



HOW TO BECOME A CENTRE FOR AUSTOUCH

What is AusTouch?

An Exciting New Out-School Hours Sports Program!

AUSTRALIA is No. 1 in the world for Touch Football - **AusTouch** is the pathway for kids to become our future CHAMPIONS!

AusTouch is an out of school junior program for boys & girls of all ages. The program includes skill and game development allowing kids to experience all aspects of the sport of Touch Football.

The **AusTouch** program has received funding from the Australian Sports Commission with the aim of providing an opportunity for children to participate in a fun and active program out of school hours. **AusTouch** is similar to other programs such as AusKick (AFL) and Aussie Hoops (Basketball).

The program is run by accredited **AusTouch** Leaders with the goal to provide a non-threatening introduction to the sport of Touch, through reducing barriers of skill at the entry point of participation into a competition. These leaders ensure that the program is fun, friendly and provides a safe environment.

Why would we want to run an AusTouch Centre & what does it have to do with Touch?

AusTouch has been created as the entry level program for kids to start playing Touch. Similar too many sports that have modified programs such as Minkey Hockey, Joey Rugby and Little Athletics within their Structure.

It is aimed to introduce the basic concepts and skills of Touch in a fun environment through specially designed game sense activities. These take the focus away from the technical training of a skill and help to develop tactical thinking and enhance natural instincts for playing Touch. Learning the rules of Touch through the progressions of the session outlines is also a benefit.

AusTouch provides the link between school & community involvement. Then through a positive experience participants follow on to involvement in a regular junior competition.

For schools or affiliated associations this is seen as an additional avenue to exposing potential players to participation outside the school based competition, therefore encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle for kids and their parents.

The Recommended Retail price for an **AusTouch** program set at \$50 per participant. Your Regional or State **AusTouch** Manager can give you guidance in the set up of this area for your **AusTouch** Centre.

How does it work?

The Australian Touch Association is developing all the resources you will need to promote, start and run each centre along a basic framework.

As part of the Program you will be provided with a Centre Kit for Administration, Equipment, Uniforms, Insurance & Affiliation, Promotional Material and the **AusTouch** Kits the kids get as part of their involvement in the program. These include a touch footy, hat, water bottle & participation certification to give out on completion.

In addition to this, throughout every State and Region in Australia are Certificate IV Workplace Trainers and Assessors that can support and run Leader Training. The Leader Training is used to educate the people you would like to be involved in the delivery of the sessions and provides the best possible customer service to the participants and their parents.

The Australian Touch Association in addition to this support also offers a 1800 number and a detailed website for kids, parents, leaders and centre administration that information can be found about the program.

Heard enough? Get me involved....

To become involved in the program or to have a centre set-up at your school/affiliated club it is easy to get involved.

Step 1 Consider the suitability of a venue and link to a local Touch Competition or a potential Touch Competition. For the participants to transfer to after going through the **AusTouch** Program.

It is not compulsory for the participants to progress from **AusTouch** to a Junior Competition if one does not exist or is not planned to commence.

Step 2 Contact your local State or Regional Touch Association and speak to the **AusTouch** Manager in charge of the program in your area. The **AusTouch** Manager can give the guidance in set-up and the most suitable model for your delivery of **AusTouch**.

- Step 3** Provide an Expression of Interest - AusTouch Centre form with your Regional or State **AusTouch** Manager or the National **AusTouch** Management Team.
- Step 4** You're Local **AusTouch** Manager or the National **AusTouch** Management Team will then assist in filling out and lodging your Centre Registration and giving you your Centre Administration Information.
- Step 5** Fill out and send off to the Australian Touch Association Fax 02 6285 2820 the Centre Registration Form detailing all the specific details of the running of the centre and the local **AusTouch** Coordinators details. This form will also allow you to order your promotional material and AusTouch Kits for the kids.

From here on you can use suggested timelines within the Centre Administration and the strategies you have come-up with through your Expression of Interest. Any problems or suggestions can also be addressed by the regional or state **AusTouch** Manager or the National **AusTouch** Management Team.

OK, so what are the AusTouch Centre Criteria?

The centre criteria is a guideline that involves thinking and planning for a successful **AusTouch** Centre. Below is a table of the information to consider:

Participant Base	- Identify the area the centre intends to encompass and the perceived benefits the centre would bring to the area.
Promotion	With the provision of generic promotional material from the ATA. - Promotional strategies and avenues most suitable for the target area for both participants and potential leaders.
Venue	Supply information regarding the proposed venue taking into consideration: - Grassed area of suitable size for the running of grids, drills & games. - Easily accessible to a school or a number of schools. - Safe - flat even ground, suitable distance from traffic, not large protruding objects, which may interfere with the programs sessions. - The cost is the responsibility of the AusTouch Centre. - Access to amenities and a water source. - Adequate parking.
Coordinator	Suitable and responsible person, with relevant qualifications and or experience. This is assessed by the Regional or State AusTouch Manager.
Leaders	Identify potential leaders to assist or become qualified.

Contact Information for AusTouch Managers

The best avenue for you to get involved is to contact an **AusTouch** Manager through your state organisation. These people can give you advice and support in starting your own Centre.

New South Wales Touch Association	Ph 02 9558 9333
Queensland Touch Association	Ph 07 3392 2211
Western Australian Touch Association	Ph 08 9387 8279
South Australian Touch Association	Ph 08 8373 3222
Australian Capital Territory Touch Association	Ph 02 6285 4977
Northern Territory Touch Association	Ph 08 8981 6963
Victorian Touch Association	Ph 03 9654 2866
Tasmanian Touch Association	Ph 03 6245 1112

If you would like more information about the **AusTouch** Program you can look at the **AusTouch** website at www.austouch.com.au and click on the **AusTouch** Logo.

Alternatively you can Contact the National **AusTouch** Management Team in the Touch SA Office on 08 8373 3222 or email mmaguire@internode.on.net.

AusTouch Management Team





Expression of Interest – AusTouch Centre

This form can be used to lodge to your Regional or State **AusTouch** Manager or National **AusTouch** Management Team for consideration of becoming an AusTouch Centre.

Name:	Contact Ph:
Address:	Contact Ph:
Town/Suburb: P/C	Email:

1. Brief Information about possible target Centre & potential participants.
2. Perceived benefits of **AusTouch** Centre being set-up.
3. Possible target Centre Coordinator and Leaders.
4. Delivery Model interested in, please tick.

After School	In School	Vacation Care
Competition	Representative	Remote

5. Briefly explain possible promotional strategies for the success of the Centre.

Forward this to either your Regional or State **AusTouch** Manager or the National **AusTouch** Management Team on Fax 08 8373 3322 or email mmaguire@internode.on.net.