

**FUTSAL ESCOCIA YOUTH WINTER LEAGUE**

**FUTSAL RULES 2025/26**

The FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game have been slightly adapted to suit youth futsal and to make an easy transition between football and futsal.

# The Ball

• Liga 3-8 matches will be played with a size 3 futsal. These will be left at each venue. Please ensure they remain at the venue at the end of the match and day. Liga 1-2 matches will be played with a size 4 ball.

# The Pitch

* Matches are played indoors on a hardcourt surface and trainers are to be worn. No football boots are permitted.

**Team Rules**

* A maximum of 10 players (9 advised) can be used in any match with 5 on the pitch at any time. Each Player should wear shinpads.

Bibs will be used in an event of a colour clash. Can each team please bring their own bibs.

# Start of Play

• At the start of play and after each goal, centre is taking. Only 1 player is required. The ball can go forward,

**Substitutions**

• Subs can be made at any time. Players must enter and leave the field of play from the defending half of the pitch. **A player cannot enter the field of play until the player coming off has left the field.**

**Tip: give the subs bibs to hand over to the player coming off the court.**

# Retreat Line

• Liga 5-7 only. Once the goalkeeper has the ball, the opposing team must retreat behind the red line a third of the court away. Should the keeper wish to play quickly and counter-attack before the team retreats, they can do so. Teams are to retreat asap. **Liga 1-4 have no retreat lines**.

# Kick-ins

* Kick-ins should be taken as near to where the ball left the field of play as possible.
* The ball must be stationary before the kick in is taken.
* Once the ball is in the players possession, they have 4 seconds to take the kick in. Should the player take longer than the allocated 4 seconds a kick-in is awarded to the opposing team.
* Opposing players must be 5 metres back from the player taking the kick-in.
* Goals cannot be scored from a kick-in.
* Liga 7 teams can dribble in from where the ball has gone out of play and can score from the dribble in
* **Corners**
* As per a kick-in the player has 4 seconds once in possession of the ball. Opposing players must be 5 metres from the kicker.
* Goals can be scored from corners.
* Liga 7 teams can dribble in from corners and score

# Goalkeepers

* Goalkeepers are allowed out the penalty area but cannot handle the ball out of the penalty area.
* All goal kicks should be thrown or rolled out by hand. GK cannot kick from hand at any time.
* The keeper has 4 seconds for any goal kick once in possession of the ball.
* Liga 3-7 goalkeepers & Girls u12 and Girls u14 cannot throw the ball directly into the opposition half. If the ball lands in the opposition half without contact with a player an indirect freekick is awarded on the halfway line.

# Back Passes

* Keepers cannot be pick up pass backs at any age group (common sense with younger if accidental)
* An indirect free kick on the edge of the box will be awarded for any deliberate pass back picked up. Players are to retreat to the goal line

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| • Liga 3-7 **unlimited use** of the keeper for pass backs. |
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# Accumulated Fouls

• Each team will be allowed to give away 5 direct free kicks per half. On the 6th direct free kick and any foul thereafter a penalty will be awarded to the opposing team.

# Penalties

• Any foul in the penalty area is awarded with a penalty kick. The goalkeeper must remain on the line for the penalty and all players behind the penalty taker.

# Match Duration

• Matches will be 2 x 20-minute halves.

TEAMS ARE TO STAY IN THE SAME HALF BOTH HALVES (THERE SHOULD BE NO ADVANTAGE). SUBS ARE TO BE MADE IN THE DEFENDING HALF.

# Head Height

• There are no head height restrictions, however, teams are encouraged to play with the ball on the ground as much as possible.

# Uneven matches

• If there are 5 goals between the teams, teams can add a player (losing) or remove a player (winning). We recommend removing a player and keeping players on the court for reduced times. Please report any massive differences in teams for restructuring over the festive period.

# Cautions

• During the tournament I'd ask for all coaches to remove any player guilty of a bad challenge or foul language. Yellow or reds cards should not be necessary and have a common-sense approach to each game.

# Referees

• A coach from each team is to referee each half. The first few weeks be lenient with the kids and help them understand the rules.

# Coaches Check List

* Bibs for substitutes (event of a colour clash)
* Arrive 15 minutes prior to kick off
* Follow venues guidelines
* Adhere to allocated fixture times
* All players to wear trainers and shinpads
* ENJOY THE MATCHES, RESPECT YOUR OPPONENT
* Home team to input match result to Russell on Whatsapp groups to assist with future tiering