

Futsal Rules

Games:

- Games run for 35 minutes, with two 16-minute halves, a 2-minute warm-up and a 1-minute half-time break.
- The first games of the night start at 5:50pm and our last games start at 9:55pm.
- There are no timeouts and the clock will not be stopped, except in the case of a serious injury where a player is unable to leave the court.
- A match is started and finished by the referee's whistle.
- Game fees are \$80 per team, per match and must be paid prior to the start of the game.
 - Split payments are not accepted. 1 payment of \$80 is required per team.

Forfeit Policy:

- Forfeits must be communicated directly to the Futsal Coordinator with as much notice as possible.
- If more than 24 hours' notice before your game is given: no charge
- If less than 24 hours' notice before your game is given: \$80
- If no notice is given: \$160

Teams:

- A maximum of 5 players are permitted on the court at any one time (including the goalkeeper).
- A maximum of 5 substitutes are permitted (10 players in total).
- Mixed teams may only have a maximum of 3 males on the court at any one time.
- Players must be a minimum of 16 years of age to participate in Futsal.
- Teams must be ready to start the game at the scheduled match time.
- Teams must have a minimum of 3 players on the court before a match can commence.
- The following penalties apply for lateness:
 - 3-5 mins: 1 goal
 - 5-8 mins: 2 goals
 - 8+ mins: Forfeit

Teams Uniforms:

- All teams must be wearing the same-coloured shirt. Bibs are available at the front counter if necessary.

- All players must be wearing sporting attire and appropriate footwear.
- Shin guards are not compulsory but may be worn.
- All players must remove or tape over any items of jewellery.
- Goalkeeping gloves are not compulsory but are recommended.

Interchange:

- Players may interchange at any time without notifying the referee. However, teams must notify the referee when they are changing the goalkeeper.
- There is no limit to the amount of interchanges a team is permitted to make during a match.
- Players must interchange at the same position on the court, in their defensive half.
- The player coming onto the field of play must wait until the player coming off the court has completely crossed the boundary line before entering.
- In the event of a player being sent off due to a red card, a player may replace the offending player once 5 minutes of playing time has expired. The player who has been red-carded is not permitted back on the court for the remainder of the match.

Injuries:

- An injured player must leave the court as quickly as possible.
- In the event of a serious injury where the player is unable to leave the court, the clock will be stopped.
- Once an injured player leaves the court, another player can replace them.
- If a player is bleeding, they must leave the court immediately and cannot return until the bleeding has stopped.
- Ice packs and other first aid supplies are available at the front counter.

Points System:

- Teams will be awarded 4 points for a win.
- Teams will be awarded 2 points for a draw.
- Teams will be awarded 1 point for a loss.
- Teams who are fixtured on a bye or request a bye (with at least 1 weeks' notice) will be awarded 2 points.
 - Teams may request a maximum of 4 byes per season. Thereafter, 0 points will be awarded for a bye.
- Where an opposition team forfeits and no replacement game is found, teams will be awarded 4 points (FF).
- Where a team forfeits, they will be awarded 0 points (FA).
- Where a team plays a team from a higher division, they will be awarded a win and 4 points irrespective of the result.
- In the event of a game being abandoned, the result of the game will be determined by the Coordinator.

Finals:

- The finals format is the standard 1st v 4th, 2nd v 3rd. The winners will then go through to play in the Grand Final in the following week.
- In the event of a drawn Semi or Grand Final, a best of 5 penalty shootout will be played to determine the winner.
- Players must have played at least 4 games during the season to qualify for finals.
 - Playing an unqualified player will result in a forfeit.
- Final ladder positions will be determined by total points. In the case of teams having equal points, the team with the higher goal difference will take precedence. If goal difference is also equal, the team with the most wins will take precedence. If still equal, the team with the most goals scored will take precedence.
- In the case of a team being unable to play a finals match, the next highest ranked team will qualify.

Referee:

- Each match is officiated by 1 referee, who is appointed by the Coordinator.
- Their decisions shall be final, unquestionable and shall extend to players and spectators.
- Revolution Sports has a zero-tolerance policy for abuse towards referees.

