




Southern Skies
CLASSIC
Brisbane • Australia

Touch Football Information Package for Teams from New Zealand

28th September - 2nd October, 2009

- ★ Event Information
- ★ Land Package Inclusions & Costs
- ★ Team Registration Form
- ★ Timeline for Tour Organisers



About Southern Skies Events

Southern Skies hosts international sports events for secondary school-aged teams. Based within Brisbane Boys' College, Southern Skies has been in operation since 1998. Our premier event, the Southern Skies Tournament, is held each July and hosts competitions in rugby, netball, hockey and soccer. This event regularly attracts around 1,500 participants, with teams travelling from all over the world to attend. Our summer event, the Southern Skies Challenge is a smaller cricket competition held each December. Both events feature a week of diverse and exciting competition interspersed with a range of cultural and social experiences.

Building upon the success of the current events, Southern Skies is now expanding its offerings to include the exciting sport of Touch Football. The inaugural touch football event, the Southern Skies Classic, will be held in the 2009 September school holidays, running from Monday 28th September to Friday 2nd October.

Age Categories & Eligibility

For this inaugural event, competitions will be offered in the following age categories.

Divisions: Girls Under 18
 Boys Under 18
 Boys Under 16

* Ages as of 1st January 2009
 (eg. a player can turn 18 anytime in 2009 and still be eligible for the Under 18 division)

Teams may be sourced from any group of players who meet the age requirements of their chosen division. Participating teams can come from schools, clubs, representative squads, and even composite teams from a group of schools or friends.

Weekly Schedule

Sunday 27 th Sept	Arrival day for travelling teams
Monday 28 th Sept	Welcome meeting for all participating teams Day 1 competition Movie night for all players Official dinner for coaches, managers & supporters
Tuesday 29 th Sept	Day 2 competition Travelling teams social night – Urban Climb
Wednesday 30 th Sept	Competition Rest Day Theme park visit on Gold Coast for travelling teams
Thursday 1 st Oct	Day 3 competition
Friday 2 nd Oct	Day 4 – consolation finals and grand finals Awards Ceremony & farewell BBQ for all teams
Saturday 3 rd Oct	Departure day for travelling teams

Competition Venue

Brisbane is lucky enough to have one of the premier, dedicated touch football venues in Australia. The Whites Hill Sport & Recreational Reserve is located in the southside suburb of Camp Hill. It boasts 11 purpose built touch football fields and is home to the Brisbane Metropolitan Touch Association. There is a modern amenities pavilion with canteen facilities and panoramic views of the Touch fields and adjacent natural bushland.

Competition Structure

Teams play pool or round robin matches progressing through to finals. Where possible, depending on the number of participants, teams will be split into tiered divisions to play semis and finals against teams of similar strength. Due to the international nature of the Classic, there is no pre-ranking of teams. There are take-home trophies for the winning teams of each tier.

Teams play on four competition days (Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri), with the Wednesday being a rest day. All participating teams play the same number of matches – there is no knock-out. We aim to provide teams the opportunity to play against as wide a variety of opposition as possible.

Teams will play two games each competition day of 40 minutes each (2 x 20 min halves).

The Level of Competition

Southern Skies welcomes teams of all skill levels. Our events are about presenting a competition that offers the opportunity for all players to participate. Naturally we have strong teams and not so strong teams playing. Our tiered structure of competition allows all teams regardless of skill level to experience a level of success in the event.

Packages for Travelling Teams

Southern Skies aims to present the most teacher/coach friendly events as possible, and at the same time deliver to all participants an experience that is truly international, competitive and above all, great fun. Consequently, Southern Skies has incorporated a land package for all travelling teams into the event week. This land package basically covers everything teams will need from touch-down in Brisbane to take off again the following Saturday. A comprehensive list of the inclusions is featured on page 8 of this information pack, and indepth details are as follows.

Accommodation in Brisbane

All participants are accommodated either in private school boarding houses or university accommodation colleges. Rooming configurations can vary from single lockable rooms with shared bathroom facilities, single, double or quad cubicles to multi-bed dormitories. We try to ensure that all buildings contain either all males or all females with teachers, coaches and manager rooms in the same vicinity for supervisory purposes.

The core accommodation package is for six nights (Sunday to Friday night inclusive) but extensions either before or after can be organised for you. Linen (**except** for towels at every venue) is provided. If one of your travelling party loses a room key, this fee will have to be paid directly to the accommodation venue prior to departure.

