



FOOTBALL
NSW

**2020-21 Local Futsal Competition
Regulations (Guidelines)**

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SECTION 1: ORGANISATION & ADMISSION

- a) These Regulations are made of the Football NSW (FNSW) By-Laws and came into operation for the 2020-21 Futsal Season.
- b) Football Federation Australia (FFA) has granted FNSW a mandate to be responsible for the organisation, promotion and regulation of Futsal in the State.
- c) These Regulations govern the Competition as set out in Section 1, Article 1g).
- d) Where these Regulations are silent on any particular aspect, then all Clubs/Centre's, affiliated bodies and organisations shall first have regard to the Constitution, By-Laws, FFA rules and regulations and where applicable rules and regulations of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) and FIFA.
- e) If any part of these Regulations are void that part shall be severable and will not affect the enforceability of the remaining sections of these Regulations.
- f) FNSW will interpret and apply all articles of these Regulations and any such interpretation or application will be final and binding on all parties.
- g) These Regulations apply to participants in the following competitions **(the Competitions)** unless stated otherwise:
 - i. 2020-21 Local Futsal Competitions (Statewide)

1. CONSEQUENCES FOR BREACH

- a) Any breach of these Regulations or failure to comply with any direction therein may result in a fine issued by Football NSW or other sanction pursuant to the Football NSW Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations.

2. OUTSTANDING DEBTS

- a) Treatment of outstanding debts will be as per the FNSW By-laws.
- b) For the avoidance of doubt, failure to comply with outstanding debts in accordance with the FNSW By-Laws may result in ineligibility to participate in Local Futsal Competitions.
- c) This article applies to all Local Futsal Competitions conducted by/or endorsed by FNSW.

3. ADMISSION / APPLICATION TO FNSW COMPETITIONS

- a) Participation in the Competitions is on an annual basis unless otherwise specified.
- b) For the avoidance of doubt, the Clubs/Centre's agrees that it has no right to any renewal or extension to participate in any future Competitions and FNSW has the right to determine in its absolute discretion whether any right to participate in any Competition is renewed or extended.
- c) Applications to participate in all Competitions administered within these Regulations are to be made to FNSW, on the prescribed FNSW documents, and submitted by the date on the documents.

4. ALTERATION

- a) The Executive will have the power from time to time to make, alter or rescind the Regulations.

5. SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

- a) The Executive will have the power to consider individual circumstances outside the prescribed limits of the Regulations should it be clear those special considerations are in the interests of the game.
- b) The decision by the Executive to review and consider individual circumstances under this section is not subject to appeal or review.

6. DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS AND PROCEEDINGS

- a) All Players, Team Officials, Match Officials, spectators or any person participating in any manner at a FNSW Local Futsal Competition Fixture, Match or event can submit exclusively to the jurisdiction of the Football NSW Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations.

7. UNFORESEEABLE CIRCUMSTANCE

- a) Nothing in these Regulations shall prevent the Board from approving a course of action to meet unforeseeable circumstances not covered by the Regulations.

8. CONTROL OF COMPETITIONS

- a) The administrative control and conduct of the Competitions are vested in the Executive subject to any resolution by the Board to the contrary.

SECTION 2: TECHNICAL REGULATIONS

1. MATCHES PLAYED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE GAME

- a) All Fixtures will be played in compliance with the Regulations in force at the time and in accordance with FFA and FNSW By-Laws, regulations, codes and directives, and under the FIFA Futsal laws of the game.

2. COMPETITION FORMAT

- a) For the year 2020-21, the Local Futsal Competitions will be open to all the Local Futsal Clubs/Centre's to adopt or create a similar version these competition regulations to best suit their admin.
- b) Competition formats will be solely be elected by the Local Futsal Clubs/Centre's organizers depending on the types of competitions they would like to administrate.

3. DURATION OF MATCHES

- a) Duration of Matches will vary but will use the below table as a reference of what is preferred.

