

FDLC Futsal By-Laws

Revised May 2018

1. General

1.1 Futsal is a **social sport** and is conducted by the Five Dock Leisure Centre (FDLC) as an in-house competition (not affiliated with any external entities) to promote teamwork, sportsmanship for all participants. With this in mind, FDLC expects all participants to adhere to the spirit of the rules, and promotes a fun and healthy atmosphere as the primary goals rather than displaying a 'win-at-all-costs' attitude.

1.2 These by-laws should be considered in conjunction with the 2014-2015 FIFA Rules of Futsal and the Official Rules of Futsal. Where a conflict exists between these documents, these by-laws will take precedence.

1.3 FDLC maintains a zero tolerance policy regarding:

- Persistent and/or wilful challenging of the decisions of referees.
- Overly aggressive behaviour towards referees, players, FDLC officials and spectators.

1.4 Team benches are to be occupied only by playing team members, 1 coach and 1 team manager (junior competitions ONLY). All spectators are required to remain in the spectator viewing areas provided. Injured players are required to sit in the spectator seating area provided.

1.5 Team captains act as representatives of the team during the game. Captains are permitted to make enquires of game officials on behalf of team members only if the enquires are made in an appropriate manner at an appropriate time (during half time/full time). Continued questioning of game officials is not permitted and may result in a caution (yellow card).

1.6 Captains, coaches and managers are required to provide reasonable assistance to game and FDLC officials in ensuring teams behave in an appropriate manner.

1.7 In the event of injury, it is the responsibility of the injured party to notify FDLC administration or the match official of the circumstances of the injury as soon as possible.

2. Participation

2.1 All players must have their name pre-printed on the scoresheet and must sign on personally (with player number) before they take the court.

2.2 Where a name is not pre-printed on the scoresheet, that player must notify FDLC administration to verify proof of registration and must print their name onto the scoresheet with their player ID number given to them by administration, before they take the court **(please refer to clauses 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3)**.

2.3 Unregistered players will be indicated on scoresheets. Also unregistered players will be refused entry to a game if adequate proof of registration is not presented to administration.

2.4 Goalie substitutions must be indicated to the match official before taking the field.

2.5 Any visible body piercing jewellery must be removed before taking the court. All necklaces and bracelets must be removed before taking the court. FDLC accepts no responsibility for body piercing jewellery not visible or any injury resulting from said jewellery. Wristbands, other than sweat bands made of a suitable material are not permitted.

2.6 Any player, coach or manager suspected of being under the influence of alcohol and/or any illicit substance will not be permitted to take the court. Any player, coach or manager displaying behaviour deemed by game officials or FDLC officials to be caused by being under the influence of any such substance during a game shall be removed from the premises immediately.

3. Registration

3.1 All players must register on the official registration form (either hard copy or online) and pay the appropriate fee before taking the court for their first game.

3.2 It is the player's responsibility to maintain current registration at all times. FDLC reserves the right to refuse participation to any unregistered person/s.

3.3 Player registrations are non-transferable and non-refundable.

3.4 one (1) game player registrations (\$15) are available for fill in players.

4. Team Entry

4.1 Teams must submit the official FDLC team nomination form (either hard copy or email), accompanied by the \$30 team entry fee, on or before the date specified on the entry form.

4.2 Teams may nominate a maximum of 10 players per team

4.3 Players cannot be added to the roster after week 10 of the competition. Requests to waive this rule will be considered on a case by case basis.

4.4 The team nomination fee will only be refunded by FDLC if the competition does not go ahead and/or any circumstances deemed to be within control of FDLC competition manager (eg. Not enough teams for the competition to go ahead, Change of date or times).

4.5 Any team withdrawing from the competition on their own accord and out of control of FDLC after the close of nominations will forfeit their nomination fee and season fee.

4.6 FDLC reserves the right to restrict junior players from playing in older age groups at its sole discretion where the situation is deemed to be contrary to the best interests of the individual and/or the competition. Players aged 16 – 17 years are permitted to play in an 18+ competition only with a parent's/legal guardian's approval.

5. Court Fees

5.1 Season fees will be published on the entry form along with dates and competition times.

5.2 Team season fees will be paid in one part:

- Upfront (game fee x no. of regular season games, excluding semi-finals) – is due before the first match of the competition. In certain situations due date can be delayed until the 2nd week of competition.
- Forfeit fines – if a team forfeits they must pay the opposing team's match fee of whom they forfeit against before taking the court the following week. Failure to do so will result in the opposing team being rewarded the win until the forfeit fee is paid in full.