Rules:

- Unless specified below, all rules are as per the official FIFA Futsal Rules.

Field of play:

- Revolution Sports' pitch dimensions are approximately 30m long by 18m wide.
- The boundaries are marked by the white line.

The ball:

- A size 4 ball with less bounce is used.

Kick-off:

- The referee will decide which team takes the kick-off to commence the match.
- The team who did not take the kick-off in the first half will take the kick-off in the second half.
- After a goal, the conceding team will take the kick-off to restart play.
- All players, except the player taking the kick-off, must be in their own half of the pitch.
- The opponents of the team taking the kick-off must be at least 3m from the ball until it is in play.
- A goal may be scored directly against the opponents from the kick-off.
- If the ball directly enters the kicker's goal, a corner kick is awarded to the opponents.

- If the player taking the kick-off touches the ball again before it has touched another player, an indirect free kick, or for a handball offence, a direct free kick is awarded.
- In the event of any other kick-off procedure offence, the kick-off is retaken.

Ball out of play:

- The ball is out of play when:
 - It has wholly passed over the goal line or touchline on the floor or in the air.
 - Play has been stopped by the referee.
 - The ball hits the ceiling.

Ball in play:

- The ball is in play at all other times, including when it rebounds off a goalpost or the crossbar and remains on the pitch.

Goal scored:

- A goal is scored when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, between the goalposts and under the crossbar.
- A goal may be scored from anywhere on the court.
- If the goal is moved by a defending-team player (including the goalkeeper), whether accidentally or deliberately, and the referee confirms the ball has passed over the goal line and would have entered the goal between the normal position of the goal posts, the referee shall award a goal.
- If the goalkeeper throws the ball directly into the opponent's goal, a goal clearance shall be awarded.

Offside:

- There is no offside in futsal.

Slide tackling:

- Under no circumstances are players allowed to slide tackle.
- A slide tackle will result in an instant yellow or red card, depending on the severity and circumstances of the tackle.
- A direct free kick will be awarded where the offence was committed.
- The only player that is allowed to slide along the ground is the goalkeeper within their penalty area.
 - However, goalkeepers must do so in a safe manner – i.e. not slide in feet first, slide from behind, or play in a dangerous manner.

Playing the ball on the ground:

- Players are not allowed to play the ball whilst on the ground, except for the goalkeeper who can only do so within their penalty area.
- A player is considered to be on the ground when either one of their knees, elbows or hands or any part of their torso is touching the ground.

- An indirect free kick will be awarded where the offence was committed.

Playing the ball to the goalkeeper:

- Players are permitted to pass the ball back to their goalkeeper, including from a kick-in and free kick.
- There are no restrictions on how long a goalkeeper can possess the ball inside their own half of the pitch from a pass back.
- However, an indirect free kick will be awarded if the goalkeeper uses their hands from a deliberate pass back from a teammate by foot.

Direct free kick (kick may be taken as a direct shot):

- A direct free kick is awarded if a player commits any of the following offences against an opponent in a manner considered by the referee to be careless, reckless or using excessive force:
 - Charges
 - Jumps at
 - Kicks or attempts to kick
 - Pushes
 - Strikes or attempts to strike (including head-butt)
 - Tackles or challenges (including slide tackling)
 - Trips or attempts to trip
- If an offence involves contact, it is penalised with a direct free kick or penalty kick.
 - 'Careless' is when a player shows a lack of attention or consideration when making a challenge or acts without precaution. A verbal warning must be given by the referee.
 - 'Reckless' is when a player acts with disregard to the danger to, or consequences for, an opponent and must be cautioned (yellow card).
 - 'Using excessive force' is when a player intentionally exceeds the necessary use of force and/or endangers the safety of an opponent and must be sent off (red card).
- A direct free kick is also awarded if a player commits any of the following offences:
 - A handball offence (except for the goalkeeper within their penalty area)
 - Holding an opponent
 - Impeding an opponent with contact
 - Biting or spitting at someone
- If a direct free kick is kicked directly into the kicker's own goal, a corner kick is awarded to the opponents.

