



**PRESIDENTS REPORT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**28th May 2026**

It is with great pride that I present the President's Report for the 2026 AGM. The 2025–2026 season has been one of continued growth, success, and community engagement for Dubbo Touch Association (DTA). I would like to take this opportunity to highlight key achievements and express appreciation to those who contributed to another outstanding year.

**Key Highlights**

**1. NSWTA Junior State Cup – Northern Conference**

Dubbo successfully hosted its fourth consecutive Junior State Cup Northern Conference, in partnership with Dubbo Regional Council. This year's carnival welcomed 215 teams, maintaining its status as the largest sporting event in Dubbo. The atmosphere both on and off the field was again something that I'm so proud to be a part of, with the economic and social benefits also evident across the region. A special mention goes to our local teams for their outstanding performances. A special mention must go to the u10s boys – not only were they undefeated for the entire rep season they also have the following results ..... Finally they were the very first team in history to win DGWJC, PWMC and Junior State cup, and they then went one better and won the Capital Cup in Canberra that is 41 games of Touch and not one loss, they scored over 1000 tries and had a handful scored against them – a massive achievement to those players, coaches and manager, what a team!

Overall, our Junior rep program is coming along in leaps and bounds and I would like to thank all of our coaches, managers and parents for helping to make it so successful, also to the JSC subcommittee, thank you. One last mention to Tracey Whillock and Emma Fitzgerald for the work behind the scenes with our rep teams. Thanks so much.

**2. Club Participation**

- **Junior Competition:** Growth from 109 teams to 119 teams, with over 1,145 junior players from U7s to U15s.
  - **Senior Competitions:**
    - Summer: 49 Mixed, 20 Men's, and 10 Women's Safari Series teams and mens over 35s we had 4 teams.
    - Winter: 12 Men's and 29 Mixed teams.
- These numbers remain consistent from previous seasons (Give or take a couple) and reflect the stability and popularity of our competitions.

Over the entire competitions that we have ran in the last 12 months we have over 4300 participants. A massive thank you to the committee who work behind the scenes to keep touch running in Dubbo, a special mention to Michelle and Khyran, Rick and Wayne who wouldn't miss many comp nights and keep you on the field.

As a committee we are always trying to evolve and increase participation and provide a safe and respectful playing experience for all involved. Rick has worked hard on the mens over 35s competition and Millie with the womens comp which is growing in interest.

Keep an eye out on the socials for new ideas that will be upcoming in spring.

### **3. Referee Development**

We have continued to grow our referee base, with upgrades achieved at representative carnivals and local level courses increasing our Level 1 referees. Thank you to senior referees who consistently support our junior and senior competitions. Referee courses were made possible through the efforts of Leesa Weber and Krystal Laughton in our seniors and Mandy Turner in juniors – you will notice that we have a lot of junior referees coming through and they are a very important succession plan for our competitions so promoting respect and guidance is something that we will always value.

### **4. Representative Honours**

Congratulations to the following members selected for Hunter Western Hornets who played in the following carnivals in the last rep season

NYC October 2025

Under 12 Girls - Pippa Whillock, Zara Maas, Zahlia Fisher, Hattie Kelly, Maggie McCarney

Under 12 Girls Dev - Ruby Mace

Under 14 Girls Dev - Olivia Carney and Malisi Darcy

Under 12 Boys Dev - Fletcher Pilon, Olly Grose, Harvey Edwards, Slater Gray and Ryder Emery

Under 16 Boys Dev - Paddy Grose and Loch Murph

Under 16 Girls - Isla Bassingthwaighte

Under 18 Girls - Phoebe Fitzgerald

Manager - Serena Prout and Shelley Darcy

Coaches - Nic Grose

Referees - Tim McDougall and Emily Doohan

NTLs March 2026

Women's 20s - Phoebe Fitzgerald, Isla Bassingthwaighte and Ava Sutcliffe

Men's 20s - Paddy Grose, Loch Murphy and Ryan Eade

Men's Open - Matt Dawson

Men's 30s - Harry West

Women's 40s - Tracey Whillock and Emma Fitzgerald  
Women's 45 - Shannon Smith  
Men's 50 - Richie Richardson  
Men's 55 - Cameron Crowley, Neil Webster, Rick Davis, Peter Thomas and David Ryan  
Coaches - Nic Grose  
Referee - Steph Hull

