

Vale: John Sidney HOWARD

8th February 1944 – 12th March
2026

NSW Touch Association wrote
Remembering John Howard



We are saddened by the passing of John Howard, a former NSWTF President and dedicated volunteer, for the sport across Western Sydney and New South Wales.

John served the New South Wales Touch Football Limited (NSWTF) for more than a decade. He was elected Vice President from 1998 to 2000, before becoming President from 2001 to 2010. During his time in leadership, John was widely recognised for his commitment to developing the game and fostering opportunities for players of all ages and abilities.

In recognition of his outstanding service and contribution to the sport, John was awarded Life Membership of NSW Touch Football in 2003.

Beyond his role at the state level, John made an enormous contribution locally as a long-serving President of the Penrith Touch Association. His leadership helped guide the organisation through years of growth and community engagement, ensuring touch football remained accessible and welcoming to players and families throughout the region.

John's connection to the sport went back to its early days in Western Sydney. He was an original player with the Nepean Touch Association, where he first developed the lifelong passion that would see him dedicate countless hours to the game as a player, administrator, and mentor.

Those who worked with John remember him not only for his friendly demeanour but also for his generosity, and belief in the power of community sport. His influence helped shape touch football in New South Wales and inspired many volunteers and players who followed.

He will be remembered with respect and gratitude by all who knew and work alongside him.

The thoughts of the touch football community are with his wife Sue and all of John's family, friends, and colleagues during this difficult time.

NSW Touch Association Facebook wrote

We are saddened by the passing of John Howard, a former NSWTF President and dedicated volunteer, for the sport across Western Sydney and New South Wales. The thoughts of the touch football community are with his wife Sue and all of John's family, friends, and colleagues during this difficult time.

Tributes from NSW Touch web site

Ian Stanley wrote

My sincere condolences to Sue and the family. I am very saddened in my friends passing and we will be missing another Touch Legend. John was an absolute gentleman and one of a kind in all positions in undertook in the game, his legacy will be forever visible with Penrith and NSW Touch as huge standouts.....RIP LEGEND and thank you.

Michael Barlow wrote

We do throw the legend status around quite easily these days but not in this case, John is a true legend of this game and had the impeccable ability to read a team dynamic like no one else. He brought the best out everyone he coached and was a very caring man. RIP mate you will be missed by many people for many reasons.

Fran Hanson wrote

My heart goes out to Sue and the family during this difficult time. Rest in peace John

Scott McLeod wrote

RIP GOD BLESS YOU JOHN

Thank you for coaching my 1990 City Mixed team !!! Long time love for you and a true gentleman of our game. Humanity is weakened by your departure! To the Howard family, all my best and heart felt support in this time of loss and celebration for a GREAT HUMAN!!!

Scotty

Karen Cook wrote

RIP John. Very sad to hear. My thoughts and condolences to Sue and family. Amazing man with a heart of Gold❤️👉

Ron Wall wrote

Champion bloke...

Gwynne Ker wrote

John has left so many footprints on the development & growth of the sport of touch. His early involvement with emerging sport was so important as he was so enthusiastic. John always had his hand in the air to be involved, and we embraced and our deeply grateful for his commitment. Our heartfelt condolences to Sue and their families. Thanks for so many memories John Bill & Gwynne

Steve Fisher wrote

RIP

Robert Denise Summers wrote

Condolences to Sue and the extended family I will have fond memories of John as a very supportive President at NSW Touch of not only the affiliated clubs but of the staff as well. A true gentleman of our sport will be remembered fondly by all who have been touched by his legacy.

Louise McCourt wrote

Oh John, we go back a long way, I think 40 years. Always a gentleman, always had a kind word and supported women in touch. Someone I could go to and seek advice without judgement. Heartfelt condolences to you Sue and his family, you will be greatly missed 💙💙💙

Bruce E Weller wrote

Thoughts and prayers are with John's family. John played a part in the beginning of Whalan Social Touch football club, many, many years ago. Where it all began.

Dawn Redman wrote

Such sad news. A great man. My thoughts are with all. x

Alan Crawford wrote

Thoughts & prayers to Sue & the family 🙏

Emmanuel Buhagiar wrote

So sad to hear, condolences Sue and family! 😞

Erb Rallig wrote

A great man. ✅

Ozzy Tupai Scanlan wrote

Miss ya 🙏

Brian Crebert wrote

RIP John you helped touch grow

Mel Harrison wrote

Sad news, sending my condolences to Sue, Jamie, Sam and extended family. John will always be remembered as a great man who loved, lived and breathed touch. May he rest in peace ❤️

Mark Ruscoe wrote

John will be deeply missed 🙏

Andrew Humpherson wrote

Very sad to hear. A lovely person and along with Sue, passionate about our sport and players.

Teale Bryan wrote

RIP John. True legend.

