



FUTSAL COMPETITION –BASIC RULES

Compiled by Ray Grima - Futsal SA Referees Coach 2010



These Rules are subject to change slightly to suit the local Competition

Duration: – 2 X 15 equal periods with a 2 minute half time break or as determined by the Competition.

Ball: - **Size 4** for games 13 years of age and over. **Size 3** for games 12 years of age and under.

Uniforms: – The Players uniforms shall consist of matching coloured shirts with numbers on the back, matching shorts and long socks. The goalkeeper must wear a different coloured shirt to the players and referee and is permitted to wear long pants.

- **SHIN GUARDS ARE COMPULSORY and must be covered by long socks**
- **Footwear** – non-marking soft leather training or gymnastic shoes.
- **No jewellery** of any kind to be worn by players during the match.

Kick Off: – The ball is to be placed in the Centre Circle and played forward when the referee whistles for the start of the game. The kicker must not play the ball a second time. All opposition players must be at least three (3 metres) away from the ball. **A GOAL CAN BE SCORED DIRECTLY FROM THE KICK OFF.**

Kick In: – If the whole of the ball crosses the touchline or the ball hits the ceiling, a Kick-In is awarded to the opposing team. The ball must be placed on the sideline and put into play within 4 seconds. **A Goal cannot be scored directly from a Kick In.** The player taking the kick must have any part of his foot on or behind the touchline for the kick to be taken correctly or will be turned over to the opposing team.

Pass Backs to the Goalkeeper: – The Goalkeeper cannot receive a deliberate back pass from his team mates unless the ball has crossed over the half way line or touched by an opponent. The Goalkeeper is only allowed to have possession of the ball for 4 seconds anywhere **in his own half of the court.**

The Referee's stopwatch and whistle will decide the final scores and the start and end of the match. Time may be added on during the game where stoppages for injuries and other wastage of time occurred not related to the game.

Substitutions:

- A Team can make unlimited substitutions during the game providing the players coming on do not enter the Court before the player being substituted leaves the court first.
- There is no need to wait for a stoppage in play to make a substitution.
- A Goalkeeper can only be substituted at a stoppage in play, providing the Referees are notified and the replacement goalkeeper is already equipped with proper uniform, gloves etc.

Accumulated Fouls: –

The Referee(s) records all Direct Free Kicks. Once a team accumulates 5 Fouls in each half, all other **direct** Fouls starting from the 6th foul in that half are penalised by a Penalty Kick to be taken from the 10 metre Penalty spot. **They have an option of where the kick can be taken if the foul occurred in between the 10m penalty spot and the goal line. The Goal keeper can position him/herself anywhere in the Penalty area as long as he/she is observing the 5 metre distance.**

Accumulated Fouls re start from scratch in the second period and continue in the extra time periods.

Direct Free Kicks: – A Direct Free Kick is awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following offences in a manner considered by the referee to be careless, reckless or using excessive force: If any of these offences occur in the Goalkeeper's area a Penalty Kick will be awarded to the attacking team providing the ball is in play.

- **Kicks or attempts to kick an opponent**
- **Trips or attempts to trip an opponent**
- **Striking or attempting to strike an opponent**
- **Holds an opponent**
- **Charges an opponent even with the shoulder**
- **Jumps at an opponent**
- **Deliberate hand Ball**
- **Tackle from Behind**
- **Deliberate obstruction (Contact)**



Penalty Kick: – A Penalty kick is to be taken from the 6 Metre Spot. **A Goalkeeper must stay on his goal line** and cannot move forward until the ball has been kicked after the match referee indicates a signal. A Player must not play the ball a second time and cannot pass it to a teammate.

Indirect Free Kicks: – An indirect Free Kick is a way of penalising an offending team for the following offences. The Referee will signal an IFK by holding his arm up until it has been touched by another player.

- Four (4) seconds rule apply,
- If substitutes enter or leave the court in the wrong place or if the substitute enters the field before the substituted player leaves the court. The IFK is taken from where the play was stopped.
- Deliberate Pass Back to the Goalkeeper.
- If the GK touches or controls the ball with the hands after it has been passed directly by a teammate even from a Kick In.
- If the GK is in possession of the ball for more than 4 seconds anywhere in his own half
- Kicking the ball a second time when taking a corner, a free kick, a kick in or at the kick off.

An indirect Free Kick is also awarded to the opposing team if in the opinion of the Referee:

- A player plays the ball in a Dangerous manner. (Eg. High Kicking, playing the ball while on the ground when opponents are within kicking distance)
- Deliberately impedes the progress of an opponent when the ball is not being played (Obstruction)
- Prevents the goalkeeper in his own area from releasing the ball from his hands
- Playing the ball while on the ground when there are opponents trying to get the ball
- An opposing player is not the required distance (5M) from the ball or encroaches.

Position of Free Kicks, Penalty Kicks, Kick-Ins and Corner kicks: - **The opposing players must be at least 5 metres from the ball until it is played.**

