



## MATCH RULES

2023

### 5-A-Side Match Rules

#### Restarting play when the ball is out:

1. A sideline kick-in will be awarded when the whole ball has crossed the sideline by a player of the opposing team to that which last touched the ball.
2. The kick-in should be taken within 6 seconds of placing the ball down. If the referee deems that the player taking the kick-in deliberately delays time by an unreasonable amount, a kick in may be awarded to the opposing team.
3. A kick-in will be taken near to or from the point on the sideline where the ball went out. The ball may not be moved forward towards the attacking goal however can be taken back slightly if desired. The ball must be placed on the line and be still before the kick-in can be taken.
4. Opposing players must be 3 metres away from the ball during a kick-in from the side.
5. Corners are awarded for U8s and older when the ball crosses the end-line and last touched a defending player. The ball must be placed on the apex where the side-line and end-line meet.
6. Opposing players must be 5 metres away from the ball for a corner. If a defending player remains within the 5 metre zone when the corner kick is taken, and/or plays at the ball to gain an advantage, the referee will award the attacking team an indirect free outside of the goalie box close to the corner position.
7. A kick-in or corner kick may be taken quickly, even if the defending team isn't ready or are making a substitution.
8. There are no corners in U6 and U7 matches. When the ball crosses the end line, a goal kick to the defending team is awarded. The opposition must retreat to halfway and can only advance as soon as the goal kick has been taken. U6 and U7 players have the choice to either pass or dribble from a goal kick or sideline kick-in.

#### Restarting play after a goal:

1. The goal-conceding team plays a kick-off from the centre spot.
2. The ball is in play once it has moved off of the centre spot (it can be played backwards or forwards).
3. All players on the defending team must be the required distance back in their own half before the kick-off is taken (marked on the field).
4. The kick-off can only commence after the referee has indicated so.
5. A goal cannot be scored directly from a kick-off if another player does not touch the ball. In other words, a kick-off is treated like an indirect free kick.



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### Goal scoring:

1. A goal may be scored from any point within the field of play.
2. A goal cannot be scored directly from a kick-in (or indirect free kick).
3. A goal may not be scored *directly* from the kick-off.

### Goalkeeper:

1. All players can enter the goal area (semi-circle in front of goal), however only the goalkeeper may handle the ball in this area.
2. The traditional Futsal pass-back rule is not enforced in our matches. Goalkeepers are able to pass to a teammate and receive the ball back immediately afterwards without being penalised.
3. If a goalkeeper picks the ball up from an intentional back-pass, an indirect freekick will be awarded from the nearest spot outside the goal area.
4. The goalkeeper cannot perform dropkicks or punts of the ball from their hands.
5. For goal clearances (when the ball crosses the end-line), the goalkeeper starts with the ball in their hand. They can move anywhere inside the goal area with the ball in their hand. As soon as the ball touches the ground or is thrown then the ball is in play – this is inclusive of dropping the ball to line up a kick. The goalkeeper may not punt or dropkick the ball from their hands, but can choose to either throw it or place it on the ground (at which point it is in play).
6. Goalkeepers can throw the ball over the halfway line at any time.
7. A goalkeeper cannot score directly via a throw – the ball must touch a player first for the goal to count.
8. The goalkeeper must be on the goal line when a penalty is being taken.
9. The referee must be made aware before a team can change goalkeepers.

### Slide tackles:

1. Outfield players are permitted to slide to block a shot or make an interception, but sliding to 'tackle' possession off of another player is not permitted at any time.
2. Goalkeepers are permitted to make slide tackles, but only within their goal area. If a goalkeeper makes a slide tackle outside of their goal area then they will be penalised like any other outfield player.
3. Infringement of this rule will lead to a direct free kick being awarded against the offending player's team and the offending player being cautioned or sent from the field, depending on the severity of the action.



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### Cautions, Sin Bins and Send Offs:

1. Yellow and red card offences are applied as per FIFA rules, similar to every other futsal and football competition.
2. A player who shows repeated or excessive dissent towards a match official after being yellow carded will be "sin binned". They must leave the field for 5 minutes, during which time their team must play with one less player. After the 5-minute period, that player may return to the game with approval from the referee.
3. Despite the sin bin rule, if a player shows extreme or abusive language or behaviour towards another player or official then they may be given a straight red card.
4. For a red card/send off offence, the offending player leaves the game for its entirety. His/her team will play with one less player for 5 minutes, after which they may bring a different player back on.

### Five Fouls Per Half Rule:

1. For every foul after the fifth foul in one half of the game, the team that the free kick is awarded to is given the option of taking a penalty from the 10m spot.
2. All players except the goalkeeper must remain behind the line of the ball before it is kicked. The goalkeeper may come off their line to within 5m of the ball.

### Fouls and Free Kicks:

1. A foul will be awarded as per normal FIFA rules, in the same way that any other futsal or football competition would.
2. All free kicks will be direct unless advised otherwise by the referee.
3. Opposition players must be at least five metres from where any freekick is taken.
4. The referee will mark the distance for the opposing players.
5. If the referee is marking out the distance for the defensive wall, the team who is awarded the freekick is not permitted to take it quickly. They must wait for the referee's call.

*\* The Match Rules are not exhaustive and LSC reserves the right to amend at any time.*