts for club kit and training equipment.

If you have any specific questions you can contact the relevant person from the full list of national contacts which can be seen at www.Englandtouch.org.uk



LOCATION

One of the joys about Touch is that it can be played anywhere, from parks to beaches. All you need is a space which is flat, clear of obstructions, and safe. Many of England Touch's affiliated clubs are linked with a rugby club in their local area, which will have a pitch, changing facilities, a bar, and possibly floodlights, too.

Alternatively you might seek to find a suitable community leisure facility with a 3G pitch (useful in the winter months!). The most important thing to do is to find somewhere where you have access at regular agreed times, as this will help you grow your club in the future.

CLUB POLICIES

Because Touch is a sport that sees players of all ages and genders competing as equals it is essential that you put suitable club policies in place, for example related to safeguarding, DBS, and so on.

The England Touch policies can be found at www.Englandtouch.org.uk/governance

ENGLAND TOUCH MEMBERSHIP

This is compulsory if you wish to take part in any of the National Touch Series tournaments we run. This applies both to clubs and players, who will also need to be full members of England Touch if they wish to be considered for selection for regional or international teams.

Full club membership is £150 per annum, while full membership for players, referees, coaches and medical staff is just £20 per person, per annum. There are discounted rates for university clubs, school clubs, and for junior players. All of the details are included in this toolkit.



FINDING PLAYERS

You have a club, but you need players, too! The vast majority of England Touch's affiliated clubs have seen expansion over the last 12 months, with most of them actively using social media to attract new players. You might want to consider local rugby clubs; businesses; posters in leisure facilities; spending a small amount on social media advertising; and the good old word of mouth – after all, if your players enjoy playing Touch they are more likely to introduce their friends and family!

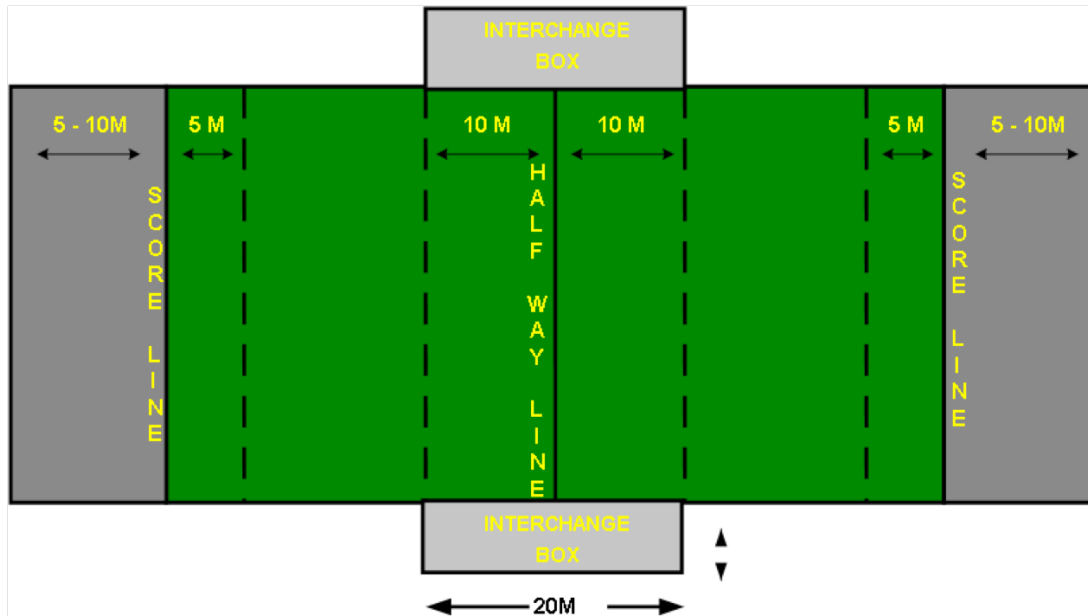
EQUIPMENT

The beauty of Touch is that all you need is a pitch and a ball to get going. Cones will come in handy if you need to mark out a pitch, but if you are playing at a leisure centre or at a rugby club then spaces will generally be marked out anyway. Oh, a whistle for your referee might be useful, too!



THE RULES

THE FIELD



The field of play is 70 metres long by 50 metres wide.