Teams will be notified of which venue they will be accommodated in approximately two weeks prior to the event. As teams regularly add or subtract participants up until this time this is to ensure that there is enough beds for teams to be accommodated together.

Catering

Unlike some other events where you will have to do grocery shopping and cooking duty, with us everything is done for you. The following meals are included in the package

Dinner	Sunday to Friday inclusive (6 meals)
Breakfast	Monday to Saturday inclusive (6 meals)
Lunch	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday (4 meals)

Lunch is catered at the playing venue. Lunch consists of a bread roll (salad or meat/chicken and salad), muesli bar or similar and bottled water. Fruit will be available for those who want it. Inter meal snacks are the responsibility of individual teams or team members and there will be a canteen are open at the playing venue for any other food that may be required. Lunch on the theme park day will need to be purchased by participants individually and is not included in the package.

The food is nutritious and caters for young athletes. Halal, vegetarian, gluten free, vegan or other special dietary meals can be catered for. We will need to know of all special dietary requirements about a month in advance.

Getting Around Brisbane

The Travellers Package includes transfers in quality coaches upon arrival and departure to/from Brisbane Airport and your accommodation venue. Daily morning transfers are provided from your accommodation to the playing venue and then return after your final game in the afternoon. Transfers to all Classic social events are included. There are a number of free nights however, and transport on these nights is either by using the public transport system (buses, trains or ferries) or maxi taxis at your own cost. Maps and timetables will be provided on your arrival.

Laundry Facilities

The accommodation venues will either have a free self-service laundry facility or there will be a free daily pick up and return laundry service. You will be informed of the type of laundry facility you will have access to once we do the accommodation allocations two weeks prior to the event. All teams must ensure they bring two playing strips in case the laundry service is not overnight.

Suggested Items to Pack

- Towel (sheets, pillows and blankets are provided at accommodation venues).
- Two sets of playing strip.
- A bit of extra spending money, especially to buy lunch on the Theme Park day.
- Swimwear and beach towel (just in case!).
- Music for your performance at the Farewell Cultural Concert.
- Clothing for free / social activity time.
- Personal toiletries and medication.

Social Activities

A wide range of social activities are included in the package. A coach/manager briefing and welcome will occur on the Monday morning prior to matches starting. On the Monday evening, athletes will have dinner at the accommodation venue and then be collected for a Movie Night held at the Eldorado Cinema at Indooroopilly. Whilst the athletes are in the movies, coaches, managers and supporters will enjoy an official dinner at the Amber Bar & Grill at the Indooroopilly Hotel (just across the road from the athletes). The dinner will feature 2 courses and beverages. The Tuesday evening will see all the travelling participants being transferred following dinner to Urban Climb, an exciting indoor rock climbing facility in Brisbane. On the Wednesday there is a full day outing to a major theme park, like Dreamworld on the Gold Coast, for all attendees. On the Friday afternoon following the Grand Finals, there will be an Awards Ceremony followed by a Cultural Concert and farewell BBQ dinner. Team members should prepare a short item (song, dance, skit, haka, or other musical performance – serious or comical) for presentation on this occasion. There are a number of free nights in the program to allow teams to visit the City or take part in joint social activities with other teams. You will be provided before your arrival in Brisbane with maps and ideas of things to do.

Awards Ceremony

The Awards Ceremony will be held at the competition venue immediately following the Grand Finals on Friday afternoon. Winning teams in all tiers receive trophies to take home and keep. At the end of the Classic a "Southern Skies All Stars" best and fairest team is named for each division and those selected each receive a distinctive commemorative shirt.

Organisation of Flights

Over the past several years with our other events it has become apparent that most schools and teams prefer to book their group airfares through their own local travel agents. To avoid disappointment or very expensive airfares, we recommend that you book your airfares as early as possible. It is advisable to take out travel insurance at this stage to cover you should you need to change your plans. We request that once booked you inform us of your arrival details to ensure you are met at the airport to be escorted to your awaiting transfer coach. Please note that for those teams arriving at the Gold Coast airport instead of Brisbane, there will be a small per person surcharge for your airport coach transfers.

Visas to Enter Australia

Travellers from most international countries, apart from New Zealand, will require a visa to enter Australia. Teams from New Zealand, please note that you may have travellers in your team travelling on passports from other countries, who will need visas. Please ensure that you apply for your visas well in advance of travel, as it may take up to 6 weeks to process the applications. Your travel agent will be able to help you with these.