Indirect free kick (another player must touch the ball before a goal may be awarded):

- An indirect free kick is awarded if a player:
 - Plays in a dangerous manner (defined below)
 - Impedes the progress of an opponent without any contact being made

- Is guilty of dissent, using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures or other verbal offences.
- Prevents the goalkeeper from releasing or throwing the ball from their hands or kicks or attempts to kick the ball when the goalkeeper is in the process of releasing or throwing it.
- Commits any other offence not mentioned in the Futsal Laws for which play is stopped to caution or send off a player.
- An indirect free kick is awarded if a player plays the ball whilst on the ground (defined above).
- An indirect free kick is also awarded if a goalkeeper commits any of the following offences:
 - Controls the ball with their hands for more than 4 seconds in their own penalty area, when trying to bring the ball back into play.
 - Touches the ball with their hands or arms inside their own penalty area after it has been deliberately kicked to the goalkeeper by a team-mate.
- If an indirect free kick is kicked directly into the opponent's goal, a goal clearance is awarded to the opponents.
- If an indirect free kick is kicked directly into the kicker's own goal, a corner kick is awarded to the opponents.

Handling the ball:

- Except for goalkeepers in their penalty area, it is an offence if a player:
 - Deliberately touches the ball with their hand or arm, including moving their hand or arm towards the ball.
 - Gains possession/control of the ball after it has touched their hand or arm and then:
 - Scores in the opponent's goal.
 - Creates a goalscoring opportunity.
- Except for goalkeepers in their penalty area, it is usually an offence if a player:
 - Touches the ball with their hand or arm when:
 - The hand or arm has made their body unnaturally bigger.
 - The hand or arm is above or beyond their shoulder level (unless the player deliberately plays the ball with another part of the body and it then touches their hand or arm).
- The above offences apply even if the ball touches a player's hand or arm directly from the head or body (including the foot) of another player who is close.
- It is an offence if any player, including a goalkeeper, scores in the opponent's goal directly from their hand/arm, even if accidental.
- Except for the above offences, it is not usually an offence if the ball touches a player's hand or arm:
 - Directly from the player's own head or body (including the foot).
 - If the hand or arm is close to the body and does not make the body unnaturally bigger.

- When a player falls and the hand or arm is between the body and the ground to support the body, but not extended laterally or vertically away from the body.
- The goalkeeper has the same restrictions on handling the ball as any other player outside the penalty area.
- If the goalkeeper handles the ball inside their penalty area when not permitted to do so, an indirect free kick is awarded but there is no disciplinary sanction.
- The goalkeeper is permitted to play the ball to themselves after controlling the ball with their hands, except in the case of a goal clearance.
 - However, the goalkeeper cannot score a goal without the ball first touching the ground – i.e. a goal may be scored by dropkicking the ball.
 - The goalkeeper must return to their penalty area after playing the ball to themselves before switching goalkeepers.

Playing in a dangerous manner:

- Playing in a dangerous manner is any action that, while trying to play the ball, threatens injury to someone (including the players themselves) and includes preventing a nearby opponent from playing the ball for fear or injury.
- A scissor or bicycle kick is permissible provided that it is not dangerous to an opponent.
- An indirect free kick will be awarded for playing in a dangerous manner where the offence was committed.

Impeding the progress of an opponent without contact:

- Impeding the progress of an opponent means moving into the opponent's path to obstruct, block, slow down or force a change of direction when the ball is not within playing distance of either player.
- All players have a right to their position on the pitch – being in the way of an opponent is not the same as moving into the way of the opponent.
- A player may shield the ball by taking a position between an opponent and the ball if the ball is within playing distance and the opponent is not held off with the arms or body. If the ball is within playing distance, the player may be fairly charged by an opponent.

Blocking an opponent:

- Blocking an opponent can be considered a legitimate tactic in futsal, as long as the player blocking the opponent is stationary at the time of any contact and does not deliberately cause contact by moving or extending their body into the opponent's path, and the opponent has the opportunity to evade the block.
- A block can be performed against an opponent who may or may not have the ball.