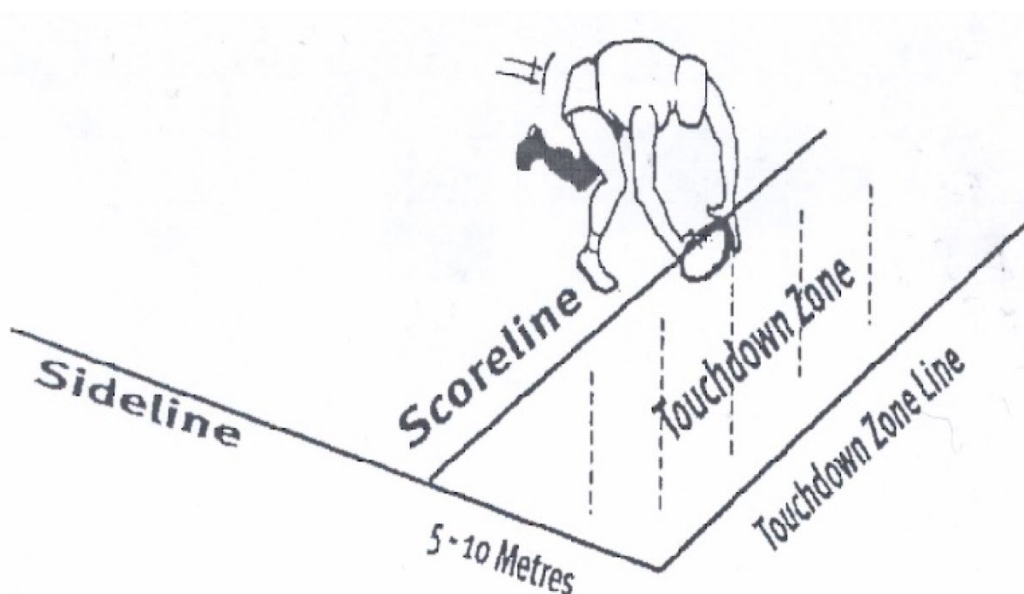
Players who are waiting to come on as substitutes must wait in the interchange box

GAME DURATION

Federation of International Touch rules say 20 minutes each way with a 5-minute half-time, but local organisers can vary times.

If a match is drawn and a winner is needed, the game goes into extra time – a drop off! Each team loses 1 player immediately and another every 2 minutes until only 3 are left. In Mixed games at least 1 female player must be on the field at all times. The first team to score wins, but each team must have at least 1 possession. Teams may still interchange players freely

SCORING



A touchdown is scored when the ball is placed on the ground within the touchdown zone in a controlled manner.

A touchdown is worth 1 point.

The Half may not score

These are the basic rules

Head to www.EnglandTouch.org.uk for a full list!

England Touch runs a full range of coaching and referee courses - information is later in this toolkit

POSSESSION

Each team has possession for 6 touches. After the 6th touch the ball is given to the other side and play resumes with a roll ball.

Possession is turned over in the following circumstances:

A touchdown is scored - play restarts from the middle of the pitch with a tap off

The ball is dropped or fumbled - play restarts with a roll ball

The Half is touched - play restarts with a roll ball

A pass goes forward - play restarts with a penalty

The ball is passed after the player in possession is touched - play restarts with a penalty

A roll ball is taken from the wrong place - play restarts with a penalty

These are the basic rules to get you started. A full list is available at www.EnglandTouch.org.uk

After every touch the defending team must retreat at least 5 metres from the mark (where the roll ball takes place). If they do not then they are offside and the attacking team has a penalty

THE TOUCH

A touch is contact with any part of the body or clothing

A touch can be made by a defender or the attacking player in possession

Minimum force must be used at all times

Contact by the defender on the ball counts as a touch

If a player juggling the ball is touched then the touch is counted

THE ROLL BALL

1 The touch is made by either the defending player or the player in possession

2 Return to the mark

3 Perform the rollball without delay. You must face the scoreline square on

4 Roll the ball back between your legs no more than 1 metre

5 The Half picks up the ball. They cannot delay picking up the ball

THE TAP

1 The ball must be placed on the mark

2 The ball must be released from both hands

3 The ball is tapped in any direction by not more than 1 metre

4 The ball must be picked up cleanly

THE TEAM

We've got a dedicated group of volunteers here to help you.
Head to www.EnglandTouch.org.uk to get in contact!