Competition	Duration of Match	Half Time	Time Allowed per Match
U6 - U10	Min: Two 15 minutes halves, Max: two 20 minutes halves	2 Minutes	30-40 Minutes
U11 - U18	Min: Two 15 minutes halves, Max: two 20 minutes halves	2 Minutes	30-40 Minutes
All Age Women & Men	Min: Two 20 minutes halves, Max: Two 25 minutes halves	2 Minutes	30-40 Minutes

- b) We prefer there to be no time outs during any matches.

4. EXTRA TIME

- a) Should scores be equal at the conclusion of a Championship Match, extra time shall be played as follows.

Competition	Duration of Extra Time	Half Time
All Ages	Two periods of 3 minutes	No Half-time interval (teams and bench swap direction)

- b) There shall be an interval of two (2) minutes at the end of normal playing time and the commencement of the first period of extra time.

5. DETERMINING THE WINNER BY PENALTY KICKS

- a) If at the end of extra time, scores are still drawn, alternate kicks from the penalty mark shall be taken to determine the winner, in accordance with the procedures described in the Futsal Laws of the Game.

6. COMPETITION POINTS

- a) Points should be allocated as follows for all Competition Matches:
- i. Win - 3 points
 - ii. Draw - 1 point each Team
 - iii. Bye - No points
 - iv. Loss - No points
 - v. Forfeit - 3 points to the Team receiving the forfeit

7. TECHNICAL AREA

- a) Only currently registered and eligible Players, Coaches and Team Officials are allowed in the technical area during Matches.
- c) Seating shall be supplied and placed in position by the Home Team in sufficient quantity to seat thirteen (13) persons from each Team.
- e) All Players in the technical area must wear a bib that contrasts with the colours worn by players of both Teams, Match Officials and bibs of the opposing Team.

8. MATCH BALLS

- a) FNSW will provide all Local Futsal Competitions with Match balls as part of Football NSW servicing to all Local Futsal Clubs/Centre's.

Age Groups	Size Ball
U13's - All Age Men & Women	4
U5's - U12's Boys & Girls	3

9. SUBSTITUTION

- a) Unlimited substitution of all players listed on the team sheet (maximum 12) is permissible at any time during the game.
- b) Procedure and rules for the unlimited substitution of players:
- i. The substitution zone is situated in front of the technical area and is five (5) metres in length.
 - ii. The area in front of the timekeeper's table five (5) metres to either side of the halfway line is to be kept clear.
 - iii. A team's substitution zone is situated in the half of the pitch defended by that said team and changes in the second half of the match and periods of extra time (if applicable).
 - iv. A substitution can be made any time during the match, and for which the following conditions shall be observed:
 1. The player leaving the Pitch shall do so from sideline, crossing over at the sector called the substitution zone.

2. The player entering the Pitch shall also do so from the substitution zone, but not until the player leaving the Pitch, has passed completely over the side line.
 - v. The number of substitutions made during a match is unlimited. A player who has been replaced may return to the Pitch for another player.
 - vi. If during a substitution, a substitution player enters the Pitch before the replaced player has completely left it, the Referee shall ensure the replaced player leaves the Pitch, then caution the substitution player and then restart the match.
 - vii. If during a substitution, a substitution player enters the Pitch or a replaced player leaves it from a place other than the substitution zone, the Referee shall caution the offending player.
 - viii. Note: If during the taking of the penalty kicks the Goalkeeper is injured he/she may be replaced with another Goalkeeper providing the replacement was listed on the team sheet.
- c) Substitution players cannot be used to replace any player who has been dismissed from the Match by the Referee, until the required time lapse for two (2) minutes, OR, a goal has been scored by the opposition (refer Law 3 FIFA LOG Players and substitutes sent off).

10. PLAYING STRIP

- a) Where colours clash, in the opinion of the referee, teams named second in the draw must change (Training bibs are acceptable as a form of change).
- b) All teams must wear a numbered strip with no duplication of numbers.

