

## **FUTSAL RULES**

### **Duration of matches**

- Two halves lasting 20 minutes each, with a 15-minute break for half-time.
- The clock stops whenever the ball goes out of play or there is a break in play.
- The clock only starts again when play resumes.

### **Time-outs**

- Each team may request a one-minute time-out per half.
- Teams may only call a time-out after notifying the timekeeper and when they are in possession of the ball.
- If a team decides not to use their time-out in the first half, they cannot carry it over to the second.
- There are no time-outs if a match goes to extra time.

### **Rolling substitutions**

- Each team starts with one goalkeeper and four outfield players on the pitch.
- Coaches can make as many substitutions as they wish.
- Substitutions can be made without stopping the game.

### **Infringements and sanctions**

- As in football, fouls are penalised with either a direct or indirect free-kick, or a penalty if the foul is committed inside the penalty area.
- Fouls can be sanctioned with red and yellow cards.
- If a player is shown a red card, they can only be replaced on the pitch by a substitute after a mandatory two-minute time penalty. If the team concedes a goal during this time, the substitute may come on before the time penalty has elapsed.

### **Goalkeepers**

- Goalkeepers are free to move anywhere on the pitch but can only handle the ball inside their own penalty area.
- They are allowed to throw the ball from their area into the opposition half.
- When the ball is in their possession, either in their hands or at their feet, they have four seconds in which to play it to a team-mate.
- They may only touch the ball again after an opposition player has touched it or if they advance to the opposition half.

### **Team fouls**

- A count is kept of fouls penalised with a direct free-kick or penalty kick in each time period. These offences are called "accumulated fouls".
- When a team commits a sixth accumulated foul, the opposing team is awarded a direct free-kick without a wall on the second penalty mark, which is situated ten metres from goal and four metres behind the first penalty mark.
- If, however, the sixth accumulated foul is committed between the opposition goalline and an imaginary line parallel to the halfway line and passing through the second penalty mark, the free-kick may be taken closer to the goal, in the position where the infringement was committed.
- If a match goes to extra time, the accumulated fouls from the second period continue to accumulate during extra time.

## **General**

- Futsal is played with a ball that bounces less than a conventional football.
- Goals measure three metres wide and two metres high.
- Matches are officiated by two referees, one on each touchline.
- When the ball goes out of play, play resumes with a kick-in.
- There are no offsides.