HIGH PERFORMANCE



Anthony Atherton
High Performance Director

DEVELOPMENT

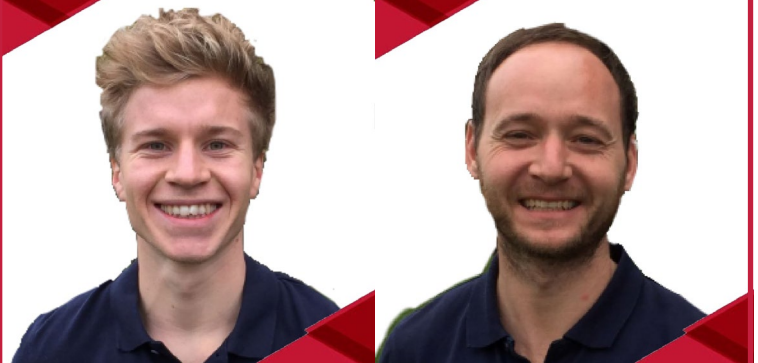


Ian Boyd
Development Director

MEDICAL



Cari Thope
Head of Medical, Sports Science and Performance



Harry Grocott
Universities Manager

Tom Humphreys
Schools Liaison Officer

GOVERNANCE



Julia Kang
Disclosure and Barring Manager

VOLUNTEERS



Nikola Halse
Head of Volunteers

REFEREES



Alice Watchorn
National Referee Manager

FINANCE



Simon Quarshie
Finance Director



Mark Aldous
Accounts Manager

EVENTS



Zoe Malarkey
Events Manager



Charlie Meredith
Events Assistant

MEMBERSHIPS



Rich King
Memberships, Insurance and Affiliation Manager

COURSES



Robin Budd
Coaching Courses Manager



Mike Green
Referee Courses Manager

MARKETING AND PR



Chris Wearmouth
Marketing and PR Manager

MEMBERSHIP PACKAGES 2018

PLAYERS, REFEREES, COACHES, MEDICS

FULL MEMBERSHIPS

NEW FLAT FEE FOR PLAYERS, COACHES, REFEREES & MEDICS!

INDIVIDUALS £20

OVERSEAS PLAYERS £20

STUDENTS (18-23) £14

JUNIORS (U18) £8

Individuals wishing to play in all England Touch competitions, including Touch Nationals and for Elite teams

Referees wishing to officiate in all England Touch competitions. Does not apply to referees not resident in the UK

Coaches wishing to coach England Elite or Touch Nationals teams

All members are covered by Public and Products Liability and Professional Indemnity insurances; Personal Accident insurance for all British Isles members aged between 14 and 70. Full details are at www.EnglandTouchInsurance.co.uk

For a full list of benefits and to pay online visit www.EnglandTouch.org.uk/individual-membership

UTS STUDENTS £5

Individuals wishing to play in the University Touch Series

ONE-OFF INDIVIDUALS £8

Individuals wishing to play in one England Touch club competition event. This option is only valid for one event per calendar year





CLUBS

PRICES FROZEN IN 2018!!

FULL CLUB MEMBERSHIPS £150

UNIVERSITY CLUB £80

SCHOOL CLUB £1

Clubs wishing to take part in events run or hosted by England Touch

Insurance and welfare cover. Full details are at www.EnglandTouchInsurance.co.uk

DBS costs included

Representation within England Touch with voting rights at the Annual General Meeting

Promotion and marketing of club activities and events on the England Touch website, social media channels, etc

One complimentary place on a Level 1 Referee course, and access to development days, education pathways, and specialist coaching days provided by England Touch

FIT and EFT affiliation, governance support regarding safeguarding, equality, inclusion and judiciary matters

Access to England Touch trained referees, coaches and medical staff

For full benefits and to pay online visit www.EnglandTouch.org.uk/club-membership

League and event operators' memberships also available

GOT A QUESTION?

Email membership@EnglandTouch.org.uk

Prices effective from 01/01/2018

COMPETITIONS



England Touch has streamlined its competition structure for the 2018 season

ELITE MIXED

This series is open to every club and will be played over two weekends in April, with a one-day finals day in May

ELITE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S (PREMIERSHIP)

As with the Mixed, the Elite Men's and Women's single gender competitions will be played over the course of two weekends in June (helping players prepare for July's European Touch Championships), with a finals day in early August. This competition is open to all clubs

EMERGING MEN'S AND WOMEN'S (CHAMPIONSHIP)

Clubs that are earlier in their single gender development can compete in one of three one-day tournaments that will be played on the first day of the Elite competition described above. This competition is open to all clubs

DEVELOPING MIXED

To give less experienced club teams the opportunity to develop, England Touch will be running five one-day tournaments between May and September (one per month). These are open to all clubs to enter and will be located across the country

Clubs that would like to take part in any of these competitions must be full members, and all players must have England Touch membership to be eligible to compete.

Details about all these competitions are available at www.Englandtouch.org.uk/touch-series

SAVE THE DATES

2018 / NATIONAL TOUCH SERIES / DATES & VENUES		
 <p>ELITE NATIONAL TOUCH SERIES</p> <p>Round 1 April 14/15 Nottingham</p> <p>Round 2 April 28/29 London</p> <p>Finals 1 May 12 Birmingham</p>	 <p>MENS & WOMENS NATIONAL TOUCH SERIES</p> <p>Round 1 June 9/10* Oxford</p> <p>Round 2 June 23/24* Manchester</p> <p>Finals 1 August 4 Canterbury</p> <p><small>*Teams in the 'Elite' category will play both Saturdays and Sundays. Teams in The 'Emerging' category will play on Saturdays only.</small></p>	 <p>DEVELOPMENT NATIONAL TOUCH SERIES</p> <p>Round 1 May 05 Nottingham</p> <p>Round 2 June 16 Cheltenham</p> <p>Round 3 July 14 Lincoln</p> <p>Round 4 August 11 Oxford</p> <p>Round 5 September 08 Manchester</p>



REGIONAL REPRESENTATION

In 2018 England Touch has designated the weekend of April 21/22 for regional trials. Each region will have its own way of selecting players for training squads that will compete at the 2018 Touch Nationals, so contact your regional lead for more details.

