



Gloucestershire FA County Youth Futsal Festival Playing Rules

FA Futsal Youth Festival Official League Rules

All Futsal Youth Festivals should be played to FIFA Laws of the Game Futsal. To see the full Futsal Laws of the Game please visit www.TheFA.com or www.FIFA.com. You do not have to adopt these rules but it may be of benefit to teams that qualify to be familiar with them prior to the National Finals

These adapted playing rules are only applicable in the Gloucestershire FA Youth Futsal Festival, and it is important for players and teams to note that in other Futsal competitions they will be expected to play to the full FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game.

The following rules have been altered:

General Rules

1. These are adapted playing rules specific for the Gloucestershire FA Youth Futsal Festival. Any situation not covered within these rules will automatically revert to either FIFAs Futsal Laws of the Game or where appropriate The FA Rules and Regulations.
2. All players, including goalkeepers, must wear shin-pads at all times when on the pitch.
3. A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself or another player, including any kind of jewellery. Jewellery should be removed.
4. Players must wear appropriate flat-soled, non-marking footwear.

Duration of Play and Timeouts

1. All matches without exception will last **7 minutes 1 way** and be played with a **running clock** whereby the clock will not be stopped whenever the ball goes out of play (this is different to a 'normal' Futsal game).
2. Timeouts are not permitted in this format of Futsal.

Playing squad and Substitutions

3. Up to 12 players can be used in one match and there is no limit on how long a player must stay on or off the pitch. Players must enter and leave the field of play from in front of the respective team's bench.

Technical Rules

4. Futsal is played on a marked pitch and the ball can go out of play
5. There are no height restrictions
6. The ball must be placed stationary up to 25cm behind where the ball left the court or on the touchline and the feet of the player taking the kick-in must not cross the line
7. 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. If play isn't



- restarted within four seconds an indirect free kick will be awarded to the opposing team. The goalkeeper is not allowed to control the ball for more than 4 seconds in his own half
8. Players are required to keep 5m from the player in possession of the ball on free kicks, corners, goal clearances, kick-ins and penalties.
 9. Goalkeepers are allowed to come out of and players are allowed to go into the penalty area.
 10. An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a goalkeeper commits any of the following four offences:
 - controls the ball with their hands or feet in their own half of the pitch for more than four seconds
 - after playing the ball, touches it again in his own half of the pitch after it has been deliberately kicked to them by a team-mate without an opponent playing or touching it
 - touches the ball with their hands inside their own penalty area after it has been deliberately kicked to them by a team-mate
 - touches the ball with their hands inside their own penalty area after they have received it directly from a kick-in by a team-mate
 11. Sliding tackles are allowed in Futsal and players **are** allowed to slide on the pitch, for example to stop the ball from going out of play. For a player sliding to be considered an offence, the tackler's opponent must have possession of the ball. Referees will not give a foul for a slide if the opponent does not have possession of the ball

Accumulated Fouls and Misconduct

12. Each team will be allowed to give away **3 direct free kicks** (instead of the standard 5) in each game, then on the fourth foul a direct kick will be awarded to the opposing team and the defending team is not allowed to position any players (other than the goal keeper) between the ball and the goal. The kick may be taken from the 10m mark or, if the foul was committed closer to the goal than the 10m mark, then the kick may be taken from the position where the foul took place.
13. 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

Please Note: All players must wear shin pads and trainers (No Boots) any player without the correct equipment will not be allowed to play.

Team and Player Eligibility

Any teams that qualify but do not meet the criteria will be removed from the festival:

- All categories are open to bona fide FA affiliated club and ESFA affiliated school teams only.
- Academy, centre of excellence or representative sides of any nature will not be permitted to play.
- Club or school teams may register players from professional club academies or centre excellences providing permission is obtained from the academy director.
- No Team may play in this competition with a name that is deemed to be offensive or potentially offensive as judged by the Event Co-ordinator.
- No team must enter this competition in the name of another affiliated club without the full knowledge and authority of that club.
- Teams should enter the festival in the age group they play in during season 2011/12. Player age qualification is as follows:



Category	Qualification	School Years
Under 10	Born after 31 st August 2001 but before 1 st September 2003	5
Under 12	Born after 31 st August 1999 but before 1 st September 2001	6 & 7
Under 14	Born after 31 st August 1997 but before 1 st September 1999	8 & 9
Under 16	Born after 31 st August 1995 but before 1 st September 1997	10 & 11

Teams must be single-sex teams (i.e. female players are not permitted to play in male teams and vice versa).

*Please note adapted rules are subject to change.