

For Immediate Release

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## G'day Mate: Aussie Rules Football in Plano?



Australia may be 15,000 kilometers away, but that's not stopping Australian football, also known as "Aussie rules" or "footy" from coming to Plano. The North Texas Devils, one of the sides (teams) that comprise the United States Australian Football league is recruiting and training at Plano Parks and Recreation fields. The Devils are the USAFL's 48<sup>th</sup> side. Nearly fifty players have signed up so far, including Americans and ex-pat Australians. The Devils will be playing teams from around the U.S.

Aussie rules can be described as a soccer-basketball rugby blend. Unlike American football, it is played by two teams of 18 players on an oval field. There is no offside, so players are spread all over the field making it a fast paced, 360 degree game. The primary methods are kicking, handballing and running with the ball. Players running with the ball must intermittently bounce or touch it on the ground. Throwing the ball is not allowed and players must not get caught holding the ball. Unlike American football where only a few people handle the ball, everyone in Aussie Rules learns the skills and uses them during a game.

The Devils seek to bolster awareness of the sport across North Texas and provide a playing option for those living in the Plano area. No experience is necessary. Their first game is scheduled for June 19<sup>th</sup>.

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**Editor's Note:** For more information on the North Texas Devils, go to their website at <http://www.ntxdevils.com>

### Media Contacts

Steve Stoler  
Director  
Media Relations  
Ph. (972) 941-7321  
Mo. (972) 345-1393  
Stevest@plano.gov

**About Plano**

Plano, Texas, is the largest city in Collin County with a population of 285,190 as of January 2020. Incorporated in 1873, the city is located 20 miles north of Dallas. Niche and AreaVibes recently named Plano as one of the Best Cities to Live in America. Forbes designated Plano one of America's safest cities. The City offers a high quality of life that includes nationally recognized schools, award-winning parks, and sustainability initiatives and a wide variety of multi-cultural neighborhoods appealing to families, young singles and retirees. Plano is home to the headquarters or regional operations of major corporations such as Toyota, Liberty Mutual, JPMorgan Chase, Boeing Global Services, Fannie Mae, FedEx Office, JC Penney, Rent-A-Center, Cinemark Holdings, Peloton, Denbury Resources and Samsung. Our dynamic community features excellent restaurants, vibrant shopping and entertainment venues, a lively historic downtown district and active local arts scene. Easy access to DART light rail and major highways makes Plano a convenient place to live, work and visit. To learn more about Plano, go to our website at [plano.gov](http://plano.gov).