

Futsal Rules

GENERAL

- Matches are 5-on-5, including a goalkeeper. Team rosters are nine people or less
- A team must have four (4) players to begin a game. Three players constitute a forfeit.
- Substitutions are free and unlimited during game play except for the goalkeeper.
 - Substitutions may be made on the “on the fly,” provided the player being substituted for is within 5 feet of the bench before the next player comes onto the court. If a player leaves the bench early OR the player coming off the court participates in play, a Yellow Card will be assessed and an indirect free kick from the half field line will be administered.
 - A player who receives a Red Card must leave the playing area and may not be replaced by a substitute. This means that this player’s team will have one less player on the court for the remainder of the game.
 - During an injury, both teams may substitute openly. A player that is bleeding must be substituted from the game.
 - Any player may change places with the goalkeeper, provided that the Official is informed before the change is made and the change is made during a stoppage in play (Penalty: Yellow Card).
- A match will be divided into two (2) periods of fifteen (15) minutes each. Time runs continuously unless there is an injury or unexpected interruptions. At the conclusion of each half, the teams reverse ends. There shall be three (3) minutes between halves. There are no time outs. Time shall be extended to allow a penalty kick to be taken. Match time will be kept on the court by a referee.
- Regular season matches that are tied at the end of regulation time will remain tied. ***No overtime is played during the regular season.*** Playoff matches that are tied at the end of regulation time will proceed into overtime and, if needed, a shootout to determine a winner
- The goalkeeper has possession (control) of the ball when they are touching the ball.

- From the moment the keeper takes control of the ball with their hands within their own penalty area, they are to be penalized if they take more than six seconds without releasing the ball into play.
- A keeper may not, after releasing the ball into play, touch the ball again with their hands before it has been touched by another player of the same team outside the penalty area or by an opposing player either inside or outside the penalty area. If the goalkeeper plays the ball to a teammate and the teammate passes the ball back to the goalkeeper, they may not use their hands to play the pass. Penalty for violation of this rule is an indirect free kick.
- The goalkeeper shall not touch the ball with their hands via a kick-in from their own team or a deliberate kick by a teammate. Penalty is an indirect free kick.
- Goalkeepers shall not slide/dive feet or head first while making a play. Sliding feet first will be deemed a slide tackle, sliding head first will be considered a slide/slide tackle depending on the play and will result in the appropriate card to the offending player and free kick to the offended team.
- No player may shoot the ball within the goal box. However, any player may move through the goal box with or without the ball. Any part of the ball or player's body on the line is considered in the goal box for the purposes of this rule. Once a player has entered the goal box (such as when legally moving through the box), that player must establish themselves outside the goal box (both feet outside the box) prior to shooting the ball. The ball must also be entirely outside of the goal box before the shot is taken. Deflections by the attacking team within the goal box will not count as a goal.

KICKOFF PROCEDURE

- A coin toss before the beginning of the game will determine which team kicks off and which has the choice of ends. The team not receiving the ball first will have possession to begin the second half.
- On the referee's signal, the game shall start or resume following a goal with a kick from the center of the court.
- All players shall be within their half of the court. Opponents of the kicking team must be at least 5 yards from the ball until it is kicked. A teammate of the kicker may be anywhere within their half of the court.

SCORING A GOAL, OUT OF BOUNDS, OFFSIDES, RESTARTS

- A goal is scored when the whole of a legally propelled ball has passed over the goal line, between the goal posts and under the crossbar. If the Official's whistle sounds before the ball passes fully into the goal, the goal shall not be allowed.
 - A goal may be scored only from the attacking half.
 - A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick.
 - A goal may not be scored if a goalkeeper punts, or dropkicks a ball into other team's goal
 - A goal may be scored if a goalkeeper throws, kicks, or drops a ball into their own goal
 - A goal MAY be scored from a kickoff
 - A goal may be scored with the head in the goal box, but only directly off corner kicks.
- The ball is out of play when:
 - It has completely crossed the goal line whether on the ground or in the air.
 - The ball goes over the out of bounds line.
 - The official sounds his/her whistle.
- There will be no whistle to restart play except:
 - When a team asks the official for 5 yards.
 - When the ball hits the ceiling, lights, air ducts, etc.
 - When play has been stopped to caution or eject a player.
 - For a penalty kick.
 - When a goal is scored.
- Goal kicks
 - For a goal kick, the ball shall be placed anywhere in the goal box area.
 - Defenders must be positioned outside of the goal box.
 - The ball is in play as soon as it is touched by the kicker.
 - The player taking the goal kick cannot retouch the ball until another player has touched it.
 - The player taking the goal kick can elect to throw the ball in play. If the player chooses to throw the ball into play, the ball must bounce in their own half first. If

the ball bounces on the opposing half first, the opposing team will be awarded a goal kick.