Col Bentley wrote

RIP John. Very sad. Thoughts are with Sue and the family ❤️

Manny Kriticos wrote

RIP JOHNNY 🙏.

Dean McManus wrote

Sorry to here of John's passing, John was a good man.

Michelle Samson wrote

A great man John and always a gentleman! Thoughts are with you Sue, Sam and family

Les Bouveng wrote

Condolences to Sue and family..John was a great person to deal with and helped me a lot. RIP. John

Barry Nicholls wrote

RIP rest in peace 🙏 John

Chris Harapa wrote

Very sad news. Condolences to all the family. A truly dedicated servant of the game who served Penrith & NSW Touch with distinction. RIP John.

Rick Rymer wrote

Condolences to the Howard family. A truely good man. RIP John. 🙏🙏

Craig Thomas-Schumacher wrote

Condolences Sue and family. Did a lot for Penrith Touch Football and NSW Touch Football in the early days.

Barrie Keenahan wrote

Condolences 🙏 to the family.

Lyle Barnwell wrote

Condolences Sue and family this is a saddened loss for the Penrith Community.

Annette Thomas-Schumacher wrote

Heart felt condolences to Sue and family. A legacy who will always be remembered. Time to rest now John.

Craig May wrote

Sad News. Thoughts are with the Family

Tony Eltakchi wrote

Sending our deepest condolences and prayers to Sue and the family. 🙏🙏🙏🙏

Graham Fleming wrote

Condolences to Sue and the family
Left a legacy that won't be forgotten. ❤️

Lisa Sly wrote

So sorry to hear this. Condolences 🌸

Larry Kent wrote

Condolences a great man for our sport

Andrew Lees wrote

A true servant of the game. Sad to hear of his passing. Condolences to Sue and his family

Wade Jenkins wrote

Sincere condolences to Sue and the family. He was a great man. ❤️

Garry Clarke wrote

Sending love to Sue and the family ❤️. John was a leader in sports administration and formed valued lasting relationships with so many people. Despite the many roles John took on he always maintained connection to the grass roots people. He has created many wonderful memories for friends and participants over the years. Rest easy.

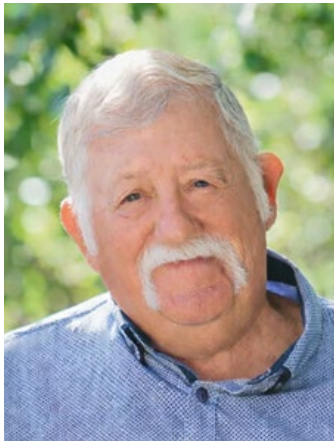
Karlos E Kelly wrote



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Cary Thompson wrote

John was a great man and an innovator. His assistance with his role as Treasurer of FIT was invaluable. His kindness was witnessed by all who came in contact with him and his guidance and mentoring will be sadly missed. John has left a huge gap in the life of countless people. Rest in Peace my friend.



Touch Football Australia wrote Fri 13 Mar 2026,

We are saddened by the passing of John Howard, a former NSWTF President and dedicated volunteer, for the sport across Western Sydney and New South Wales.

John served the New South Wales Touch Football Limited (NSWTF) for more than a decade. He was elected Vice President from 1998 to 2000, before becoming President from 2001 to 2010. During his time in leadership, John was widely recognised for his

commitment to developing the game and fostering opportunities for players of all ages and abilities.

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John's connection to the sport went back to its early days in Western Sydney. He was an original player with the Nepean Touch Association, where he first developed the lifelong passion that would see him dedicate countless hours to the game as a player, administrator, and mentor.

Those who worked with John remember him not only for his friendly demeanour but also for his generosity and belief in the power of community sport. His influence helped shape touch football in New South Wales and inspired many volunteers and players who followed.

He will be remembered with respect and gratitude by all who knew and worked alongside him. The thoughts of the touch football community are with his wife, Sue and all of John's family, friends, and colleagues during this difficult time.



Penrith Touch Association wrote 12 March at 18:07 ·

Penrith Touch Association is deeply saddened by the passing of John Howard, a true servant of our game whose contribution to touch football in Penrith, New South Wales and beyond spanned decades.

John's connection to the sport dates back to the early days of touch football in the Nepean region. As the game continued to grow locally from the late 1970s, John was part of that journey, first as a player and later as a passionate administrator, mentor and leader who dedicated countless hours to the sport he loved.

He served as President of Penrith Touch Association, helping guide the club through important years of growth and development. Through his leadership, the association strengthened its competitions, programs and community presence, helping ensure touch football remained accessible and welcoming for players and families across the Penrith region.

John's impact extended well beyond our local fields. At a state level, he served New South Wales Touch Football for more than a decade, first as Vice President from 1998–2000, before becoming President from 2001–2010. During this time, he worked tirelessly to support the development of the sport and expand opportunities for players across the state. In recognition of his outstanding service, he was awarded Life Membership of NSW Touch Football in 2003.