Sports Medicine

Fully qualified sports medicine personnel will be on-site at the competition venue all week. Should injuries occur, access to and service from these professionals is included in the Travellers Package. Please note that strapping may incur a small fee. Ice for injuries is also available at the competition venue at no charge.

For those injuries that cannot be treated on-site players are transported to the nearest multi-service medical centre. Costs of these services are recoverable via Medicare and/or travel insurance. Transport to and from the medical centre (for genuine Tournament-related injuries) are via taxi and is covered by Southern Skies. Travel via ambulance will incur a fee from the Queensland Ambulance Service that will be payable directly to them prior to departure from the country. This cost will be recoverable via your travel insurance. The cost of travel to and from medical centres "out of hours" will be recoverable from Southern Skies the following day.

Officials

All game officials utilised during the competition will be referees accredited through the local Touch Football Association.

Code of Conduct & Risk Management

There is a Code of Conduct that applies to all players, coaches, managers and spectators. The Southern Skies Classic is an alcohol (except at the Official Dinner for coaches) and smoke free event. A copy of the Code will be distributed in the Team Registration Package upon confirmation of attendance. Please keep in mind that for the duration of the Southern Skies Classic the fundamental supervision and duty of care remains the responsibility of the team coach and management staff.

Risk Management within Southern Skies is a continuous monitoring process. We have devised a comprehensive risk management document which encompasses public liability insurance, code of conduct, injury procedures and child protection issues among others. The management policies are updated to manage identified risks as they are foreseen. Please contact us directly if you require a copy of this documentation.

Commemorative Sportswear

All participants will receive a commemorative sportswear pack (shirt, cap and water bottle) and an official program as part of the package. Special commemorative jerseys are also available for sale on a pre-ordered basis. These have the team name embroidered and an option to have player nicknames on the back. Each of the jerseys will also carry the number "09" on the back. Team managers will have a team order form to fill out and return. A range of other commemorative items will also be available throughout the event.

Supporters

Supporters are most welcome to attend the Classic. There is a wide variety of accommodation available in Brisbane. We find that most supporters have varying needs in terms of accommodation, food, transportation, etc, and thus recommend that they organise their own arrangements. They are most welcome at the playing venues and if they wish to partake of other add ons like lunch at the playing venues, attending the official dinner or the theme park day, that can be arranged.

Team Registration & Procedures

Once you wish to secure your team's place at the Classic, please fill in the attached Registration Form and return to us via email, fax or post at any time.

From April onwards we will be sending out Team Registration Packs with additional information and forms for return. We will be in close contact with registered teams in the lead-up to the event. Competition draws and accommodation allocations and their relevant information packs are sent to teams approximately 3 weeks prior to event commencement.

Participation Costs

Southern Skies is very mindful of the cost to attend our events. Every endeavour is made to ensure costs are minimised for all participants, regardless from where they come. Don't forget however that the Travellers Package for the six days includes EVERYTHING except private spending money and one lunch at the theme park.

Team Registration	AUD \$350 per team
Travellers Package	AUD \$795 per person

Feel free to contact us with further queries:

Vanessa Glasson

Event Manager

Tel: + 61 7 3309 3653

Fax: + 61 7 3309 3667

Email: vglasson@bbc.qld.edu.au

www.southern-skies.org

Southern Skies Travellers Package

Sunday 27th September – Saturday 3rd October, 2009

The Southern Skies Classic offers an all-inclusive land package for travelling teams. The cost is AUD\$795 per person, inclusive of GST.

The package includes:

- Transfers on arrival and departure from Brisbane airport
- Transfers to and from playing venue daily
- Transfers to and from Classic social activities
- Dreamworld or Wet n' Wild entry and transfers on Wednesday
- Movie night entry for all players
- Official Classic Dinner for coaches, managers and supporters
- Participation in Urban Climb social night for all attendees
- Awards ceremony at competition venue
- Farewell BBQ and cultural concert following Awards Ceremony
- Accredited game officials and referees
- On-site sports medicine personnel
- Commemorative sportswear pack (including shirt, cap and waterbottle)
- Souvenir program
- Daily lunches at playing venues (no lunch provided on Theme Park Day)

Accommodation

- School boarding house or university college accommodation
Caters for boys, girls and co-ed touring groups
- 6 nights accommodation (Sunday 27th Sept – Friday 2nd Oct, inclusive)
- Breakfast and dinner included (lunches catered at competition venue)
- Daily laundry service

This package is available to athletes, coaches and team management.

