



# School Sport Australia Touch Football History



## Secondary Schools

1987 saw the inaugural Australian School Sport National Championships, played at the Belconnen Playing Fields of the Belconnen Soccer Club in Canberra. A total of 6 States and Territories (WA and Victoria were not present) were represented by 19 teams in 4 divisions (15yrs & U Boys and Girls and 19 yrs & U Boys and Girls). That totalled approximately 250 students playing in the tournament for the National title.

1989 was to have been a key year for Western Australia, as they were set to participate for the first time at the National Championships. Unfortunately they were forced to put this introduction on hold for a further 12 months because of the now infamous 'pilot's strike' of that year.

The championships continued to operate under a 4-division format until 1992. This was to be the last time that the 19 years & under age groups competed at a School Sport Australia national Touch event, due mainly to the increased difficulty for most States and Territories in trying to field teams in this age group. However in 1993, due to an initiative of QSST and QSSS, a 'Trans-Tasman Series' was set up, to cater for those Open Age Division school teams representing Queensland, NSW CHS, NSW CCC and the inclusion of representative school teams from New Zealand. It proved to be a very successful and rewarding concept for all teams concerned and continued up until 1996, when the Australian Touch Association officially took on this initial concept and now controls and stages an annual ATA 18 Years & Under (Schools and Community) National Championships.

1995 was a significant year for Australian Schools Touch as it not only heralded the introduction of Victoria into the national competition, but it also meant that for the first time at this event all States and Territories were represented. Significantly, too, the School Sport Australia National Secondary Schools Touch Championships have now been held in all States and Territories, including Tasmania, who hosted a very successful tournament in Launceston in 2000.

Touch has continued to flourish and evolve as an integral part of the curriculum in the predominance of most educational departments on the national scene. This is particularly evident in Primary schools where it is now becoming an increasingly popular sport.

## **Primary Schools**

Primary Girls Touch evolved as a representative sport in Queensland in the early 90's, primarily as a gender equity initiative to address the imbalance of representative sporting opportunities for girls in comparison with boys. The inaugural State Championship for Primary Girls Touch in Queensland was held at Albert Park, Gympie in 1994, with 9 regions competing. A state merit team was chosen from the championships.

Interest was expressed in trying to establish an interstate exchange, with Queensland Primary School Sport successfully flagging the suggestion interstate. The first official state girls team was selected in 1995, and participated in an Interstate Exchange with the Northern Territory in the Peninsula Region of Queensland. The Exchange was played in three centres - Cairns, Mareeba and Innisfail.

For the next two years, Interstate Exchanges were conducted between Queensland, the Northern Territory and a North West Queensland team, with NT hosting in Darwin in 1996 and Queensland hosting in Mount Isa in 1997.

In 1998, the Interstate Exchange was hosted by NT in Gove, and included the Australian Capital Territory for the first time. New South Wales came on board in 1999 and hosted the first National Exchange in Gosford, involving four 12 years & under girls teams. This Exchange was held in conjunction with the 15 years and under National Championships, a format that was to prove very popular and successful in the future, with combined 12/15 year SSA Touch Tournaments.

## **Combined Event**

In 2001, School Sport Australia conducted the inaugural Combined Touch Tournament in Darwin. This involved both Primary girls and Secondary students competing under the one competition banner at the same event.

Finally, in 2002, 12 years boys were also able to compete at an interstate level, with ACT hosting Queensland and Tasmania in Canberra in an invitational event in conjunction with the SSA Touch Tournament. In 2003, South Australia entered teams for the first time, with NSW and NT boys also entering teams in the tournament, to make very competitive six-team competitions for both boys and girls 12 years Touch.

The Combined Event now continues to be a very successful and worthwhile sporting and cultural experience, enjoyed by many talented sports people from around this wonderful nation.



# Results History

## Boys 19 Years and Under

Year	Venue	Result	
1987	Aust Capt Territory	<b>Queensland - 5</b>	New South Wales - 2
1988	Queensland	<b>Queensland - 4</b>	New South Wales - 3
1989	New South Wales	Aust Capt Territory - 2	<b>Queensland - 3</b>
1990	South Australia	<b>Queensland - 2</b>	New South Wales - 1
1991	Queensland	Queensland - 2	<b>New South Wales - 3</b>
1992	New South Wales	Queensland - 1	<b>New South Wales - 2</b>

