

FUTSAL OZ CENTRE LAWS & CODE OF CONDUCT

It is the responsibility of each player/patron to be familiar with the Futsal Oz **Centre Laws**, **Code of Conduct** as well as the appropriate **League Rules** for the competition played.

This document contains:

- 1. Centre Laws** – Centre information including by-laws
- 2. Code of Conduct** – Futsal Oz considers to be an acceptable standard of behaviour and conduct

Please also refer to the document named **Leagues Rules** which covers the following:

- 3. Social League Rules** – League rules specific for social leagues
- 4. Junior Oz League Rules** - League rules specific for Junior leagues
- 5. Premier League Rules** - League rules specific for Premier League
- 6. Series Futsal Rules** – Comprehensive Rules for all Elite Leagues at Futsal Oz

The base rules that apply at Futsal Oz are those of **Series Futsal Rules**, unless a rule of Futsal Oz's competition in question provides otherwise. In a case where there is a conflict between the League Rules of the competition played and **Series Futsal Rules** the **League Rules for the Competition Played** will prevail.

All the above documents can be obtained from the Futsal Oz website - futsaloz.com.au

1. CENTRE LAWS

1. Team application & Player Registration

- a. Upon requesting to join a competition, teams are required to fill out a Futsal Oz Team Registration form.
- b. The team's captain acknowledges and understands that he or she is responsible to familiarize themselves with the Centre's rules and by-laws and agrees to abide by them. The team captain is responsible for ensuring that each player/member of the team is also familiar with the Centre's rules.
- c. All games are played at the time and venue fixtured by Futsal Oz.
- d. All new players are required to provide correct information including photo identification as part of registration eg. Drivers license, passport or at the very least a student card **prior to playing their first game**. A no ID, no game policy will strictly be enforced.
- e. Teams/players with outstanding moneys owed from previous seasons need to clear all debts prior to being accepted to play again.
- f. Futsal Oz reserves the right to refuse entry.

2. Player Insurance

- a. Players understand that the nature of sporting activity means that there are inherent risks of injury in both training and playing.
- b. Futsal Oz is covered by public liability insurance but is not able to offer Personal Accident Insurance to cover injuries as a result of sports and activities at the facility. A Condition of Entry into Futsal Oz is that customers/players assume the risk of injury is a common and ordinary occurrence in sport.
- c. Players and members of teams play and train at their own risk.
- d. Players need to make their own separate insurance arrangements against the event that they injure themselves in the course of playing or training.
- e. Futsal Oz strongly recommends players who wish to cover themselves for any expenses related to injury to seek private medical and paramedical (AMBULANCE) cover as well as cover for their own financial position if they are unable to work for an extended period.
- f. Futsal Oz, its officers and game officials do not accept any liability for any injury that a player should suffer during a game or training session.

3. Registration Fees

- a. A team must pay its registration in full by round 3 of the new league fixture or within the first three league games for new teams who join part way through an existing season.
- b. A team registration fee is non-refundable.
- c. Futsal Oz may deduct (1) one league point from a team's total league points if it does not pay its team registration in full by the due time period. Futsal Oz reserves the right to expel and remove teams from all competitions.

4. Match Fees

- a. The fees for a match consist of a team's payment to the Centre and a team's payment to the referee.
- b. All teams accepted into a competition, sign up and commit to playing every week of a given season i.e. total number of rounds fixtured. This means all forfeits still incur a fee.
- c. Match fees can be paid in advance which assists teams in not falling behind in payments, however, Futsal Oz does allow these fees to be paid at least on a minimum per week basis.
- d. A team must be paid up at least ten minutes before its game is scheduled to commence regardless of team numbers present.
- e. Match fees, including referee fees are non-refundable.
- f. Futsal Oz may deduct (1) one league point from a team's total league points if it does not pay its game fee in full on the night of a game.
- g. Points will continue to be deducted at Futsal Oz's discretion until full payment is received.
- h. Any team that has outstanding game fees at the end of the season risks being replaced for the finals.
- i. Players part of a team, which has outstanding match fees owed and leave a competition, will be banned and not be accepted into a new team unless the team's outstanding fees are paid in full or a minimum payment of \$30 is made per individual wishing to register for another team.

