It is exciting to announce the addition of **High School and Middle School Divisions** in the North Alabama *FUTSAL* League. Actually, the new High School division was added last summer and two high school teams joined together to learn and play futsal in an academy format. The Middle School division has been added for the following winter season. So now both middle school teams and high school teams may register to play in the winter season league games (weekly games for 8 weeks) and the next Dixie Defrost Futsal Tournament in January.

- Middle School Lindy Division = teams with 12U, 13U and 14U players playing together
- High School Samba Division = teams with 15U, 16U, 17U and 18U players together
- NEW: **Bolero** Division (elementary school) = teams with 8U and 9U players playing together
- NEW: Disco Division (elementary school) = teams with 10U and 11U players playing together



With relatively recent changes to AHSAA

rules, <u>50% of a school team may practice soccer together</u> – in this case, futsal together – <u>during the off season</u> of their sport if the student is not involved in another school sport during the time of the off season soccer practice. They may also be coached by their school team coach up to 2 hours per week. Futsal games last under an hour usually. Here are some example ways you could participate:

- 1. Only 6 players on your school soccer team want to play futsal and you add two or three more soccer players from other sources (younger siblings, players from other schools, players not playing school sports)
- 2. Twelve players on your school soccer team want to play futsal and form two futsal teams, who add two or three more soccer players from other sources. The school team coach limits himself/herself to maximum of 2 hours per week with only one team per week. An assistant coach or a team manager could coach the other team.
- 3. Four or five players from one school soccer team join with four or five players from another school soccer team to form a futsal team.
- 4. Soccer players of middle schoolLindy division ages or high schoolSamba division ages who play in a soccer programs other than their school's programs form a futsal team.
- 5. Huntsville City Schools middle school soccer teams are not affiliated with AHSAA and do not have to abide by the AHSAA 50% Rule or other limitations and thus can form futsal teams with any quantity of school soccer team players and can be coached by their school team coach without restriction by AHSAA.

The prediction is ... more will want to play futsal this winter because so many other youth players are playing, enjoying and benefitting from playing futsal in the North Alabama *FUTSAL* League and now you have a way to play too!

See Home, Calendar and Registration pages on www.nafutsal.com for full details.