5.3 All teams will be invoiced and full payment must be made by the due date. Non-payment of season fees by the due date may result in being refused permission to take the court, loss of competition points or removal from the competition.

6. Eligibility

6.1 Once a player has played for one team in a particular competition, they may not transfer to another team in that competition without written permission from FDLC.

6.2 Players may participate in a number of competitions of the same sport

6.3 A team may borrow players from another team within the same division given that:

- A) A minimum of three (3) players from the regular team must participate in the game.
- B) The total number of players for the game does not exceed five (5). A team is not allowed to borrow another player to act as a substitute.
- C) A team may only borrow a player registered within the same division or lower.
- D) Approval must be sought from referee and opposition team prior to borrowing players.

6.4 Teams fielding an ineligible player shall forfeit each game where the team is found to be in breach of these by-laws

7. Playing Strip

7.1 Playing strips must be matching. Shorts may be a different colour to the shirts. Minor variations in trim may be acceptable. A grace period of 2 weeks can be given to teams upon approval of competition manager.

7.2 Players not in the correct playing strip by the fourth week of the competition (without valid exemption) will not be permitted to take the court.

7.3 Each player must contain a playing number (00 - 99) displayed on the back of his/her playing shirt. Numbers must be clearly visible for the match official. Each number should be different to that of his/her teammates. A grace period of 2 weeks can be given to teams upon approval of competition manager.

7.4 Loss of competition points may occur to teams if no effort is made to have matching and numbered playing strips.

7.5 Bandanas, beanies and other similar headwear are not permitted.

7.6 In the event of a clash of colours, the team listed as Team A shall be required to wear alternative uniforms (FDLC futsal bibs can be lent out to the team for the match)

7.7 Teams refusing to change uniforms, as per by-law 7.5 shall be assessed a forfeit loss.

7.8 Footwear must be purpose-designed (non-marking shoes) for use on the playing surface used for the competition. Any damage caused by inappropriate footwear shall be the responsibility of the wearer.

8. Timing Regulations

8.1 Standard timing regulations for round games shall be:

- 2 X 16 minute halves for all senior futsal games
- 2 X 12 minute halves for all Junior Futsal games
- 1 X 1 minute half time period

FDLC reserves the right to alter these regulations when deemed necessary

8.2 In the event of a tied match at the end of regulation playing time:

- In a regular round game, the result shall stand as a draw.
- In a finals match, 2 x 5minute periods of extra time shall be played in order to obtain a result given that time permits and does not interfere with scheduling of later matches.

- If time does not permit due to scheduling constraints, the extra time period will be decided by a golden goal. FDLC staff and officials reserve the right to make this decision.
- If a result has still not been obtained after extra time, the match will be decided by a penalty shootout.

9. Forfeits and Late Starts

9.1 A team may start a game with a minimum of 3 players.

9.2 Where a team is unable to field at least 3 players at the scheduled starting time, the match official shall start the game clock. If the team does not have three players to start the game after 5 minutes, they shall incur a 3-0 score deficit. Where the team does not have three players after 10 minutes, the game shall be declared a forfeit.

9.3 Where a team forfeits the score shall be recorded as 3 – 0.

9.4 Where both teams fail to appear with at least Three players after 10 minutes, the game shall be declared a double forfeit and the score recorded as 0 – 0.

9.5 Any team that forfeits 3 times in a competition may be removed from the competition and/or finals series.

10. Player suspensions

10.1 To ensure the safety and enjoyment of all participants, FDLC will conduct disciplinary procedures in accordance to FDLC By-laws and futsal official rules.

10.2 Any player, coach, team official or team follower may be cited and reported to face disciplinary procedures. These include:

- Has drawn the sport of futsal into disrepute
- Has drawn the operations or reputation of FDLC into disrepute
- Has drawn the role of a game official into disrepute
- Has acted in a manner that is overly aggressive towards a player, coach or FDLC official or staff member.
- Has disregarded the player code of conduct and by-laws that all players have agreed to abide by while playing at FDLC and the policies and guidelines of FDLC.

10.3 Any player, coach, team official or team follower may be cited for immediate safety of participants and club property and FDLC reserves the right to penalise the following infringements via disciplinary procedures:

- Hanging from Goals
- Misuse or abuse of equipment (incl. nets, equipment, FDLC facilities)

FDLC reserves the right to pass on the cost of any repair or replacement of damaged property

10.4 All complaints, protests or appeals must be lodged in writing to the competition manager by close of business within 48 hours after the match or alleged incident, if appeal has not been lodged within said timeframe the suspension will stand. Email sportsprograms@fdlc.com.au or reception@fdlc.com.au

10.5 Any player assessed with an unsportsmanlike foul or conduct during a game (including those outlined in 10.2) will be issued with a warning and/or yellow card by the match referee. Should the same player commit further fouls, he/she may receive a second yellow card or red card and will be ejected from the game and the playing area.