5. Forfeits

- a. A team will be regarded as forfeiting a match if, on its own volition, does not play a match that Futsal Oz has scheduled for it in a competition.
- b. In the instance a forfeit is unavoidable, a forfeiting team will be deducted 3 competition points and will also concede the default forfeit goals according to the League Rules applicable **and**:
 - i. forfeiting for the **first time** in a season will have to pay a penalty equal to double their scheduled game fee.
 - ii. forfeiting a **second time** in a season will immediately be replaced from the competition and banned.
- c. A team that wins via a forfeit will receive 3 league points and the default forfeit goals according to the League Rules applicable, provided that the team plays a match organized by centre management.
- d. Any fees arising as penalties as a result of a forfeit must be paid prior to the start of the next fixtured game otherwise 1 point may be deducted each week until any arrears are paid.
- e. Teams who forfeit during finals will immediately be replaced from the competition and banned from future competitions.

Note: Forfeits are greatly discouraged at Futsal Oz centres (regardless of how much notice is given) to encourage teams to field a team every week and not disrupt the integrity of the competition they play - this is for the benefit of everyone in the league.

Each stadium has a Facebook Noticeboard designed to help teams/managers find players when required. Please contact your stadium for assistance if required.

6. Teams

- a. Teams may bring in new players at any point during the season as long as they register prior to the match. The newly registered player will then be deemed that teams' player.
- b. Players can only play for one team in any league. Of course players can play in multiple leagues on the same night but only for one team per league (eg. Div 1 and Div 2).
- c. Teams are allotted 8 medals/trophies per team (Premiers and Runners up) for the Finals Series. Futsal Oz will provide more medals at a cost if a team requires.
- d. A team must have three players for a game to start.
- e. No more than five players will be allowed on court at any time.
- f. A team may have up to five substitutes. Other members must watch from the outer.

7. Team Uniform

- a. All team members except the goalkeeper must wear the same top, colour and design must be the same. All players must have different numbers and cannot share tops.
- b. Players must have a visible number on the back of their shirt at least 20cm high and either printed or ironed on. Numbers cannot be drawn or taped onto shirts.
- c. Shorts must be sports or soccer shorts and have no outside pockets or denim.
- d. For each incorrect uniform item teams will lose (1) one goal to a maximum of 3 goals for a game.
- e. Teams will be given 3 weeks to organize their uniforms before penalties apply.
- f. Jewellery is not part of uniform and is not to be worn during a game.
- g. In addition to the penalties aforementioned to the wearing of incorrectly coloured or inappropriate items teams, which commence play with members wearing jewellery, will not be permitted to continue playing until the team member sheds the item.
- h. The penalties that apply to a late start will apply from the moment the jewellery is detected to the moment the game recommences.
- i. The wearing of peaked hats or caps in the course of play shall be treated as wearing jewellery.
- j. Except for the goalkeeper, tracksuit pants are not allowed.
- k. Except prior written arrangement with management does not allow tracksuit pants.
- l. Goalkeepers who become general field players are to change to the team's uniform.

- m. All fill-in players, whether provided by the stadium or not, are still required to be in team colours. The team must provide the top to avoid penalties against them.
- n. All players must wear non-marking rubber soled shoes.
- o. Singlets and tops without sleeves are not permitted.

8. League Fixture

- a. The times which games are fixtured shall be determined by Futsal Oz, and may vary them without notice in the event of unforeseen circumstances. Futsal Oz asks all team captains to check match times the day before to ensure teams arrive on time.
- b. Teams are to be on court at the time fixtured for the start of their game.
- c. The clock will be started at the fixtured time to ensure that all teams have a full game.
- d. Failure to be on court within one minute of the fixtured time will result in a one-goal penalty and will repeat every minute.
- e. Teams who have members running late must take the court when they have a minimum of three players so that the referee can start the game and avoid any goal penalties.
- f. An automatic forfeit will apply if a team is not on court within ten minutes of the fixtured start time.

9. Public Holidays

- a. Futsal Oz operates as normal on public holidays except for Good Friday and the Christmas/New Year period. Please ensure all captains/players check their appropriate fixtures and make arrangements accordingly as forfeits due to public holidays will still be subject to Rule 5 of Centre Laws including any applicable fees.