Touch Football Team Registration Form

28th September – 2nd October, 2009

Contact Details

School/Team: _____

Contact: _____ Position: _____

Address: _____

Country: _____ Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Mobile Contact During Event: _____

Team Details

Girls Under 18 number of teams _____

Boys Under 18 number of teams _____

Boys Under 16 number of teams _____

Team Registration : AUD \$350 per team

Travelling Party

<p>Number of:</p> <p>Students <input type="checkbox"/> Male</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Female</p> <p>Staff <input type="checkbox"/> Male</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Female</p>	<p>Supporters <input type="checkbox"/> Male</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Female</p>
---	---

To help us with our planning, please provide an indication of the information below. We realise numbers and arrival times may change, so please keep us informed of changes.

Flights

Airline & Flight Number: _____

Arrival Date & Time: _____

Departure Date & Time: _____

Additional information: _____

Signed _____ Date _____

Please return via:

POST
Southern Skies
c/- Brisbane Boys' College
Kensington Terrace
Toowong Qld 4066
Australia

FAX
+ 61 7 3309 3667

EMAIL
vglasson@bbc.qld.edu.au

Timeline & Payment Info for Tour Organisers

The team at Southern Skies appreciates how daunting a task it can be contemplating organising an overseas sports tour for one or multiple teams. We have devised a timeline for those of you wishing to plan ahead and make the job as easy as possible. Of course dates will vary depending on how far ahead you wish to plan ... some teams start organising their tours years in advance, others only months ... it's all up to you.

Any time prior to the tournament

Make contact with us regarding your intention to attend and for further information. Now is a good time to start sourcing prices for group airfares. Please note that airfare costings are only valid for a certain period of time. The airlines steadily increase their prices as time progresses.

Once you're ready, contact us to confirm your team's registration in the upcoming event. The earlier you let us know, we can ensure you receive all your information in a timely manner and it helps with our planning too!

Once your team is registered we will send out the Team Registration invoice (AUD \$350 for all teams).. All invoices are payable within 30 days.

Organise how much fundraising your team will need to complete in order to attend the event, and set in place a detailed plan to reach your funding and sponsorship goals. Get all the players involved ... it will really add to their Southern Skies experience and mean so much more to them.

April onwards

We will send out the Team Registration Packages to the Tour Organiser. This contains additional information on the event, and forms for return.

Some travellers may need visas to enter Australia. As these do take some time to be processed by the Australian Department of Immigration, don't leave it to the last minute.

Friday 3rd July 2009, or one month after team registration (whichever is later)

Due date for teams to pay AUD\$100 per person deposit (non-refundable) for all-inclusive Traveller's Package.

August or prior

Remember to return all your forms from the Team Registration Package to ensure that everything is ready for your team's arrival in September.

Please confirm your travelling party numbers (with breakdowns of female and male players in each team, and adults accompanying those respective teams). We need these number breakdowns for our accommodation allocations, lunches at each venue, number of people on buses, etc. We understand that changes occur right up just before travel, so please keep us informed of any changes as they occur.

Friday 28th August 2009

Final outstanding payments for Travellers Packages and additional extras must be made by this date to Southern Skies. No exceptions will be allowed.

Two weeks prior to the event

We will email Tour Organisers the competition draws once they are finalised as well as the accommodation allocations. We will send you a detailed information package about your respective accommodation venue so you can be fully prepared prior to arrival ... room configurations, laundry and other on-site facilities, maps, things to do in the area, public transport timetables for your free time, etc.

REFUND AND CANCELLATION POLICY

If you change your mind, that's fine. All cancellations must be made in writing (fax or email) so that we are fully aware.

Refunds apply as follows:

From registration up until 30 days prior to event commencement:

50% registration fee.

Travellers Package refundable except for non-refundable AUD\$100 per person deposit.

Inside 30 days of event commencement

No refunds on registration fee

No refunds on Travellers Package

Notes

- Travellers Package payments will be transferable between players within teams/schools.
- It is a requirement of entry that all travellers take out travel insurance to cover for eventualities not covered by both our refund policy and injury procedure.
- All prices quoted in Australian Dollars.
- We accept payments via credit card, international bank cheque or Electronic Funds Transfer.
- Payments processed via International EFT incur an AUD \$30 banking charge (please add this to your invoice total).