10.6 Players who are sent off under 10.5 may not participate in any capacity for the rest of the game and must leave the playing and technical area. The referee will not re-start the match until the player has completely left the area.

10.7 FDLC reserves the right to address alleged misconduct via letter/email to captain (or if information given by individual) of a yellow or red card, or any other means deemed suitable for the circumstances.

10.8 A player who receives an accumulation of 5 yellow cards (senior competitions) or 3 yellow cards (junior competitions) during a season will be automatically issued a 1 match suspension.

10.9 A player who is sent off (second yellow card or red card) will receive an automatic 1 week suspension. Suspensions may be increased at the discretion of the competition manager and centre manager depending on the infringement as outlined in table 10.9 below:

Table 10.9

Offence	Minimum	Maximum
Bringing game into disrepute	10 weeks	Life Ban
Violent Conduct (head butting, punching/fighting, kicking, elbowing, inciting a brawl)	10 weeks	Life ban
Serious Foul Play (violent charging, violent tackle, endangering safety of opponent)	2 weeks	1 year
Spitting at opponent or any other person including match officials and FDLC staff.	8 weeks	1 year
Threatening or intimidating match officials and staff by word/action	8 weeks	Life ban
Foul/Abusive language towards match official and FDLC staff.	4 weeks	12 weeks
Foul/Abusive language towards	2 weeks	6 weeks

another player		
Deliberately denying the opposing team a goal or obvious goal-scoring opportunity	1 week	4 weeks
Receiving a second yellow card within the same match	1 week	4 weeks

10.10 Suspensions will be the length of time in competition weeks. Bye rounds and weeks not involving competition do not count towards the suspension being served.

11. Results and Outcomes

11.1 Competition points will be awarded as follows:

- Win = 3
- Draw = 1
- Loss = 0
- Win due to Forfeit = 3 (receive score of 3 – 0)
- Loss due to Forfeit = 0

FDLC reserves the right to change competition points to suit a particular competition

11.2 Where a scoresheet error is discovered at the time of recording, scores and/or results may be altered to reflect correct result.

11.3 If a game cannot be played due to factors beyond the control of FDLC, FDLC reserves the right to reschedule the game to another time and/or date. If the game cannot be rescheduled, the game may be declared drawn.

11.4 Where a game has begun and is terminated due to factors beyond the control of FDLC, the result may be determined by the score at the time of termination or by other means cited in clause 11.3.

11.5 In the event of two teams on the same amount of points at the end of normal rounds before the finals rounds, the table standings will be decided in the following order:

1. Goal difference of the teams in question
2. Higher number of goals scored of the teams in question.
3. Head-to-head records of the teams in question.

12. Finals

12.1 Qualification for finals shall be determined by FDLC from competition scoresheets.

12.2 to be eligible to participate in a finals series, a player or team must meet one of the following criteria:

- Player – has been on the team roster for at least 5 rounds or has played for that team for 5 rounds
- Team – has been in the competition for at least 5 rounds

12.3 Byes do not count as qualifying games

12.4 Any team playing an ineligible player in a finals game shall forfeit that game.

13. Finals Format

13.1 In the case of a competition consisting of 10 teams or less, the top 4 placed teams on the ladder at the end of the regular season will compete in the finals series.

13.2 In the case of a competition consisting of more than 10 teams, the top 4 placed teams on the ladder at the end of the regular season will compete in a 'Division 1' finals series and the next 4 placed teams (i.e. 5th – 8th) will compete in a 'Division 2' finals series.

13.3 The finals format will involve a 1st v 4th; 2nd vs 3rd (or 5th v 8th; 6th v 7th) straight elimination system. The winning teams will progress to the Grand Final; the losing teams will compete in a 3rd place playoff match (*3rd placed match pending on court availability*).

13.4 Please refer to 8.2 outlining the rules and regulations for drawn finals matches

14. Spectators and Supporters

14.1 Any other person that enters any of the various FDLC venues is expected to abide by the above by-laws and will be dealt with in compliance with section 10 of the by-laws. A team may face disciplinary procedures as a result of unacceptable spectator behaviours, resulting in a potential loss of competition points or expulsion from competition

15. Court Markings

15.1 The Five Dock Leisure Centre caters to a number of different sports. We have multiple coloured lines on the courts. Futsal courts are marked the following way.

- Goal lines are marked (white)
- Touch lines are marked (white)
- Penalty area is marked (White)