Disciplinary action:

- The referee has the authority to take disciplinary action from the pre-match warm up until the conclusion of the match.
- A yellow card communicates a caution.
- A red card communicates a sending-off.
- Both players and substitutes may be shown a red or yellow card.
- Where more than one offence is committed at the same time, the referee must punish the more serious offence in terms of sanction, restart, physical severity and tactical impact.

Advantage:

- The referee may play the advantage whenever an offence occurs and there is no rule which prohibits the advantage from being applied.
 - For example, if the goalkeeper decides to distribute a goal clearance quickly with opponents inside the penalty area, the advantage may be applied.
 - However, the advantage may not be played when a kick-in is taken incorrectly.
- The referee should consider the following factors in deciding whether to apply the advantage:
 - The position where the offence was committed: the closer to the opposing goal, the more effective the advantage can be.
 - The severity of the offence: if the offence warrants a sending-off, the referees must stop play and send off the player, unless there is an opportunity to score a goal.
 - The chances of an immediate, promising attack.
 - The atmosphere of the match.
- The decision to penalise the original offence must be taken within a few seconds.
- If the referee applies the advantage for an offence for which a caution/sending-off would have been issued had play stopped, this caution/sending-off must be issued when the ball is next out of play, except for the unsuccessful denial of an obvious goalscoring opportunity, for which the player is cautioned for unsportsmanlike behaviour instead of being sent off.
- The advantage should not be applied in situations involving serious foul play, violent conduct or a second cautionable offence, unless there is a clear opportunity to score a goal.
- If a defending-team player starts holding an attacking-team player outside the penalty area and continues to do so inside the penalty area, the referee must award a penalty kick.

Cautionable offences (yellow card):

- A player is cautioned if guilty of:
 - Delaying the restart of play (time wasting)

- Dissent by word or action
- Entering or re-entering the pitch without the referee's permission or in contravention of the substitution procedure.
- Failing to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or kick-in.
- Persistent offences (no specific number or pattern of offences constitutes 'persistent')
- Unsportsmanlike behaviour
- Committing an offence against an opponent within their own penalty area which denies the opponent an obvious goalscoring opportunity and the referee awards a penalty, if the offence was an attempt to play the ball.
- Any other conduct deemed cautionable by the referee
- A substitute is cautioned if guilty of:
 - Delaying the restart of play
 - Dissent by word or action
 - Entering the pitch in contravention of the substitution procedure
 - Unsportsmanlike behaviour
- Where two separate cautionable offences are committed (even in close proximity), they should result in two cautions (a red card). For example, if a player enters the pitch in contravention of the substitution procedure and commits a reckless tackle or stops a promising attack with a foul or handball, etc.

Cautions for unsportsmanlike behaviour (yellow card):

- There are different circumstances where a player must be cautioned for unsportsmanlike behaviour, including if a player:
 - Attempts to deceive the referee, e.g. by feigning injury or pretending to have been fouled
 - Commits a direct free kick offence in a reckless manner
 - Handles the ball to interfere with or stop a promising attack
 - Commits a foul which interferes with or stops a promising attack, except where the referee awards a penalty kick for an offence which was an attempt to play the ball.
 - Denies an opponent an obvious goalscoring opportunity through an offence which was an attempt to play the ball and the referee awards a penalty kick.
 - Handles the ball in an attempt to score a goal (whether or not the attempt is successful) or in an unsuccessful attempt to prevent a goal.
 - Verbally distracts an opponent during play
 - Deliberately moves the goal (without denying the opposing team a goal or a goalscoring opportunity)
 - Excessively celebrates a goal

Sending-off offences (red card):

- A player or substitute who commits any of the following offences is sent off:

- Denying the opposing team a goal or obvious goalscoring opportunity through a handball offence (except a goalkeeper within their own penalty area) or by moving the goal (such as when this prevents the ball from passing over the goal line).
- Denying a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity (provided that the goal is unguarded by the defending goalkeeper) to an opponent whose overall movement is towards the offender's goal through an offence punishable with a free kick.
- Serious foul play
- Biting or spitting at someone
- Violent conduct
- Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures
- Receiving a second caution (yellow card) in the same match
- Any other conduct deemed worthy of a sending-off by the referee
- A player or substitute who has been sent off must leave the pitch.

