History of the Aussie Touch Footie All Stars Card Series

During the early years of Touch development ATA (now TFA) had a active and professional Technical Panel. Areas that were covered were Coaching, Referring, Selection, Women, Masters, Juniors and Equity. Under the guidance of the Directors of each Arm of the Sport development across Australia began to flourish with increased number participating in the sport.

in December 1990, The Womens Director Glenys Woolcock organised a Womens Development Tour of Tasmania, South Australia, and Victoria. The concept was undertaken to promote Women playing Touch in states outside of NSW and Queensland where participation was strong. In 2000 Keith Harris-Walker, the Masters' Director, organised for Australian Age division teams to participate in the European Championship.

Gradually the ATA Boards reduced many Technical areas and gave some of the roles to paid employees thus diminishing the value of the volunteer. To recognise the players and officials' efforts over the early years of the sport an "Aussie Touch Footie All Stars Card" was born. It was designed along the lines of American Baseball cards and subsequently utilised by the Rugby League organisation in Australia

It was accepted by the ATA that such an idea was a good for the marketing of the sport, but that is where concept stopped. The then General Committee approved a list of the people that should appear on the "Aussie Touch Footie All Stars Card" series. The States were supposed to notify the named persons and provide details of them (pictures, age, a brief history etc).

Only NSW Touch did anything about it but not until 1994 when it employed Tracey Matthew to assemble the data for its contingent of All Stars. Tracey however moved on to other employment shortly after and the project folded.

There were no photos of the All Stars taken as they were announced months after the Nationals, towards the end of the year. The State photos were supposed to be given to each player as they paid for them in the then "cost-sharing" arrangement.

The list of the All Stars series which stopped in 1997. Although the Talent Identification Squads were up and running for several years it was felt by ATA that these elite athletes should be the All Stars. This went against my concept of the series, so it was discontinued....and in the end – no one cared!

Cary Thompson
Touch Historian & Author

PLAYER	1980		1982		1983		1984		1985	
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Arthur Tsakissiris Gordon Abercrombie	NSW ACT NSW QLD NSW NSW NSW QLD QLD	Ray Kiley Paul Blacklock Ron Wall Lisa Neal Karen Smith Barry Doyle John Newton Maria Arthur Graham Hill Mark Carter Sue La Fontaine	TAS NSW NSW NSW QLD NSW NSW NSW	Terry Jacks Tim O'Brien Ray Kiley	QLD NSW NSW NT NSW QLD NSW ACT NSW	Paul Barton Warren Speechley Owen Lane Terry Jacks Ray Kiley Maria Arthur Donna Baker Karen Smith Lisa Neal Simon Annesley Katrina Maher	NSW NSW QLD ACT QLD QLD NSW NSW NT	John Christopher Mark Hornery Terry Jacks Karen Smith Paul Wilson Kerry Norman Terry Starr Donna Jacks Ron Wall John Bonetti Dennis Dwyer Geoff Vigors Steven Stokes	NSW NSW QLD NSW QLD NSW QLD NSW NSW NSW NSW NT
COACH MANAGER REFEREE OFFICIAL	Barry Reynolds Debbie Dowd Michael Horne Phil Smith (President)	NSW NSW	Graham Rogers Cary Thompson Brian Burns Ron Carroll (President & Executiv Director)	NSW		QLD NSW	Ken Irvine Fred Henderson Neville Hockey Ken Wells (President)	QLD WA NSW ATA	Alan Satchell Peter McNeven Innes McDougal Bobette Wilkinson (Manageress)	QLD QLD ACT VIC
GREAT MOMENTS IN TOUCH	First National C'Ship - Gold Coast; QLD Formation of ATA		Second National C'Sh - Canberra; ACT	nip	Third National C'Ship - Hobart; TAS		Fourth Nations C'Shi - Sydney; NSW	p	Fifth National C'ship - Melbourne; VIC First International Aust. v New Zealand	
3	Opening of Touch Ho at Kingsgrove (NSW).		*		*		*		(Melbourne) Visit by Canadian, Ne Zealand and Fijian Officials	ew

PLAYER	1986		1987		1988		1990		1991	
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	Mark Boland Garry Lawless Michael Burke Eddie Basile John Christopher Kendra Hall Steve Clements Greg Devitt Michael Jonson Arthur Tsakissiris Karyn Coombes Joanne Henwood Craig Pierce	NSW ACT QLD NSW NSW ACT NSW NSW QLD QLD NSW	Mark Boland Andy Yiangou Steve Vickery Geoff Wardrobe Mark Hearndon Kerry Norman Karen Smith Tim McKee Cathy Pearl Mark Ostwald Mick Casey Jacquie Anthony Rodney Thorogood	NSW NSW NSW NSW QLD NSW WA	Anita Vincent Bob Brindell Brett Yates Dean Russell Gary Wakefield Jason Gregory Judy Malcolm Kerry Norman Meg Salisbury Peter Buckland Scott Notley Sharon Mitchell- Cowan Stacey Gregory	QLD QLD NSW QLD ACT NSW QLD NSW QLD QLD QLD	Scott Notley Paulette Oldham Glen Haslem Stacey Gregory Kerry Norman Andy Yiangou John Fielding Peter Buckland Sue Dorrington Eddie Hilaire Joanne Van Der Griend Adrian Lam Michelle Clough Jamie Thomas	QLD QLD NSW NSW QLD NSW WA QLD NSW NSW	Jamie Black Katrina Maher Stacey Gregory Tony Howard Garry Lawless Mick McCall Donald Smith Judy Malcolm Darryl Fry Michelle Clough Jamie Thomas Amanda Baska Darren Shelley Garry Clarke	NSW NSW NSW NSW ACT NSW QLD NSW QLD NSW QLD NSW NSW NSW NSW NSW
COACH MANAGER REFEREE OFFICIAL	Graham Rogers Ian Curtis Lance Harrigan Phil Smith (Life Membership)	NSW NSW	Bob White Peter McNeven Mick Cook Chris Carstens (Administrator of Yea	QLD NSW TAS	Terry Jacks Des Noble Gwynne Kerr Des Charman Dr Paul Webb (Technical Director)	SA QLD QLD	Maria Arthur Narelle Thompson Tim Freebody Bob Watts (Tour Manager)	SA NSW QLD ACT	Peter McNeven lan Rogers Greg Summers Brian Rooney (Head Coach)	QLD QLD QLD NSW
GREAT MOMENTS IN TOUCH	Sixth National C'Ship - Adelaide; SA		Seventh National C'Ship - Perth; WA		Eighth National C'Ship - Gold Coast; QLD		Ninth National C'Ship - Darwin; NT		Tenth National C'Ship - Canberra ACT	
	Formation of Federation of International Touch Tour of New Zealand by Australian Teams		Visit by PNG and Canadian Officials Tour of Canada and USA by Australian Teams		First World Cup Gold Coast - Qld Kanga Cup (Canada) Tasman Cup (NZ)		Re-Locating ATA Office To National Capital - Canberra Opening Of NSW TA Club House at Tempe		Second World Cup Auckland New Zealand Tasman Cup Hamilton (NZ)	

