

FUTSAL SPORT SPECIFIC RULES 2021-22

These sport specific rules are additional to the general rules which apply to all sports.

1. ELIGIBILITY OF INSTITUTIONS

FUT 1.1

English institutions competing in AoC Sport futsal competitions must be affiliated with their County FA prior to the commencement of the season to enable leagues to be sanctioned by the FA. Affiliation numbers must be submitted to AoC Sport at least 14 days before the start of the playing season. Teams will not be permitted to play until they can provide evidence of their affiliation.

FUT 1.2

Welsh institutions must be affiliated with their area association prior to the commencement of the season to enable the FAW to give permission for them to play in a futsal competition sanctioned by the FA. Affiliation numbers must be submitted to AoC Sport at least 14 days before the start of the playing season. Teams will not be permitted to play until they can provide evidence of their affiliation.

NB: Although teams should be affiliated as open age, many of the players are under the age of 18, so it is strongly recommended that at least one member of staff has attended an FA Safeguarding workshop.

2. ELIGIBILITY OF STUDENTS

FUT 2.1

A player that is registered with The FA on either a template Premier League, EFL (English Football League) or FA standard contract form is considered to be a professional and under written contract and is not permitted to take part in AoC Sport futsal competitions. The FA holds records on every player under written contract and a player is not considered to be under written contract until received and processed by The FA to the satisfaction of the relevant rules and regulations of the governing bodies concerned.

FUT 2.2

The Futsal Festivals taking place in Term 1 are mixed competitions in which all players must be under 19 (this rule is subject to FA approval).

FUT 2.3

The name and date of birth of any female assessed by the Head Coach as having the attributes to play in a mixed U19 league must be sent to AoC Sport prior to the first round of fixtures.

4. ADMINISTRATION OF LEAGUE COMPETITIONS

FUT 4.1

Teams entering the Men's and Women's National Futsal Series will play in a season long league where teams will play each other twice over the series.

FUT 4.2

On some weeks, teams may be required to play two fixtures in an afternoon.

FUT 4.3

Teams entering the term 1 mixed festivals and the term 2 men's and women's regional festivals will play in a series of festivals at which they will play all the teams in attendance, unless agreed otherwise prior to the festival.

FUT 4.4

Where a team does not attend a festival, all other teams will be awarded a 3-0 walkover.

FUT 4.5

If competitions run as a series of festivals, a team that fails to attend 2 festivals will be removed from the competition and all their results expunged.

FUT 4.6

Where the National Futsal Series is played in a festival format teams that have entered as hosts will be required to:

- Provide suitable facilities for two rounds of matches
- Send confirmation to all competing teams at least 7 days before the event
- Arrange for match officials in accordance with rule 11
- Submit the results of all matches in the round to the Competitions Administration Officer within 24 hours

- Where a team is asked to host more than two rounds of matches, they will be entitled to claim a fee of £250 per additional round
- A team with more than one team in a league will be required to host multiples of two games before they are entitled to claim the additional fee.

FUT4.7

Teams that have entered the term 1 mixed and/or term 2 men's or women's futsal festivals will be required to:

- Provide suitable facilities for between one and three rounds of matches
- Send confirmation to all competing teams at least 7 days before the event
- Arrange for match officials in accordance with rule 11
- Submit the results of all matches in the round to the Competitions Administration Officer within 24 hours

8. FIXTURE CONFIRMATION & CONDITIONS OF PLAY

FUT 8.1

The playing surface shall be wooden, rubber or polymeric and must be compliant with the FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game. Matches shall not be played on tarmac, concrete or artificial turf (Astroturf).

FUT 8.2

Court size will be 30m (min) – 42m (max) x 15m (min) – 25m (max), with a minimum 1m run-off at sides and ends but 2m is desirable.

FUT 8.3

Futsal goals, each of regulation size and of the identical style and manufacture shall be provided.

FUT 8.4

All players, including goalkeepers, must wear shin-pads when on the pitch.

FUT 8.5

Players must wear appropriate flat-soled, non-marking footwear.

FUT 8.6

A team may consist of 12 players for each game, five of which may be on the pitch for each team at any one time, unless players have been dismissed from the pitch. All other players can act as substitutes.

FUT 8.7

Substitutions can be made at any time during the game, and the number of substitutions is unlimited. A player that has been substituted may return to the pitch as a substitute for another player.

FUT 8.8

The player being substituted must leave the pitch via the substitution zone, which is the area in front of their team bench. The substitute can only enter the pitch once the player being replaced has left, and they must enter the pitch via the substitution zone.