Restart of play after fouls and misconduct:

- Physical offences:
 - An indirect or direct free kick or penalty kick
- Verbal offences:
 - An indirect free kick
- If a player commits an offence against a spectator or the referee, play is restarted with a free kick on the nearest boundary line point to where the offence occurred.
- If a player commits an offence off the pitch against an opposition player, play is restarted with an indirect free kick on the boundary line closest to where the offence occurred.

Free kick procedure:

- All free kicks must be taken within 4 seconds.
- All free kicks must be taken from the place where the offence occurred except:
 - Direct free kicks to the defending team in its penalty area, which may be taken from anywhere in that area.
 - Indirect free kicks for an offence inside the penalty area or for an applicable offence when play was stopped with the ball inside the penalty area, which are taken from the penalty-area line at the point nearest to the place where the offence was committed or the ball was located.
 - Free kicks for an offence committed by a player off the pitch, which are taken on the boundary line nearest to where the offence occurred.
- If the referee enters the pitch to setup a free kick/the wall, the kicker must wait until the umpire re-blows their whistle before taking the kick.
- If a free kick is awarded when a period is about to end, the period will end once the clock expires, irrespective of whether or not the kick has been taken.

- The ball must be stationary and the kicker must not touch it again until it has touched another player.
- The ball is in play when it is kicked and clearly moves.
- Until the ball is in play, all opponents must remain:
 - At least 3m from the ball.
 - Outside the penalty area from free kicks inside the opponent's penalty area.
- Where two or more defending-team players form a wall, all attacking team players must remain at least 1m from the wall until the ball is in play.
- If, when a free kick is taken, an opponent is closer to the ball than the required distance, the kick is retaken unless the advantage can be applied.
- However, if a player takes a free kick quickly and an opponent who is closer than 3m from the ball intercepts it, the referee allows play to continue.
 - If an opponent deliberately prevents a free kick from being taken quickly, they must be cautioned (yellow card) for delaying the restart of play.
- If, when a free kick is taken, an attacking-team player is less than 1m from the wall formed by two or more defending-team players, an indirect free kick is awarded to the defending team.
- If an opponent who is in the penalty area when the free kick is taken, or who enters the penalty area before the ball is in play, touches or challenges for the ball before it is in play, the free kick is retaken.
- If, after the ball is in play, the kicker touches the ball again before it has touched another player, an indirect free kick is awarded.
- If the free kick is not taken within 4 seconds, an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team from the place where the kick was to be taken.
 - However, if a team commits such an offence inside its own penalty area, an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team on the penalty area line at the point nearest to the place where the offence was committed.

Penalty procedure:

- A penalty kick is awarded if a player commits a direct free-kick offence inside his/her penalty area.
- A goal may be scored directly from a penalty kick.
- The ball must be stationary on the penalty mark.
- The player taking the penalty kick must be clearly identified.
- The player taking the penalty kick must wait until the referee blows their whistle before taking the kick.
- The player taking the penalty kick must kick the ball forwards.
- The player taking the penalty kick must not take more than 2 steps before kicking the ball.
- The defending goalkeeper must remain on the goal line, facing the kicker, between the goalposts, without touching the goalposts, crossbar or goal net until the ball has been kicked.
- The players other than the kicker and goalkicker must be:

- On the pitch
- At least 5m from the penalty mark
- Behind the penalty mark
- Outside the penalty area
- When the ball is kicked, the defending goalkeeper must have at least part of one foot touching, or in line with the goal line.
- The ball is in play when it is kicked forwards and clearly moves.
- The kicker must not play the ball again until it has touched another player.
- If a penalty kick is awarded when a period is about to end, the period will be considered to have ended once the penalty kick has been completed.
- A penalty kick is considered completed when, after the ball is in play, any of the following occurs:
 - The ball stops moving or goes out of play
 - The ball is played by any player (including the kicker) other than the defending goalkeeper.
 - The referee stops play for an offence by the kicker or the kicker's team.
- If a defending-team player (including the goalkeeper) commits an offence and the penalty is missed/saved, the penalty is retaken.
- If the player taking the penalty kick or a team-mate commits an offence before the ball is in play, the referee restarts play with an indirect free kick to the opposing team.

