

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **0. Is the tournament for youth and adult players?**

Yes, although some years it may be conducted as only a youth tournament and other years as only an adult tournament. In spring 2020 it is being conducted for adults only. Plans are to have open, women's, co-ed and/or over-40 divisions.

### **1. Is the tournament for boys, girls and/or co-ed teams?**

In the initial years of **The Mighty FOURS<sup>SM</sup>** Futsal Tournament, the amount of participation is expected to allow only "open" divisions, i.e. mostly boys with some girls playing with the boys although games will not be played by co-ed rules. When enough full girls teams register for the tournament, girls divisions will be added. Before then girls teams will have to play in the open division with boys teams.

### **2. What is the difference between 12U, 13U, 14U division teams and the Lindy division (12-14U) teams? What is the difference between 15U, 16U, 17U, 18U division teams and the Samba division (15-18U) teams?**

12U, 13U and 14U division teams have only players of the same age on teams, unless a younger player is "playing up". Lindy division teams have players of 12U, 13U and 14U ages mixed together on single teams like Middle School teams have. A 12U, 13U or 14U division team may choose to play in the Lindy division, but a Lindy division team may only choose to play in the 14U division.

Likewise 15U, 16U, 17U and 18U division teams have only players of the same age on teams, unless a younger player is "playing up". Samba division (15-18U) teams have players of 15U, 16U, 17U and 18U ages mixed together on single teams like High School teams have. A 15U, 16U, 17U or 18U division team may choose to play in the Samba division, but a Samba division team may only choose to play in the 18U division.

The choice of forming a single age specific team or a Lindy division or Samba division team containing multiple ages is a choice the coaches and players should make.

### **3. What is the date to determine age for youth brackets?**

Dec 31<sup>st</sup>. See North Alabama *FUTSAL* League rules on the Rules page of [www.nafutsal.com](http://www.nafutsal.com).

### **4. Do the socks have to completely match, reasonably match, or doesn't matter?**

A team's players should wear matching uniforms, including socks. Jerseys must have numbers on them. Teams should do their best to wear completely matching uniforms with numbers or risk the chance of not being allowed to play because the lack of uniformity will cause confusion. The decision of the Tournament Directors on this is final and cannot be contested.

### **5. How many players of a team are on the court at any given time during games?**

This is a 4v4 tournament, so 4 players, i.e. 3 field players plus 1 goalkeeper. Since the maximum roster size is 10, there may be a maximum of 6 substitutes on the bench. Again, a team of 4 players will consist of 3 field players and 1 goalkeeper on the court.

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### **6. What are the requirements for shirt numbers?**

North Alabama *FUTSAL* requires that a distinct number between 0 and 99 within a team appear on the back of each player's jersey at least six inches in height and, optionally, on the front (jersey or shorts) with the same number, which shall be at least 4 inches in height, contrasting with the jersey color, and be clearly visible. Goalkeepers follow the same requirement but may display their player number only on his/her shorts instead.

### **7. Once a GK properly clears the ball can he touch it again before an opponent touches it? If the ball crosses the halfway line, can the GK touch it again?**

No, No, No! The answer is not related to where the ball is but to where the GK is. The current FIFA Futsal LOTG is not completely clear on this rule. So in layman's terms, the rule is this: Once a GK plays the ball to a teammate, he may not play or touch the ball again using any part of his body until the ball has been touched by an opponent or has gone out of play. This restriction only applies to the GK when he/she is in or returns to his defensive half of the futsal court. It does not apply if he joins the attack by being in the attacking half of the futsal court. When a GK breaks this rule, an IFK will be given to the opponents at the location where the GK played the ball a second time, unless inside the Penalty Area, in which case the ball will be moved to the nearest point on the boundary of the Penalty Area. Correlated legal plays by the GK include: 1. immediately following a restart by a teammate of the GK, the GK may play the ball once. The limitations on the use of hands by the GK still apply, e.g. with a "pass back". 2. Immediately following a "steal" by a teammate of the GK, the GK may play the ball once. And 3. Anytime an opponent passes or shoots the ball, of course.