11. FORFEITS

- a) Teams shall be deemed to have forfeited a Match when;
 - i. They fail to fulfill an engagement to play a Match on the appointed date, time or venue; or
 - ii. They refuse or fail to begin a Match within ten (10) minutes of the stipulated kick-off time; or
 - iii. They field less than three (3) of their registered Players at the start of any Match; or
 - iv. At any point during the Match they cannot field at least three (3) of their registered Players; or
 - v. They field or list on a team sheet an ineligible Player; or
 - vi. Any other scenario within these Regulations or the FNSW Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations that stipulates a forfeit of the Match.
- b) In the event of any Team forfeiting its Match, the following procedure will take effect;
 - i. Full points allocated for the Match will be forfeited to the opponent Team and the goals recorded according to three (3) goals scored by the Team getting the points and nil (0) by the Team who has infringed the regulation, unless the goal difference for the Team receiving the forfeit is greater than three (3), in which case the result on the Pitch is upheld.

12. POSTPONED MATCHES

- a) Matches may only be postponed by the Referee or FNSW.

- b) If a Match is postponed due to adverse weather conditions or a cause outside the reasonable control of either team (including its Players and Officials) it will be:
- i. Rescheduled by FNSW.
- c) Injury that requires the player to be removed from the venue by ambulance, hot weather, failed lighting, state of the pitch or any other reason as determined by the referee, and the Match cannot be completed in full, and FNSW has approved the rescheduled match, it will recommence at the minute at which play was interrupted rather than being replayed in full. The following principles will apply to the recommencement of the Match:
- i. The Match will recommence with the same Players on the Team Sheet as when the Match was initially postponed unless a player has received a suspension in matches conducted between the postponed match and the rescheduling of that match.
 - ii. Should a player have received a suspension in a match conducted between the postponed match and the rescheduling of that match that player:
 1. Will not be eligible to participate in the rescheduled match
 2. Will not be able to count the match as a stand down in relation to any fixture suspension
 3. The team will not be permitted to replace the player on the team sheet
 - iii. Players sent off during the Postponed Match cannot be replaced.
 - iv. FNSW will endeavour to appoint the same Match Officials to the completion of the Match, however may appoint replacements should any or all of the Match Officials be unavailable.
 - v. The referee is the sole arbiter of elapsed time, and no protest may be lodged against the actual elapsed time as recorded by the referee.
 - vi. Should a Match be abandoned due to the fault of one (1) Team, or should it be determined by FNSW that one (1) Team is responsible for the delay to the Match, the remaining minutes will not be rescheduled for completion, and the Match will be determined as a forfeit against the Team that is deemed guilty of the abandonment or responsible for the delay.
 - vii. Where a fixture is incorrectly reported as abandoned by the Referee where circumstances show clearly that the match was actually postponed, FNSW will treat the Match as postponed.

13. TEAM & Team Player List

- a) A team shall consist of a minimum of three (3) players in strip, one of whom must be the goalkeeper.
- b) A player whose name is not on the team sheet prior to commencement of Match is not permitted to take the Pitch.
- c)

14. MATCH SCHEDULE

- a) The Match Schedule will be sent to all teams prior to the competition.
- b) After the Match Schedule is released, if teams withdraw from the competition, any changes to the Match Schedule will be at the discretion of the Executive.

15. TECHNICAL AREA AND CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE TECHNICAL AREA

- a) Only registered and eligible Players, Coaches and Team Officials are allowed in the technical area during Matches.
- b) A maximum of ten (10) persons only are allowed to sit on the bench at any one time. These ten (10) persons to be seven (7) substitute Players and three (3) other Team Officials.
- c) The Team Manager is responsible to ensure proper conduct of all persons occupying the bench and technical area. In the absence of a Team Manager, a Team Official will be responsible.
- d) Coaching and encouragement in suitable language is permitted from the team bench and technical area but no comments must be directed to or about referees, opposing players or officials.
- e) Abusive or derogatory comments will not be tolerated. Offenders may be ordered from the facility by the Match Officials or Football NSW Competitions Coordinator.
- f) With the prior approval of the Officials on duty, a coach may leave the Technical area during a match, however any coaching comments from outside the Technical area must still comply to point (d).
- g) Only one Team Official is permitted to stand within the confines of the bench and technical area. Any other Team Officials in the confines of the bench and technical area must remain seated at all times.