10. Finals

- a. All finals dates will be posted on the Futsal Oz website can be confirmed by the relevant stadiums. The set dates will not change.
- b. Finals times will be given out the week before finals commence.
- c. In a competition of 14 or more games, a player must play 5 games for the same team to qualify for finals.
- d. In a competition of less than 14 games, a player must play 3 games for the same team to qualify for finals.
- e. A player, can only play for one team in the same division, and can only qualify for one team in the finals for that division.
- f. If a team is short of field players an exception can be made on a one-off basis at the Centre management's discretion with respect to the appropriate League Rules being taken into consideration.
- g. The total points a team has received during the course of competition will determine a team's ladder position.
- h. If two or more teams are on the same points at the end of the season, the position on the ladder will be determined by a team's goal difference then by goals for and followed by goals against. The final resort is head to head result.

11. Injuries

- a. The need to minimize disruption for subsequent games means that, except in finals, there is no extra time added for stoppage in play due to any injuries.
- b. An injured player, only if possible, must leave the court as soon as reasonably possible so that play may continue.
- c. Once an injured player leaves the court his or her position may be filled with a substituted player.
- d. If a player is bleeding he or she must vacate the court immediately and cannot return until the bleeding has stopped.
- e. If a player is seriously injured and cannot be moved off court the game may be abandoned and a replay may be rescheduled at Futsal Oz's discretion.
- f. An ambulance will be called if the injured player or captain requests one.

12. Duration of game

- a. A game shall consist of two equal halves. Teams will change ends at half time.
- b. There will be a maximum two-minute break a half time.
- c. A game is started and finished by the referee's whistle once he/she hears the siren sound.

13. Fighting

- a. Fighting and anti-social behaviour is neither condoned nor tolerated.
- b. If a fight occurs between teams during a game, the game will automatically be stopped!
- c. There will be no appeal and both teams will be asked to leave the competition.

14. Court hire – casual bookings

- a. Our operating hours for court hire are typically from 9:00am to 11:00pm **in the absence of any Futsal Oz scheduled leagues**. Futsal Oz will always prioritise court availability for Futsal Oz competitions and events.
- b. All bookings must pay a deposit to confirm booking. Minimum deposit amount is equal to half of the total booking fee with the remaining amount to be paid prior to the commencement of the booking.
- c. Cancellation of bookings are permitted with a minimum of 72 hours notice provided. Any cancellations made inside this 72 hour period will forfeit deposit paid.

15. Use of your image

- a. Security cameras are operating on the Premises and you acknowledge that you may be filmed.
- b. You consent to and authorise us to film, record or photograph you (Recording), and to reproduce Recordings in any audio, video, or photographic display or other transmission, exhibition, publication or reproduction in any medium or context for any purpose without further authorisation by, or compensation or attribution to you. All Recordings are our sole property and you release us from liability arising on account of such usage.

16. Other information

- c. No pets are allowed in the building. No bicycles or roller blades are allowed either.
- d. Strictly no smoking anywhere other than designated smoking areas.
- e. Jewellery is not to be worn during a game.
- f. Caps are not to be worn during a game.
- g. Futsal balls are the only balls allowed on FUTSAL courts. Please do not bring outdoor balls into the stadium.
- h. It is the responsibility of the team captains to make sure that all players know the time of their games and that team members arrive on time.
- i. Players play at their own risk. FUTSAL Oz accepts no liability for any injury that a player might receive in the course of a game. Please refer to Law 2 of Centre Laws for more information.
- j. Persons who have been asked to leave the Centre and who do not do so immediately will be treated as trespassers. Futsal Oz policy is to call police on any trespassers.
- k. Ignorance of any rules is no excuse.
- l. Management has the final discretion on any matter relating to its futsal leagues and operations.

2. CODE OF CONDUCT

The Futsal Oz Code of Conduct is designed to provide all social league teams / players / captains / supporters / patrons with important information which Futsal Oz considers to be an acceptable standard of behaviour and conduct. These codes illustrate how Futsal Oz expects your team/club should expect its members and guests to behave.