- A corner kick is awarded when the ball crosses the goal line, either on the ground or in the air, and was last touched by a defensive player.
 - The ball must be placed on the ground within 1 yard of the corner flag or cone. Corner flags or cones cannot be moved to take a corner kick.
 - The opposing team must be 5 yards away at the time the ball is kicked.
 - The kicker cannot retouch the ball until it is touched by another player (either team).
 - A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick.
 - A goal may be scored with the head, not the feet or other legal body part, in the goal box, but only directly off corner kicks.
- Any ball striking a referee, goal post, or corner post and remaining on the court is in play. After the ball has wholly crossed the sideline or goal line, or whenever the game has been stopped by the referee, the ball is out of play.
- When restarting the game after a temporary suspension of play (i.e. injury), except on a free kick or kick-in, the team that was clearly in possession of the ball at the time of the suspension shall be awarded an indirect free kick from the spot the ball was at the time of the suspension.
 - If neither team was in clear possession of the ball, the referee shall drop the ball at the place where it was when play was suspended, and the ball is in play when it touches the ground.
- When the ball passes completely out of bounds, it shall be kicked in nearest to where it left play by the opposing team. A player shall:
- Place the ball on the ground and proceed to take the kick following the rules of an indirect free kick. The ball shall be in play immediately after it has been kicked and may be played by any player except the one who executes the kick-in. 5 yards shall be given, the same as all free kick situations.
 - If the ball is improperly kicked into play, a player of the opposing team will be awarded a restart.

- If an opponent interferes with or in any way impedes the actions of the kicker while the kick-in is being taken, the official will administer a Yellow Card for Unsportsmanlike Conduct.
- Goalkeepers cannot (with their hands) handle a ball kicked-in directly to them by their own team.
- A goal CANNOT be scored directly from a kick-in. It must touch a member of either team before crossing the goal line to be counted as a goal.

FREE KICKS

- All dead ball kicks (kick-ins, free kicks, kick-offs) are indirect with the exception of corner kicks and penalty kicks.
- An indirect free kick is a free kick from which a goal may not be scored unless the ball is touched by another player from either team.
- The free kick may be taken by any player of the offended team on the court of play at the time of the offense

PENALTY KICKS

- A penalty kick is awarded after a serious or intentional rule infraction takes place in the penalty area by the defensive team. A penalty kick can be awarded regardless of the position of the ball, if the infraction by the defending team is committed in the penalty area. It is not awarded for infractions that call for an indirect free kick.
- The penalty kick may be taken by any player of the offended team on the field of play at the time of the offense.
- All penalties must be one-step penalties. The player may only take one step before shooting the ball.
- All players must remain behind the half-court line, until the ball is kicked
- If a goal is not scored, the player who kicked the ball must not play it again until it has been touched by another player. The ball shall be deemed in play directly after it is kicked and moves forward.
- The opposing goalkeeper may ONLY move laterally on his/her own goal line between the goalposts, until the ball is kicked.

OVERTIME AND SHOOTOUT

- Overtime will consist of ONE 3-minute “golden goal” period. The first team to score a goal will win the game. The choice of ends and the kickoff will be decided by a coin toss.
- If the game remains tied at the end of the overtime period, the game will proceed into a 3-person shootout.
- If the score remains tied following the first three (3) shots by each team, a sudden victory shootout will occur in which the game is won if, after ANY equal number of shots, the tie is broken. The kicking order and players involved is restricted to players on the court at the end of the overtime period.

There is NO SLIDING OR SLIDE TACKLING. This rule applies to all players anywhere on the court.

- The offense for any slide will result in a yellow/red card, based on intent, for the offending player. Additionally, an indirect free kick will be awarded to the offended team.
- Charging, handballs, holding, pushing, delay of game, tripping, and obstructing will also result in a yellow/red card based on intent. An indirect or direct free kick will also be awarded.