16. PROTESTS & APPEALS

- a) Protests must be lodged and received at FNSW head office no later than 24 hours of the conclusion of the Match.
- b) Protests will only be considered for obvious breaches of the laws of the game that clearly had a material effect on the outcome of the Match.
- c) No protests as to the result of a Match will be considered in relation to disciplinary decisions of the referee or decisions of facts relating to play.

Protests must be accompanied by a \$150 administrative fee in order to be considered. The administration fee must be lodged together with the written protest.

17. PROMOTION AND RELEGATION

- a) Eligibility for promotion and relegation will be determined by use of rankings as defined in these Regulations.
- b) Following are the principles by which teams will become eligible for promotion or relegation at the conclusion of the Futsal Season;
 - i. Team highest in ranking on the ladder will be eligible for promotion; and
 - ii. Team lowest in ranking on the ladder will be eligible for relegation.

18. FNSW POLICIES

Competition administrators will be required to have a comprehensive knowledge of the FNSW policies relating to provision of safe playing environments for participants.

Of note for Local Futsal, given the use of aluminium goals and indoor facilities application of the FUTSAL STADIUM TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS 2017/18 document will be vital to the competition administrators in conduct of their competitions. This document and other policies associated with Futsal competitions are posted to the Club Resources page of the FNSW website.

- [Goalpost Safety Policy](#)
- [Hot Weather Policy](#)

These, and other, Football NSW Policies are posted to the Club Resources page of the Football NSW website, accessible via the following link

[Club Resources Page](#)

19. MEMBER PROTECTION

Competition administrators will be required to comply with the new Child Protection requirements.

These requirements are posted to the Member Protection page of the FNSW website.

[Member Protection Page](#)

SECTION 3: ELIGIBILITY & REGISTRATION

1. PLAYER & TEAM ELIGIBILITY

- a) Players who are eligible to participate in the Local Futsal Competitions includes:
 - i. A player who has completed an online registration through Play Football.
 - ii. A player who is currently registered at an Affiliated Local Futsal Centre.
 - iii. A player who registers to the non-registered which is the same football type package on Play Football
 - iv. No player shall be permitted to play for more than one team and can only represent the Centre or Team to which they are currently registered.
 - v. Players that meet all registration requirements within these Regulations and are not ineligible according to any article of these Regulations.
- b) Ineligible Players includes:
 - i. Unregistered players.
 - ii. Suspended players.
 - iii. A player who is required to stand down for receiving the required number of cautions.
 - iv. A player who is deemed ineligible due to any article of these Regulations.
- c) Any Team that fields an ineligible Player will automatically lose that Match on forfeit.
- d) Additionally, the Team Official/s and Player may be deemed guilty of Misconduct and may be sanctioned in accordance with the FNSW Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations.
- e) For clarity, it is the Centre and teams absolute responsibility to ensure that it fields eligible players in any Local Futsal Competition Match.

2. PLAYER REGISTRATIONS

- a) All players must Self-Register through Play Football to their Club/Centre's prior to the Registration Deadline.
- b) All players will need to be allocated into their Futsal Team.
- c) Any players who have not registered or do not have a head and shoulders photo uploaded into Play Football prior to Competition start date will not be able to participate in the Competition.
- d) Competitions shall be played under the FFA number system on team sheets.

