

# TOUCH RULES 2009.

## A QUICK GUIDE FOR PLAYERS:

**1. Scoring:** A touchdown will be awarded when a player places the ball on or over the scoreline prior to being touched. The Dummy Half is not permitted to score touchdowns.

**2. Substitution Box:** Teams may interchange players at any time. Players coming on to the field may not do so until the player being replaced has come off. Substitutions must occur within the team's substitution box.

**3. Roll ball when...** (Defense retires **5 metres**)

- \*the 6th Touch occurs.
- \* the ball goes to ground.
- \* the Dummy half is touched while in possession.
- \* the Dummy half places the ball in the Touchdown zone.
- \* the player goes out of the field of play.
- \* a rollball is performed incorrectly (player not facing forward / ball not between legs / ball rolls more than 1 metre)
- \*At a change of possession play is restarted with a rollball.

**4. Penalty Tap:** (Defense retires **10 metres**)

- \* Forward Pass
- \* Touch and Pass (Passing the ball after you have been touched)
- \* Rollball performed off the mark (you must return to the point where you were touched)
- \* Defenders offside
- \* Performing a rollball prior to a touch being made (Defender must call "no touch")
- \* Falsely claiming a touch / over-zealous force in a touch

Note: The tap is taken by placing the ball on the ground on the mark, releasing the ball from both hands, tapping the ball with the foot a distance of not more than one metre.

**5. Defenders:** Defenders cannot move forward until the dummy half has touched the ball. Players must continue to move forward if defending from their try line.

**6. The Touch:** Players from either team may initiate the touch (i.e. attacking player may initiate the touch with a defender, for example to 1. force a play-the-ball and 2. force the defender to retire 5 metres). A touch is contact with any part of the body, ball, clothing or hair. Defenders must call touch at the same time as the touch is effected (no early calls). Referees will adjudge touch-passes. We play gentlemen's rules: please call touches with honesty.

**7. Foul Play & Poor Sportsmanship** will not be tolerated and may result in a penalty/sin bin or sending off at the referee's discretion.

**8. The Referee:** The referee is the sole judge on matters of fact and is required to adjudicate on the rules of the game during play