

Futsal rules

Games

Games consist of two sixteen minute halves with a two minute warm-up and one minute half-time break.

All soccer games are centrally timed and will start as per the fixtured time.

- Game times are 6pm, 6.35pm, 7.10pm, 7.45pm, 8.20pm, 8.55pm, 9.30pm, 10.05pm

Rule modifications/clarifications

All rules are as per the official FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association) futsal rule book with Lords amendments as detailed in this document.

- Field markings are to those of a standard netball court (approximately thirty metres by fifteen metres).
- Minimum distance from placed kicks is five metres for defensive team (side, corner, direct and indirect free kicks).
- Players must kick the ball in with both feet on or behind the line at all times. The ball must also be on or behind the line.
- Lords forfeit policy applies and is outlined below.
- Only the team captain can voice any concerns or queries to referees/umpires or the duty manager. This must be done either at half-time or at the end of the game.

Any rule changes that are made by FIFA during the season will be adopted for the commencement of the new season. This is to provide stability and continuity throughout each season.

Teams/players

- All players must be sixteen years or older to compete.
- A maximum of ten players per team (five playing and five substitutes).
- A minimum of three players are required to start the game (a fourth must join prior to the commencement of the second half, or the match is forfeited).
- Mixed – a minimum of two female players must be on the court (goals included) at all times.
- No men are allowed to play in the women's competition and no women are allowed to play in the men's competition
- Sharp adornments, including jewellery and other accessories, must be removed or taped to the satisfaction of the official.

- Shin guards are highly recommended (but not compulsory) and must be completely covered by the player's socks.
- Fill-in players may only come from one grade above and any lower grades than the grade being played. There is a maximum of two fill-in players per game.
- Players must have played four games throughout the season to qualify for finals.
- All participants play at their own risk.

Substitutes

- The player being replaced must be completely off the court before the replacement enters the court, and this swap should be at the same area.
- The referee does not need to be informed, except in the instance of a goalkeeper swap.

Goals

- The restart of play after a goal is regarded as indirect. A goal can't be scored directly from a sideline kick in, an indirect free kick or a kick-off.
- When the ball passes over the goal line having last been played by an attacker the game is restarted by a goal clearance. This must be done by the goalkeeper and the ball must be thrown directly out of the penalty area. Goalkeepers must release the ball within four seconds of gaining control of it.

Uniforms

- All players must be in uniform by the fourth week of fixtures.
- All uniforms are to be of the same shade of colour, with individual numbers on the front and/ or back (within the range 0 to 99).
- Players are not permitted to wear the same number as a teammate and this will be penalised accordingly
- Bibs can be hired from Lords reception for \$10 per set per game
- In the event of a uniform clash, the team mentioned second on the score card will wear bibs provided by Lords.

Penalties

- One goal per player out of uniform (to a maximum of four goals).
- Penalties to be added to the score card before commencement of the second half.

Late arrivals

- The team must be on court and ready to play by the start of the first half (after the two minute warm-up period)
- If a team is not ready they will be penalized one goal for every minute of game time they are not ready on court (to a maximum of five goals).
- Penalties to be added to the score card before commencement of the second half.

After the eight minutes of the game time has passed the official will declare the game a forfeit if a team cannot field the minimum amount of players to start a game.

Fouls and misconduct

Fouls resulting in a direct free kick are the same as outdoor soccer with the following additions:

- A player cannot charge an opponent with their shoulder.
- Any player cannot slide at any time, except for a goalkeeper in his penalty area and he must not slide in a careless or reckless way or use excessive force.
- A player on the ground cannot play the ball, whether deliberately or not.
- The penalty mark is six meters.
- Accumulated fouls are those penalised with a direct free kick or a penalty kick. If a team commits a sixth accumulated foul, the opposing team is rewarded a penalty kick without a wall, ten meters from the goal line or from a position even closer if the foul was committed between the goal line and the penalty mark.

Cautions and dismissals

All officials are issued with yellow and red cards:

- A yellow card will constitute a caution.
- A second caution will result in a red card, and the player being sent from the court for the remainder of the game (a replacement by substitution may take the court after two minutes or after a goal).
- The earning of a red card will result in an automatic one week suspension for the following week for that player (this includes the earning of two yellow cards in a single match).
- The earning of three yellow cards over the course of a season will result in an automatic one week suspension for the following week for that player.
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- Please note that these suspensions are a minimum and if a particular player warrants it, or ongoing player indiscretions occur, a report shall be made to the Coordinator of Sports and Programs and may result in further suspensions.
- Suspensions do not include any byes or forfeits that may occur
- Any team who receives more than ten penalties (two for a red card and one for a yellow card) in any season may be withdrawn from the competition at the discretion of Lords management with no further correspondence entered into.

Special situations

Attempted intimidation of a player, either by shouting or stamping feet, is unsportsmanlike and may be penalised by the umpire.

Forfeits

If a team cannot field enough players for a fixtured game, it becomes a forfeit. A forfeit maybe called after eight minutes of game time has lapsed, and a score of five-nil (5-0) will be recorded against the forfeiting team. Forfeit fees apply with all information found in the team condition of entry document. Forfeit fees are charged in accordance with the current set of approved fees and charges and are reviewed on a yearly basis.

Player and spectator code of behaviour

- Any breach of the player and spectator code of behaviour may result in the offender(s) being required to leave the facility.
- Any breach deemed serious may result in the team's removal from the competition.

For more details about the code of behaviour and other information important to your team's participation at Lords, please refer to the team conditions of entry.