FUT 8.9

Up to a maximum of three team officials (non-players) may sit in the technical area during a match.

FUT 8.10

A match may not start if a team has less than 3 players, and a match will be abandoned if a team has less than three players on the pitch.

FUT 8.11

In the Men's and Women's National Futsal Series, matches will be played over two periods of 20 minutes, with a preference for stopped clock and each team may call one one-minute time out each half when they are in possession and the ball is out of play. Should teams agree to play matches with a rolling clock, the referee has the power to stop the clock in the event of an injury.

FUT 8.12

All matches in the term 1 mixed and term 2 men's and women's festivals will be played over two periods of between 10 and 20 minutes at the discretion of the Host Team, depending on the time available, with a running clock. This means that the clock will not be stopped when the ball goes out of play or there is a stoppage in the game. In the event of an injury the referee has the power to stop the clock.

FUT 8.13

Time outs are not permitted in the term 1 mixed and term 2 men's and women's festivals.

FUT 8.14

To restart the game after a ball has gone out of play the ball is kicked back into play from the touchline and from corners.

FUT 8.15

For kick-ins, free kicks, goal clearances and corner kicks, the player in possession of the ball has 4 seconds to restart play which the referee will count with their fingers in the air.

FUT 8.16

For a kick-in, the player must have one foot on the touch line or behind it and the ball must be stationary.

FUT 8.17

A goal may not be scored directly from a kick-in.

FUT 8.18

From corners, kick-ins and free-kicks opponents must be a distance of at least 5 metres from the ball.

FUT 8.19

Goalkeepers can come out of the penalty area and players can go into the penalty area.

FUT 8.20

A goal clearance must be thrown out and the goalkeeper cannot touch the ball again unless a member of the opposition has touched the ball or if the goalkeeper receives the ball in the opponent's half.

FUT 8.21

If the ball touches the ceiling of the hall a kick-in will be awarded against the team who last touched the ball.

FUT 8.22

There is no offside in Futsal.

FUT 8.23

A penalty kick will be awarded for any direct free kick offence committed by the defending in their own penalty area.

FUT 8.24

Accumulated fouls are those penalised with a direct free kick or penalty kick mentioned in Law 12

- The accumulated fouls committed by each team in each period are recorded in the match report
- The referees may allow play to continue by applying the advantage if the team has not previously committed five accumulated fouls and the opposing team is not denied a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity
- If they apply the advantage, the referees use the mandatory signals to indicate an accumulated foul to the timekeeper and third referee as soon as the ball is out of play
- If extra time is played, accumulated fouls from the second period continue to accumulate during extra time

FUT 8.25

Direct free kick beginning with the sixth accumulated foul by each team

- The player taking the free kick kicks the ball with the intention of scoring a goal and may not pass the ball to a team-mate
- Once the free kick has been taken, no player may touch the ball until it has been touched by the defending goalkeeper, rebounded off one of the goalposts or the crossbar, or left the pitch
- If a player commits his team's sixth accumulated foul in the opposing team's half or in his own half in the area bordered by the halfway line and an imaginary line parallel to the halfway line passing through the second penalty mark, the free kick is taken from the second penalty mark.
- If a player commits his team's sixth accumulated foul in his own half of the pitch between the imaginary 10m line and the goal line but outside the penalty area, the attacking team decides whether to take it from the second penalty mark or the place where the infringement occurred
- Beginning with the sixth accumulated foul, additional time is allowed to take a direct free kick at the end of each half or at the end of each period of extra time.

FUT 8.26

If a player is sent off, then the team to which the player belongs must remain with 4 players until either two-minutes have passed, or the opposition have

scored a goal, after which one of the named substitutes may be used. The player that has been sent-off is not able to play in the remainder of the match.

10. PLAYER REGISTRATION AND TEAM SHEETS

FUT 10.1

A minimum of 8 players for each team must be registered in accordance with rule 10.

11. MATCH OFFICIALS

FUT 11.1

In the National Futsal Series, the preference is that two qualified futsal referees must be provided. However, to ensure that matches are played, it is acceptable for only one referee to be provided as long as the opponents are informed at least 48 hours before the match.

FUT 11.2

In the National Futsal Series, the host team must provide somebody to operate the clock. This may be a student or member of staff as long as they are not involved as a coach or player.

FUT 11.3

Festivals in the term 1 mixed and term 2 men's and women's festivals can be officiated by the staff accompanying the teams with agreement from all competing teams.