His passion for the game also reached the international stage. As Treasurer of the Federation of International Touch (FIT) and a certified coaching instructor, John contributed to developing the sport globally and helped deliver coaching and development programs aimed at growing touch football internationally.

Throughout it all, his wife Sue was always by his side, sharing in his passion for the game and supporting the Penrith Touch community for many years. John's passion, leadership and dedication helped shape the game for generations of players, volunteers and families. His legacy will live on through the many people and communities he influenced through touch football. Our thoughts are with Sue, the Howard family and all who knew John during this difficult time.



Penrith OzTag wrote 12 March

VALE JOHN HOWARD

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Penrith Oztag Life Member and Hall of Famer John Howard.

John laid the foundations of the association we are all proud to be part of today. His three decades of hard work, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment shaped generations of players, coaches, and volunteers. His legacy is woven into every corner of our club.

Across many years, John held key executive roles and devoted countless hours to managing and coaching representative teams. His influence, leadership, and passion touched the lives of so many, and his impact will continue to be felt for years to come.

Our prayers and love go out to Sue, Jamie, Samantha, Melinda, Lee and the entire Howard family during this difficult time. We stand with you in grief, gratitude, and remembrance.

Today is a truly sad day for our club as we farewell an icon, someone who meant so much to so many 😞

As a mark of respect, all our representative teams competing at the State Championships in Coffs Harbour in a weeks time will wear black armbands in honour of John and the extraordinary contribution he made to our association over many many years.

Rest in peace, John. Your legacy will live on forever
www.facebook.com/reel/1318028306935493

Tributes from OzTag web site

Leanne Shiagetz-Tweeddale wrote

Legends never die, they just leave a lasting legacy ❤️🙏

Condolences to the Howard family ❤️❤️

Sandra Wozniak wrote

So sorry for your loss RIP John love the Wozniak family

Megan Collins wrote

Condolences Sue and family. We enjoyed our time at Whalan Touch many years ago and at Penrith touch with the referees. Merv and Megan Collins

Paul McGovern wrote

RIP John, condolences to Sue and family.

Robert Azzopardi wrote

It was a pleasure to know John and the family when playing touch football at Penrith sadly missed RIP John

Carly Lake Meares wrote

Such a legacy you left behind John, sending love and strength to your family

Brittany Wildman wrote

RIP John 🕊️🌹

Tracey Elliott wrote

Sending our heart felt condolences to Sue and the family John Howard was an inspiration to all of us on the Touch football field he will be sadly missed 💔🙏

Peter Lowe wrote

Champion and legend of a bloke, Rip John

Teresa Jessup wrote

Such sad news! His contribution to Touch and to Oztag has been enormous.

Ron Lewis wrote

I'm so sorry to hear this RIP mate a great man will be missed by family and friends 🧡

Tara Willoughby wrote

This is heartbreaking 💔 RIP John. Thinking of all the Howard family

Maree Blundell wrote

Melinda Howard sending love and strength at this sad time to you, Jamie and family 🌹

Allen Spencer wrote

So sad, great moments in the 70s-80s playing touch with John, a true champion, my heart goes to Sue and the kids, sorry. 🥺🤝

Vicki Kim wrote

Very sad 🥺 to hear. Life time of memories for both. Vic & I. Sending our condolences 🌹

Ilelen Perich-Debono wrote

Very sad news RIP John 😞 sending my condolences to Sue and all the family
XXXX

Nathan Scicluna wrote

Condolences to the Howard family such a sad loss to the community won't be the same down there but sure his legacy will live on with everyone involved ❤️

Kris Davidson wrote

It was an honour to know you and work with you. Rest in peace John ❤️

Alan Lloyd wrote

Such a welcoming and engaging personality. You were the first neighbour I met 23 years ago on andromeda. Love to all ❤️❤️

Kim Bailey wrote

Very sad news. RIP John, our thoughts go out to Sue & the Howard family x ✨

Susan Matthew wrote

R.I.P John Condolences to Sue & the Howard Family. Matto & Sue 💙

Kelly-Ann Jones Pereira wrote

My thoughts and prayers are with the Howard family 🙏💙

Angela Enese wrote

So sad 😞 sending love to the family 💙

Sonja Jones wrote

Sending our love and condolences to Sue and the family during this tough time 🙏

Erika Jade wrote

Super sad news. Rip John

Catherine Pirotta wrote

A true legend, a beautiful soul. Sending love and prayers to the Howard family ❤️😞 Condolences to the families at this sad time as I was shocked to hear of his sudden passing and never forgotten what he did for this oztag/ touch footy Community as this is difficult time for everyone who knew him along the way while playing for this community. We will never forget what he did as he is true legend.