SECTION 4: TEAM SHEETS, RESULTS AND MATCH OFFICIALS

1. TEAM SHEETS

- a) Official Football NSW team sheets must be used.
- b) Each player's name & FFA Number is to be printed on the team sheet corresponding with the number on the playing strip
- c) A maximum of twelve (12) Players only may be listed on the team sheet.
- d) The team sheets will be provided on match day
- e) A Team Official from both Teams is to sign the team sheet at the completion of the Match to confirm the information is correct, including the Players listed, stood down Player's listed, half time and full-time scores.
- f) Unless otherwise stated in the FNSW Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations, or in these Regulations, a Player listed on the team sheet will be deemed to have participated in the Match.
- g) The Home Team appears first on the team sheet (left side).
- h) Teams can add new players at any stage of the competition, however this is limited to totaling twelve players (12). At any stage you can replace a player with another player, you can only add to the team list up to a maximum of twelve (12) players. If you add a player, that player must complete player registration before playing. Also, for a player to be eligible for finals they must play a minimum of three (3) matches within the current competition. Therefore, if you add a player in round seven (7) for example, that player will automatically be eligible for finals.

2. PLAYER SHARING / BORROWING

- A) Teams are permitted to borrow players from any of the lower Division teams within the same night competitions. Should teams be found borrowing players from a higher Division team, they will be docked the relevant competition points and the opposition will be awarded the win. Teams will be subject to suspension from the competition should they involve themselves in player sharing or borrowing.
- B) Teams can borrow a player from a team in the same division but only to make your 5 and not to gain more as an extra substitute. This is considered as gaining an advantage and will not be rewarded competition points.
- C) Since borrowing from other teams could impact the final placements which determines Promotion, It has been determined that Teams can borrow from the same division but they can't then have subs.

3. LATE ARRIVALS TO MATCHES

- A) In order to take the field, a team requires a minimum of three (4) players. A team has a maximum of ten (10) minutes from the scheduled kick-off time to begin the match, otherwise the match is forfeited.

4. MIXED GENDER TEAMS

- A) Teams must have No more than 2 male players (excluding the Goal Keeper) on the court at any one time.

ii. RECORDING OF STAND DOWNS

- a) In order for a stand down to be recorded, the Team Manager must record the players name and registration number on the team sheet.
- b) Should a Team Manager fail to record a player's stand down on the team sheet, and the player was in fact stood down due to suspension, the team is required to provide a written request to FNSW to have that Match stand down amended on Competitions Administrator.
- c) Any such request from a team to have a stand down amended after a team sheet has been received is required to be forwarded to Competitions Administrator within 3 working days of the Match and accompanied by a \$50 administration fee.

iii. MATCH OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS

- a) The appointment of all Match Officials will be made by the NSW Futsal Referees Association, who may utilise such other persons as deemed necessary to assist in the carrying out of this responsibility.

iv. MATCH OFFICIALS FEES

- a) The Local Futsal Club/Centre is responsible for the payment of Match Official Fees (if applicable).
- b) Match Official Fees will be as per the table below:

Competition	First Referee	Second Referee
Junior Age Boys & Girls Competitions (13's & Below)	\$24.00 p/hour	\$24.00 p/hour
Youth Age Boys & Girls Competitions (14's - 18's)	\$30.00 p/hour	\$30.00 p/hour
Mixed Senior Competitions	\$37.00 p/hour	\$37.00 p/hour
Women's Competitions	\$37.00 p/hour	\$37.00 p/hour
Men's Competitions	\$37.00 p/hour	\$37.00 p/hour

SECTION 5: DISCIPLINARY

1. YELLOW CARDS

- A) A Player who accumulates three (5) Yellow Cards during the Local Futsal Competition must serve a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) match.
- B) Yellow Card suspensions are Local Futsal Competition specific and are required to be served in the Local Futsal Competition.
- C) Yellow Cards received during the Local Futsal Competition that do not result in a Mandatory Match Suspension do not carry over into any other competition.