PLAYER	1992		1993		1994		1995		1996	
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	Mark Boland Joanne Wong Steve Hancock Trevor McPhillips Peter Buckland Kerry Norman Debbie Biddolph Renee Clark Alex Illin Michael McGovern Patrick Grehan Kobie Jones Jamie Thomas	NSW NSW QLD QLD QLD NSW QLD QLD ACT QLD NSW NSW	Greg Young Andy Yiangou Ron Chilby Teena Jennings Darren Shelley Katrina Maher Mark Boland Sharon Williams Jeff Bartlett Judy Malcolm Giselle Tirado Peter Marsh Angela Daley	QLD NSW NSW ADF NSW NSW QLD NSW NSW NSW QLD QLD	Leesa Johnston Steve Hughes Ron Chilby Mark Scott Darren Shelley Michael McGovern Lynelle Hardy Swain Rovelli Steve Golding Trevor McPhillips Ray Wilson Wayne Clifford Gai Taylor	QLD ACT NSW NSW ACT NSW QLD NSW QLD NSW NSW	Robert Brindell Kevin Feldman Tony Howard Leesa Johnston Katrina Maher Marc Scott Stacey White Steve Tomlin Scott Lewis Louise Mumford Tanya Mitchell Kelby Pickering Trent McDonald	QLD QLD NSW QLD NSW NSW TAS NT WA WA SA QLD	Margie Allen Scott Notley Judy Malcolm Gary Simons Rob Pratt Kieran Gavin Maurice Stewart Kerry Norman Donna O'Connor Craig Madders Giselle Tirado Jody English Neil Ward	QLD QLD NSW NSW QLD NSW QLD NSW QLD NSW NSW QLD
COACH	Scott Notley Garry Giles	QLD NT	Stacey White Peter Bell	NSW QLD	Donna Hollingsworth Greg Newman		Natalie Wilkinson Keith Harris-Walker	QLD WA	Robert Brindell Colin Jenkinson	QLD QLD
MANAGER REFEREE	Ralph Powell Tim Freebody	QLD	lan Rogers Rick Borg	QLD QLD	Kathy O'Brien Niki Ward		Ken Crawford Rick Borg	NSW QLD	Karama Dorset Gary Mournehis	WA NSW
OFFICIAL	Graeme Murphy (Development office)	ATA	Bill Ker (Executive Director)	QLD	Dick Fairbairn (Life membership)	NSW	lan Stanley (T.I.P. Director)	NSW	Dr. Paul Webb (Life Member)	NSW
GREAT MOMENTS IN TOUCH	Eleventh National C'ships - Hobart; Tasmania		Twelth National C'ships - Sydney NSW		Thirteenth National C'ships - Gold Coast; QLD		Fourteenth Nat. C'ships - Gold Coast; QLD		Fifteen National C'ships Masters Only - Gold Coast; QLD	
2	Opening of NSW State Office - Beverly Hills		Opening of ATA Office "Mungga-Iri House"		Under Twenties Boys and Girls first appearance at the Nationals		Third World Cup - Hawaii USA		Lipton Ice \$1m SPonsorship for ATA	
3	3 ATA staff move into new premises in Deakin		Test Losses to NZ in Trans Tasman Cup		Regional Championships		Inaugural State of Origin NSW v QLD Port Macquarie		Second State of Origin NSW v QLD Port Macquarie	

PLAYER	1997	ı	1998	1999	2000	2001
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	Scott Notley Katrina Maher Daren Shelley Robert Brindell Giselle Tirado Michael McGovern Michael Cheung Andy Yiangiou Don Bartz Wayne Brennan David Cheung Tim Kitchingham Annette Mouncey Heather Desbios	QLD NSW QLD NSW ACT NSW QLD NSW QLD NSW NSW NSW NSW QLD				
COACH MANAGER REFEREE OFFICIAL	Peter McNeven Harry Appo Parish McMahon Keith Harris-Walker	QLD NT NSW WA				
	Inaugural NTL (opens Masters Nationals Coffs Harbour Trans Tasman Tests Brisbane Fourth World Cup Masters Divs Only Gold Coast	(3)				