Players

- Play by the rules – the rules of Futsal Oz and the Laws of the Game.
- Be a team player and cooperate with your coach, referees and teammates.
- Treat all players, as you would like to be treated – fairly and with courtesy.
- Control your temper.
- Refrain from arguing with a referee or other officials.
- Play for your own enjoyment and to improve your skills.
- Don't use any ugly remarks based on ability, gender, religion or race.
- Strive for excellence in everything they do including being a positive role model.

Coaches

- Understand and abide by the rules of Futsal Oz and the Laws of the Game.
- Develop players respect for others, equipment and their surroundings.
- Teach and reinforce the rules of Futsal Oz and the wonderful game of Futsal.
- Ensure players enjoy their Futsal.
- Strive for excellence in everything they do including being a positive role model.

Parents, Officials and Supporters

- Lead by example and respect all players, coaches, referees, officials, parents and spectators – physical or verbal abuse as well as threatening behaviour will not be tolerated.
- Never ridicule mistakes or losses – parents and supporters are there to support, not ridicule.
- Refrain from publicly criticising referees or officials – raise personal concerns with Futsal Oz management in private.
- Recognise all coaches and volunteers who are giving up their valuable time to conduct the game/event.
- Strive for excellence in everything they do including Support Futsal Oz's efforts in building and maintaining a utopia with positive role models for kids and adolescents as well as an environment which is welcoming to everyone.

Futsal Oz does not condone

- Foul or abusive language.
- Disrespect towards anybody else including players, parents, supporters, referees or officials.
- The taking of non-prescription drugs or illegal substances.
- Theft or the destruction of anybody's property.

Social Media Policy

Futsal Oz accepts that the use of Social Media can be an effective business and social tool and that such media is commonly used by the community to express their views, comments, ideas, and criticism on a whole range of issues.

All those who are part of the Futsal Oz community, players, managers, coaches and parents, have the right to benefit from the opportunities that exist from being members of our community. With this in mind, we should all behave within and outside of Futsal Oz venues in such a manner that the image of the member's club and Futsal Oz is not negatively affected or brought into disrepute.

Futsal Oz expects those who are part of the Futsal Oz community, when using Social Media, to show courtesy and respect to others and believes Social Media should not be used to:

- Bully, intimidate, abuse, harass or threaten others
- Make defamatory comments
- Use obscene or offensive language towards others
- Post content that is hateful, threatening, pornographic or incites violence against others
- Denigrate or show disrespect whereby harming the reputation and good standing of any club, Futsal Oz or those within its community
- Use excessive criticism to portray a person as socially, mentally, physically or intellectually inferior as a prohibitive behaviour.

Video and Photography

Many players and parents at Futsal Oz are increasingly filming games to build their futsal playing portfolio and using footage to promote on social media. This portfolio is often used to highlight a player's skill/ability when seeking trials or opportunities at prospective futsal clubs.

Footage is also very commonly used to promote a team/club seeking to attract new players and/or sponsors. Futsal Oz management encourages the promotion of futsal in many forms and has seen the benefits players/clubs (who promote well) can reap.

As Futsal Oz cannot provide any legal advice, all players / captains / supporters / patrons are urged to research and educate themselves on the topic of filming and photographing in public spaces. A quick Google search will highlight this is a common topic across various sporting codes and the general consensus seems to be that we all need to be respectful of each other's privacy and wishes.

Many people are surprised to learn that in Australia there is generally no law restricting photography of people (including children) in public spaces. As a general rule, photography is not restricted in public spaces provided the images are not indecent or provocative in relation to minors, being used for voyeurism, protected by a court order, defamatory or for commercial purposes without permission.

Futsal Oz management asks all players / captains / supporters / patrons to be mindful of each other and each other's wishes and to be respectful at all times. Futsal Oz wishes to advise all players / captains / supporters / patrons that photos or videos may inadvertently be taken in the sporting environment. If anybody considers photos or videos of themselves or their children to be unwarranted or obtrusive should speak with the photographer in the first instance and if the matter cannot be resolved, should be reported to the police as Futsal Oz does not have the powers or ability to intervene on such matters.

A breach of any of the above may also involve a breach of the Futsal Oz Centre Laws and/or Code of Conduct and sanctions may include, but are not limited to, suspensions, bans or expulsion from Futsal Oz.

We thank you for choosing Futsal Oz and for all your support and contribution to building a positive sporting environment for all to enjoy.

Yours in futsal,



The Futsal Oz team