Junior Regionals April 2026  
Under 12 Girls - Dotti Whillock and Ruby Lawson  
Under 16 Girls - Malisi Darcy  
Under 18 Girls - Phoebe Fitzgerald and Isla Bassingthwaighte  
Referees - Krystal Laughton, Leesa Weber and Emily Doohan

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## Sponsorship Acknowledgements

We extend our sincere gratitude to our sponsors, whose support is vital to the success and development of our club:

- **Major Sponsor:** *The Westside Hotel* – Proudly supporting DTA for well over a decade.
- **Junior Competition Sponsor:** *Tyecon* – Thank you to Tye and Nicole for your continued support.
- **Additional Sponsors:**
  - Carpet Court Dubbo
  - Dean Alley Building and Maintenance
  - McCut Tiling
  - Nutrien Ag Solutions
- **Junior Representative Sponsors:**
  - *Bourke Street Butchery*
  - *The Butcher's Wife Café*Thank you to Lexi and Ray for your continued support of our junior athletes.
- **Event Supporters:**
  - *Strathbrook Regional Supplies* and *Orana Air* – Thank you to Richard, Lisa and team for your generous donation of a freezer/reefer and bags of ice during Junior State Cup, which greatly supported our fundraising efforts.

We encourage all members to support these generous local businesses wherever possible.

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## **Club Infrastructure**

DTA has identified infrastructure as a key area for improvement. We are planning on completing a Clubhouse Extension which will consist of more storage options, a new canteen and more shade, there will be no change to the existing space, just extending from that. Thank you to Neil Webster and the infrastructure subcommittee for working on this.

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## **Junior Representative Programs**

Our junior rep program continues to thrive. We fielded teams at several major events including:

- Don Green Western Junior Championships (Mudgee)
- Central Coast Minis & ACT Cup
- Pete Wilson Memorial (Nelson Bay)
- Junior State Cup – Northern Conference (Dubbo)

Notable 2024 Junior State Cup results:

- 10 Girls – 5<sup>th</sup>/22
- 10 Boys – 1<sup>st</sup>/24 and State Champions
- 12 Girls – 4<sup>th</sup>/24
- 12 Boys – 13<sup>th</sup>/27
- 14 Girls – 5<sup>th</sup>/27
- 14 Boys – 10<sup>th</sup>/24
- 16 Girls – 7<sup>th</sup>/22
- 16 Boys – 6<sup>th</sup> /17
- 18 Boys – 6<sup>th</sup>/17
- 18 girls – 6<sup>th</sup>/18

DTA finished 6<sup>th</sup> overall in the state – an incredible achievement reflecting the dedication of our coaches, managers, and rep coordinators and we thank everyone for an amazing rep season. Bring on 2026/2027 season.

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## Senior Representative Programs

Our senior rep teams travelled to several tournaments with strong results:

- **Hornets Championships:**
  - Women's 30s
  - Men's 50s
  - Mixed Opens
- **Country Championships:**
  - Men's 20s, and 50s
  - Women's 20s and 30s
- **Senior State Cup (Port Macquarie):**
  - Mixed opens
  - Womens 30s
  - Mens 50s

Thank you to the coaches and managers for your commitment and leadership.

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## Referees

Referees are an integral part of our game, and we extend our deepest thanks to all those who officiate each week. Our club has minimal non-playing referees, which is why team-duty remains essential.

We are committed to referee development and respect, and will not tolerate abuse or inappropriate behaviour. Special thanks to:

- *Krystle Laughton* and *Leesa Webber* – Referee Coordinators
  - All referees who attended all representative events, we had a lot of referees who attended every rep carnival that we attended, the rep program appreciates your support
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## Fees

New South Wales Touch Football (NSWTF) introduced a statewide "One Fee Model" in July 2025 of \$30 to align with Touch Football Australia, who also put their fee up again to \$30, which you would notice in your registration fees annually per participant.

Dubbo Touch Association will always aim to keep our registration fees at as low of cost as possible and we do remain one of the cheapest sports in the area.

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## Final Comments

In closing, I extend my heartfelt thanks to the DTA Committee for their tireless dedication and support. I've had the privilege of serving on this committee for over 13 years, and despite the challenges, the commitment of our volunteers—whether players, referees, or parents—has never wavered.

Dubbo Touch Association is built on the strength of its people, and I encourage anyone interested in supporting our club to consider joining the general committee. The General committee will reconvene Next Thursday to establish roles and responsibilities for the year ahead.

Thank you for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nic Grose', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nic Grose  
President  
Dubbo Touch Association Inc.