Kick-in procedure:

- A kick-in is awarded to the opponents of the player who last touched the ball when the whole of the ball passes over the touchline on the floor or in the air, or when the ball hits the ceiling while in play.
- A goal cannot be scored directly from a kick-in:
 - If the ball enters the opponent's goal, a goal clearance is awarded.
 - If the ball enters the kicker's goal, a corner is awarded.
- At the moment of delivering the ball:
 - The ball must be stationary on the touchline at the point where it left the pitch or the nearest point on the sideline to where it touched the ceiling.
 - All opponents must stand at least 3m from the point on the touchline where the kick-in is to be taken.
- The ball is in play when it is kicked and clearly moves.
- The ball must be put into play within 4 seconds of the team being ready to put the ball into play or the referee signalling that the team is ready to put it into play.
- If the kick-in is taken and then after it has been in play, the ball goes off the pitch over the same touchline where it was taken without touching any other player, it is retaken by the opposing team from the same location where the original kick-in was taken.
- The kicker must not touch the ball again until it has touched another player.

- If, after the ball is in play, the kicker touches the ball again before it has touched another player, an indirect free kick is awarded.
- An opponent who unfairly distracts or impedes the kicker (including moving closer than 3m to the place from where the kick-in is to be taken) is cautioned (yellow card) for unsportsmanlike behaviour and, if the kick-in has been taken, an indirect free kick is awarded.
 - However, if a player takes a kick-in quickly and an opponent who is closer than 3m from the ball intercepts it, the referee allows play to continue.

Goal clearance procedure:

- A goal clearance is awarded when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line on the floor or in the air, having last touched a player of the attacking team, and a goal is not scored.
- A goal may not be scored directly from a goal clearance. If the ball directly enters the goal of the team whose goalkeeper took the goal clearance, a corner kick is awarded to the opponents. If the ball directly enters the goal of the team that did not take the goal clearance, the said team is awarded a goal clearance.
- The ball is thrown or released from any point within the penalty area by the goalkeeper of the defending team.
- If the goalkeeper kicks the ball to bring it back in to play, the goal clearance is retaken.
- The ball is in play when it is thrown or released and clearly moves.
- The ball must be put into play within 4 seconds of the team being ready to put the ball into play or the referee signalling that the team is ready to put it into play.
- Opponents must be outside the penalty area until the ball is in play.
- The goalkeeper is not permitted to play the ball to themselves.
 - If the goalkeeper plays the ball to themselves, the goal clearance is retaken.
- If the goalkeeper commits a handball offence while bringing the ball back into play, a direct free kick is awarded where the offence was committed.
- If, when a goal clearance is taken, any opponents are inside the penalty area because they did not have time to leave, the referee allows play to continue.
- If an opponent who is in the penalty area before the ball is in play touches or challenges for the ball before it is in play, the goal clearance is retaken.
- If a player enters the penalty area before the ball is in play and fouls or is fouled by an opponent, the goal clearance is retaken and the offender may be cautioned or sent off, depending on the offence.

Corner kick procedure:

- A corner kick is awarded when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line on the floor or in the air, having last touched a player of the defending team, and a goal is not scored.
- A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick, but only against the opposing team. If the ball directly enters the kicker's goal, a corner kick is awarded to the opponents.

- The ball must be placed in the corner area nearest to the point where the ball passed over the goal line.
- The ball must be stationary and is kicked by a player of the attacking team.
- The ball must be put into play within 4 seconds of the team being ready to put the ball into play or the referee signalling that the team is ready to put into play.
- The ball is in play when it is kicked and clearly moves.
- Opponents must remain at least 3m from the corner arc until the ball is in play.
- If, after the ball is in play, the kicker touches the ball again before it has touched another player, an indirect free kick is awarded.
- For any other offence by the team taking the kick, a goal clearance is awarded to the defending team.
- For any other offence by the defending team, the kick is retaken.