England Touch has two specific Touch Nationals tournaments – Men's, Women's and Mixed Opens on the August bank holiday weekend, Seniors (Men's 30s and Women's 27s) Masters (Men's 35s, Men's 45s, Women's 35s) and Juniors (Boy's 18s, Girl's 18s, Mixed 18s and Mixed 15s) in September.

Playing for your region is the only way to be eligible for England Elite team selection for 2019, so if your club has talented players make sure you get in contact!

A full list of regional leads is available at www.Englandtouch.org.uk/the-regions

GROWING YOUR CLUB

There are a variety of funding streams available that will help you be able to invest in your club to help it grow

SPONSORSHIP

Many of our clubs have links with companies in their local area to help fund kit, equipment, travel, and so on. If you need any facts and figures to help you put together a sponsorship proposal about Touch as a national sport email marketing@englandtouch.org.uk

ENGLAND TOUCH LEAGUES

You can partner up with England Touch to run a local league for clubs and teams in your area. We'll provide you with training, resources and support, and as well as introducing new players to Touch you will create a new source of regular income! Find out more at www.Englandtouch.org.uk/run-your-own-league

For more information email leagues@englandtouch.org.uk

FRIENDLY COMPETITIONS

Many of our clubs run one-day social competitions, inviting teams from across their area – normally on a weekend – to come to their ground to play. As an England Touch affiliated club we can promote your event to other clubs as well as to our group of qualified referees





England Touch can also help your club's ongoing development with a number of courses

COACHING COURSES

England Touch runs courses for three Touch coaching qualifications: England Touch Association Community Coaching Qualification (Level 0), Federation of International Touch Intermediate Coaching Qualification (Level 1) and Federation of International Touch Advanced Coaching Qualification (Level 2). Course content can be found at www.EnglandTouch.org.uk/coaching-courses

If you have any specific questions email coaching@EnglandTouch.org.uk

REFEREE COURSES

Referee courses are held up and down the country throughout the year. Touch referees are graded according to different badges; in European Touch there are badges for Levels 1 (entry level) to 5 (World Cup standard). Referee courses will help you to develop as a referee, and are also open to players who want a better understanding of the rules.

If you are interested in becoming a qualified Touch Europe referee, you should start by attending a Level 1 course. This will give you the basic knowledge and skills to referee Touch. No previous experience is required to attend a Level 1 course (but it's great if you have some!). If you want to progress as a referee, you can also take courses for Levels 2 and 3, but you must hold the previous badge in order to attend the next course.

To find out more email refcourses@EnglandTouch.org.uk

DESIGN YOUR OWN



*QUOTE ENGLAND TOUCH FOR SPECIAL OFFER
EMAIL:SALES@STEEDENRUGBY.COM

 **STEEDEN**



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



ENGLAND TOUCH

SPECIALISTS IN TOUCH

4-6 WEEK
TURN AROUND*



FULLY
CUSTOMISABLE AND
BESPOKE KIT OPTIONS

ON FIELD AND OFF FIELD KIT AVAILABLE AT
GREAT RATES FOR 2018. VISIT OUR WEBSITE,
OR CONTACT OUR IN HOUSE DESIGNERS

PROUD SPONSORS OF



ENGLAND TOUCH



SPORTTAPE

TRADITIONAL & KINESIOLOGY TAPES FOR SPORT.

All ETA members are eligible for **20% off** the full range of SPORTTAPE products on www.sporttape.co.uk

Use the code **ETA20** at the checkout.

USE THE CODE

ETA20

AT THE CHECKOUT



#SPORTTAPE



SPORTTAPE



SPORTTAPE



info@sporttape.co.uk



www.sporttape.co.uk



DO SOMETHING THAT YOU LOVE...

...and never work
a day in your life!



**BE A PART OF IT! CONTACT US AT
LEAGUES@ENGLANDTOUCH.ORG.UK**

OUR SPONSORS



FIND US ONLINE



englandtouch.org.uk



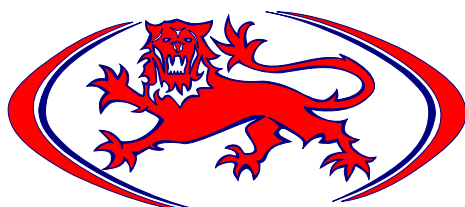
EnglandTouch



EnglandTouch



@EnglandTouch



ENGLAND TOUCH