



# TOUCH BELGIUM

## 2010 EUROPEAN TOUCH CHAMPIONSHIPS

### INITIAL INFORMATION PACK

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Touch Belgium will be participating in the 2010 European Touch Championships. We intend to build on our 2009 Mainland Cup success by entering a Mixed, Mens, and Ladies team to each of the three Open Divisions. New player eligibility rules have been relaxed and are more favourable to Belgium's varied community. Individual participation fees are likely to remain around 200 Euros. This is indicative only and will be clarified as soon as possible.

This document attempts to lay out the initial information we have received from the organisers to allow any interested participants the opportunity to plan early and submit in good time, the attached Expression of Interest EOI Form. Please note that submission of an EOI does not commit you to participation.

### Eligibility

Even if you are not considered "eligible", you may still represent Belgium on an exclusions basis! If you're Belgian, you're eligible, if you've been resident in Belgium for over 3 years, you're eligible! If you've a Belgian parent, you're eligible. We want as many of you as possible, speak to us before disqualifying yourselves! Full details of the eligibility criteria may be found on our website at [www.touch-belgium.be/Euros2010](http://www.touch-belgium.be/Euros2010). Our squad for 2009 included Belgians, French, English, Scots, Welsh, Irish, Australians, New Zealanders and Swedes!

### Venue

Filton College, Bristol, England



## Dates

The competition will take place over 4 days, from Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July to Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>. This will require us to travel on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July and return Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July. Further Clarification will be made once more detailed timing has been received from the organisers.

## Accommodation

Accommodation will be provided within the college grounds close to the playing fields. This cost will be included within the participation fee.

## Travel Arrangements

Travel arrangements are currently under investigation but it is anticipated that the entire squad will travel together by coach.

## Schedule

The following Schedule is anticipated:

13/12/2009	Release Initial Information pack and EOI forms
<b>31/01/2010</b>	<b>Closing date for receipt of EOI forms</b>
05/02/2010	Selection Panel appointed
19/02/2010	Selection Criteria Published
<b>28/02/2010</b>	<b>50% of Participation Fee Due – (refundable if not selected)</b>
01/03/2010	Weekly Training Sessions Begin
05-06/03/2010	Training Camp 1 – Pre Selection
17-18/04/2010	Training Camp 2 – Pre Selection
<b>30/04/2010</b>	<b>Squad Selection completed</b>
31/05/2010	100% Participation Fee Due
11-12/06/2010	Training Camp 3 – Post Selection
21/07/2010	Depart Brussels – Arrive Bristol
22–25/07/2010	2010 European Touch Championships
22/07/2010	Depart Bristol – Arrive Brussels

## Further Information

Touch Belgium have participated in international touch tournaments since their impressive debut reaching the quarter finals of the European Touch Championships in Edinburgh in 2006. Greenstone Hooke in Paris, 2007 saw them gain 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Mixed Open Division. The 2008 European Touch Championships saw the participating field widen and strict eligibility rules apply, despite this, Belgium again reached the quarter final of the “Rest of the World” section. 2009’s European Mainland Cup saw Belgium back in fine form and retain their third place ranking in the Mixed Open Division with the debut of the ladies team achieving 4<sup>th</sup> ranking in their Division. Belgium finished the competition in overall 3<sup>rd</sup> place.