John Singh wrote

This was a great friend and a coaching inspiration. RIP
John

Maureen Prien wrote

RIP love the Prien family xxxx

Lisa Wells wrote

Sending love to Sue, Jamie and the family ❤️❤️❤️

Brian Kearney wrote

So sorry to hear 😞

Roz Wartens wrote

So sad to hear this news, John was a great bloke. John did a lot of good for a lot of people R.I.P.

Michele Reaney wrote

Such sad news, sending our condolences to you all ❤️🙏

Don Reardon wrote

RIP to a wonderful man.

Maria and Paul Green wrote

RIP John xx

Cristal Reargee wrote

The world just got a little sadder. What a wonderful human being! May you rest in peace, your legacy will forever continue.

Kim Willis wrote

Lovely man

John Konno Konnecke wrote

Great bloke condolences to sue and family 🙏🙏🙏

Emma Parker wrote

Such sad news, sending all our love fam 💙

Suave Mente wrote
Rest In Love ❤️

Juanita Mary wrote
Condolences to the Howard family. RIP John 🌹

Jess Enese wrote
Such sad news, sending all the love and prayers to sue and the family. Rest in love John 🙏❤️

Justine McAlpine wrote
Sending our condolences to all the family and John's many friends.

Paul Lee wrote
So sad to hear RIP John condolences to Sue and family

Rebecca Thornley wrote
Such a sad news to hear, my prayers and condolences to your families and friends. Hugs xx 🌻🌻🌻🌻

Kelly Ziolkowski wrote
Sending our condolences to the family. May your fond memories of the amazing man John /dad was, bring you comfort.. all our love

Dean McKechnie wrote
Such a tragedy. Thoughts and prayers with Sue and the family. RIP John...

Jackie Springfield wrote
John, your legacy will live on forever ❤️

Linda Lindsay wrote
A true gentleman. You will be deeply missed John. Love to Sue and all the family.

Michelle Lennox wrote
R.I.P John. Condolences to the family.

Kiarnie Jennings wrote
Oh no!!! My condolences to the family, sending out lots of love and may we represent in Coffs!!!

Kieran Gavin wrote

Great man 😞

Teoke Kahuroa wrote

🙏❤️❤️ sending our condolences family

Lyndall Mann wrote

Sending love and condolences to the family ❤️

Liam Deyliñ wrote

Rest in peace mate.

Shell Towers wrote

My condolences to all the Howard family - John will be remembered fondly by many. RIP John, 🌸

Michael Thomson wrote

Sad news good man

Shivone Mcphie wrote

John was a father figure to me growing up! He always had me in stitches down at tag. Always joking with me especially when I drove the buggy. I'll miss him deeply. Love you John, he was a very beautiful soul and will be missed by all ❤️ sending thoughts and love to the Howard family. ❤️🙏

Madison De Wal wrote

Very sad news! So sorry to hear. Rip John 💙

Kylie Long wrote

Such sad news, sending our condolences to you all.

Christine Tipper wrote

A huge loss 😞❤️

Robyn Taylor wrote

So sad to hear this sending lots love Sue and family xo

Matt Hyde wrote

RIP John was a great man and will be remembered by all that played the game of touch footy and oz tag at Penrith .. sincere condolences to all John's family and friends 🙏

Tanille Hood wrote

Rip John 🌹

Paul Jones wrote

Sad news to hear. Thoughts are with Sue and the family.

Mark Howard wrote

Fantastic uncle, and brilliant sportsman, our thoughts are with you Aunty Sue, Jamie, Samantha and family. Will always remember you Uncle John.

Grant Bedot wrote

Jim Bedot

Sina Fritz wrote



Ray Gauci wrote



Vicki Auty wrote

RIP John Howard 🌹🌹🌹

Mandy Wilkes wrote

R.I.P John Howard

Stu Cee Cee wrote

RIP John. Deepest Condolences to Sue and Family

David Cannon wrote

So sorry to hear. Such a good man ❤️

Scott Merchant wrote

RIP John. Condolences to his family

Kim Hewitt wrote

Rest in Peace John!

Jason Debono wrote

R.I.P John. Condolences to Sue and the family.

Gary Kinkade wrote

Condolences to family and friends.

Shane Frederiksen wrote
Love ya mate....

Linda Lindsay wrote
Philip Scott Lindsay

Pauline Cortis wrote
RIP. Condolences to family and friends

Todd Breadsell wrote
RIP John was Penrith touch footy 🙏🙏

Cary Thompson wrote
John was a great man and an innovator. His assistance with his role as Treasurer of FIT was invaluable. His kindness was witnessed by all who came in contact with him and his guidance and mentoring will be sadly missed. John has left a huge gap in the life of countless people. Rest in Peace my friend.



(Click on image to watch Memorial Service)