## Girls 19 Years and Under

Year	Venue	Result	
1987	Aust Capt Territory	<b>Queensland - 5</b>	New South Wales - 2
1988	Queensland	Queensland - 0	<b>New South Wales - 3</b>
1989	New South Wales	<b>Queensland - 4</b>	New South Wales - 2
1990	South Australia	Queensland - 4	<b>New South Wales - 5</b>
1991	Queensland	Queensland - 1	<b>New South Wales - 6</b>
1992	New South Wales	<b>Queensland - 1</b>	New South Wales - 0

## Boys 15 Years and Under

Year	Venue	Result	
1987	Aust Capt Territory	<b>Queensland - 6</b>	Aust Capt Territory - 4
1988	Queensland	<b>Aust Capt Territory - 7</b>	Northern Territory - 3
1989	New South Wales	Queensland - 2	<b>New South Wales - 7</b>
1990	South Australia	<b>Queensland - 3</b>	<b>South Australia - 3</b>
1991	Queensland	<b>Queensland - 7</b>	South Australia - 1
1992	New South Wales	<b>Queensland - 5</b>	Aust Capt Territory - 1
1993	Western Australia	<b>Queensland - 3</b>	New South Wales - 2
1994	Northern Territory	<b>Queensland - 2</b>	New South Wales - 1
1995	Aust Capt Territory	<b>Queensland - 4</b>	New South Wales - 5
1996	South Australia	<b>Queensland - 4</b>	New South Wales - 2
1997	Queensland	<b>Queensland - 2</b>	New South Wales - 1
1998	Victoria	<b>Queensland - 6</b>	New South Wales - 3
1999	New South Wales	<b>Queensland - 3</b>	New South Wales - 2
2000	Tasmania	<b>Queensland - 4</b>	New South Wales - 3
2001	Northern Territory	<b>Queensland - 5</b>	<b>New South Wales - 6</b>
2002	Aust Capt Territory	<b>Queensland - 5</b>	New South Wales - 4
2003	New South Wales	Queensland - 4	<b>New South Wales - 7</b>
2004	Queensland	<b>Queensland - 4</b>	New South Wales - 3
2005	Northern Territory	Queensland - 5	<b>New South Wales - 7</b>
2006	Western Australia	Queensland - 2	<b>New South Wales - 4</b>
2007	Victoria	Queensland - 8	<b>New South Wales - 9</b>

# Results History (Cont'd)

## Girls 15 Years and Under

Year	Venue	Result	
1987	Aust Capt Territory	Queensland - 2	South Australia - 0
1988	Queensland	Queensland - 10	Northern Territory - 0
1989	New South Wales	Queensland - 1	<b>New South Wales - 3</b>
1990	South Australia	Queensland - 6	South Australia - 0
1991	Queensland	Queensland - 6	Aust Capt Territory - 0
1992	New South Wales	Queensland - 2	New South Wales - 0
1993	Western Australia	Queensland - 3	New South Wales - 1
1994	Northern Territory	Queensland - 6	New South Wales - 1
1995	Aust Capt Territory	Queensland - 0	<b>New South Wales - 5</b>
1996	South Australia	Queensland - 2	<b>New South Wales - 6</b>
1997	Queensland	Queensland - 2	<b>New South Wales - 4</b>
1998	Victoria	Queensland - 6	New South Wales - 2
1999	New South Wales	Queensland - 4	New South Wales - 2
2000	Tasmania	Queensland - 2	<b>New South Wales - 4</b>
2001	Northern Territory	Queensland - 6	New South Wales - 3
2002	Aust Capt Territory	Queensland - 6	New South Wales - 2
2003	New South Wales	Queensland - 3	New South Wales - 2
2004	Queensland	Queensland - 4	New South Wales - 3
2005	Northern Territory	Queensland - 3	New South Wales - 2
2006	Western Australia	Queensland - 3	<b>New South Wales - 4</b>
2007	Victoria	Queensland - 6	New South Wales - 2

## 12 Years and Under

Year	Venue	Girls Winner	Boys Winner
1995	Queensland	Queensland	N/A
1996	Northern Territory	Queensland	N/A
1997	Queensland	Queensland	N/A
1998	Northern Territory	Queensland	N/A
1999	New South Wales	Queensland	N/A
2000	Queensland	Queensland	N/A
2001	Northern Territory	Queensland	N/A
2002	Aust Capt Territory	Queensland	N/A
2003	New South Wales	Queensland	New South Wales
2004	Queensland	Queensland	New South Wales
2005	Northern Territory	Queensland	New South Wales
2006	Western Australia	Queensland	Queensland
2007	Victoria	Queensland	New South Wales