2. RED CARDS

- a) For the Local Futsal Competition, the Minimum Sanctions set out in the Table of Offences (as outlined in Schedule 3 of the Football NSW Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations) must be applied by FNSW to Red Card Offences and to Expulsion Offences.
- b) Red Card suspensions incurred in a Local Futsal Competition Match are to be served in the teams next competitive fixture(s)
- c) If the Offense incurred a result in a 4 or more-fixture suspension, the Competition Administrator will need to send FNSW a match report and a referees report in order for FNSW to take the necessary actions on the suspension. FNSW will notify all Local Futsal Competitions of the offense and will not be able to participate in any competition matches until suspension is over.
- d) Red Card suspensions incurred in a Local Affiliated Futsal competition match will apply to the next Match in which the suspended Player's team competes in.

SECTION 6: AWARDS & PRIZE MONEY

1. AWARDS

- a) Local Futsal Competitions can choose to present any Awards any teams from winners to runners-up or all participants in the Competitions
- b) Awards recommended by FNSW can be as follows
 - i. Trophies/ Medals / Shields
 - ii. Perpetual trophies in which the Local Futsal Competition holds onto and can display at their venue
 - iii. Prize Money
 - iv. Free Entry into next Local Futsal Competition

SECTION 7: EQUIPMENT REGULATIONS

1. AUTHORITY AND SCOPE

- a) The wearing of any clothing or apparel onto the field of play is subject to the approval of the Match Officials regardless of any article contained in these Regulations stating otherwise.
- b) Any Football NSW appointed Match Official may request any item that breaches any article of these Regulations, must be removed from inside the Stadium.
- c) These Regulations are provided in addition to the [Football NSW Player's Equipment Policy](#) which can be located on the Football NSW website.
- d) All equipment and clothing used for any Competition Match or Fixture must comply with the FIFA Equipment Regulations and as elaborated in these Regulations.

2. JEWELLERY AND GLASSES

- a) The only jewellery that is permitted to be worn by players is a medical alert bracelet or necklace. The bracelet or necklace must be taped or bandaged to the body, covered by a wrist band, or otherwise appropriately padded.
- b) Players are permitted to wear sports goggles, sports glasses and sports sun glasses as long as, in the Match Official's opinion, the glasses pose no danger to the player wearing the glasses or to any other player on the field of play.

3. OTHER EQUIPMENT

- a) Cloth head bands and wrist bands are permitted.
- b) Material and elastic hair ties are permitted.

4. COLOURS

- a) team are required to wear their first-choice kit colours for all Matches unless there is a clash of colours and the Referee has determined one team must change in accordance with these Competition Regulations.
- b) During any fixture the teams of the same team (excluding the Goal Keeper) must wear the same colour playing kit unless ordered expressly otherwise by the Referee to resolve a clash with the Match Officials kit.
- c) Flying Goal Keeper (5th Man) Attire – Should your team elect to have a flying goal keeper, the player replacing the goal keeper can wear a shirt of any colour provided it

has the same number on it as the player was previously wearing and the colour does not clash with the colour of any other player or match official on the court.

5. CLASH OF COLOURS

- a) Unless already determined and communicated by FNSW, The Referee will be the sole decision maker of a clash of colours.
- b) In the case of a clash of colours of field Players the visiting team (team appearing second on the Match schedule regardless of where the Match is played) will be required to wear their reserve playing kit.
- c) In the case of a colour clash the Referee may order the visiting team to wear their reserve kit or any combination of the reserve playing kit and first choice playing kit in order to resolve the clash.
- d) In the case of goal keeper's colours clashing with either the opponent's field players, goal keeper or the Match Official's kit, the Referee will determine which keeper will change always keeping in mind the principle that the visiting team should change.
- e) In the case of a combination of first choice and reserve kit colours of both teams clashing with the Match Officials, the referees shall determine the final colours to be worn by all players and Match Officials in accordance with these Regulations.

7. NUMBERING

- a) All players must wear unduplicated numbered shirts that coincide with the numbers listed on the team sheet.
- b) The numbers must be in contrasting colours to the playing kit.
- c) If a player shirt does not have a number that player must wear a training bib that is numbered that does not clash with any other player in their team. This will help identify players when scoring goals or in the case of Yellow & Red cards or even other suspensions.