

Amendments to the Futsal Laws of the Game:

Key: *italics* = new/modified text; ~~strikethrough~~ = deleted text

Futsal Laws of the Game 2024-25	
Notes on the Futsal Laws of the Game	Modifications to the Futsal Laws (...) <p>For youth, veterans', disability and grassroots futsal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The size of the pitch • The size, weight and material of the ball • The width between the goalposts and the height of the crossbar from the <i>ground floor</i> • <i>Specific requirements for the captain's compulsory armband</i> • The duration of the two (equal) periods of the game (and two equal periods of extra time) • Limitations on the throwing of the ball by the goalkeeper (...)
Law 1 – The Pitch	11 Advertising on the pitch If the competition rules do not prohibit it, advertising on the floor of the pitch and the technical areas is permitted, provided that it does not distract or confuse the players or match officials, except within 0.75 metres of . <i>All such advertising must be at least 0.75m away from the boundary lines, and no advertising is permitted on any pitch markings.</i>
Law 3 – The Players	12 Team captain <i>Each team must have a captain who wears an identifying armband.</i> The team captain has no special status or privileges but has a degree of responsibility for the behaviour of the team.
Law 4 – The Players' Equipment	2 Compulsory equipment The compulsory equipment of a player comprises the following separate items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (...) • shorts – the goalkeeper is permitted to wear trousers • (...) • shinguards – these must be made of <i>a suitable material and be of an appropriate size</i> to provide reasonable protection and be covered by the socks. <i>Players are responsible for the size and suitability of their shinguards</i> • (...) <p><i>The team captain must wear the armband issued or authorised by the relevant competition organiser, or a single-coloured armband that may also have the word "captain" or the letter "C" or a translation thereof, which should also be a single colour</i></p>

	<p>(see also "Modifications to the Futsal Laws"). (...)</p> <p>4 Other equipment Non-dangerous protective equipment – for example, <i>gloves</i>, headgear, facemasks and knee and arm protectors made of soft, lightweight padded material – is permitted, as are goalkeepers' caps and sports spectacles. <i>Goalkeepers may wear trousers.</i></p>
Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play	<p>2 Dropped ball</p> <p>Offences and sanctions (...) However, if a dropped ball enters either goal without touching at least two players due to circumstances beyond the control of the player to whom it is dropped (such as the facility conditions or the ball being improperly dropped), the ball should be <i>is</i> dropped again.</p>
Law 10 – Determining the Outcome of a Match	<p>3 Penalties (penalty shoot-out) (...) A player who has been sent off during the match is not permitted to take part; warnings and cautions issued to <i>players, substitutes and team officials</i> during the match and before the coin toss to decide which team will take the first kick are not carried forward into penalties (penalty shoot-out).</p> <p>Procedure</p> <p>Before penalties (penalty shoot-out) start</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unless there are other considerations (e.g. pitch <i>facility</i> conditions, safety, camera placement, etc.) or the competition rules specify otherwise, the referee tosses a coin to decide the goal at which the kicks will be taken.
Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct	<p>2 Indirect free kick An indirect free kick is awarded if a player: (...)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scores in the opponents' goal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • directly from their hand/arm (including by the goalkeeper), provided that it is accidental and the hand/arm did not make their body unnaturally bigger; • immediately after accidentally touching the ball with their hand/arm, <i>without any other player having deliberately played it thereafter</i>, provided that the hand/arm did not make their body unnaturally bigger. <p>(...) An indirect free kick is also awarded if a goalkeeper commits any of the following offences:</p>

(...)

With respect to the *four-second* count of controlling the ball for ~~four seconds~~, a goalkeeper is considered to be in control of the ball when:

(...)

- dribbling the ball either by hand or *by* foot.

A goalkeeper cannot be challenged by an opponent when in control of the ball with the hand(s).

(...)

3 Disciplinary action

Cautions for unsporting behaviour

There are different circumstances when a player must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour, including if a player:

(...)

- handles the ball to interfere with or stop a promising attack, *except where the referees award a penalty kick for a non-deliberate handball offence;*
- *denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity and the referees award a penalty kick for a non-deliberate handball offence;*

(...)

Sending-off offences

A player or substitute who commits any of the following offences is sent off:

- denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity by *committing* a *deliberate* handball offence (except a goalkeeper within their own penalty area) or by deliberately moving or overturning the goal (such as when this prevents the ball from passing over the goal line)
- *denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity by committing a non-deliberate handball offence outside their own penalty area*

(...)

Denying a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity (DOGSO)

Where a player denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity by *committing* a *deliberate* handball offence, the player is sent off wherever the offence occurs (except a goalkeeper within their *own* penalty area).

Where a player denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity by committing a non-deliberate handball offence and the referees award a penalty kick, the offender is cautioned.

	<p>(...)</p> <p>Offences where an object is thrown/kicked (including the ball)</p> <p>In all cases, the referees take the appropriate disciplinary action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reckless – caution the offender for unsporting behaviour • using excessive force – send off the offender for violent conduct
<p>Law 13 – Free Kicks</p>	<p>5 Direct free kick beginning with the sixth accumulated foul by each team in each period (DFKSAF)</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>Procedure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ball must be stationary <i>on with part of the ball touching or overhanging</i> the centre of the 10m mark or at the place where the DFKSAF offence was committed (provided that this was in the area between the defending team's goal line and the imaginary line outside the penalty area, 10m from and parallel to the goal line). <p>(...)</p> <p>Offences and sanctions</p> <p>Once the referees have signalled for a DFKSAF to be taken, the kick must be taken within four seconds. If the kick is not taken within four seconds, an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team from the place where the kick was to be taken.</p> <p><i>Encroachment by players (except the defending-team goalkeeper)</i></p> <p><i>A team-mate of the player taking the DFKSAF is penalised for encroachment only if:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>the encroachment clearly impacted on the goalkeeper; or</i> • <i>the encroaching player plays the ball or challenges an opponent for the ball and then scores, attempts to score or creates a goalscoring opportunity.</i> <p><i>A team-mate of the goalkeeper is penalised for encroachment only if:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>the encroachment clearly impacted on the kicker; or</i> • <i>the encroaching player plays the ball or challenges an opponent for the ball and this prevents the opponents from scoring, attempting to score or creating a goalscoring opportunity.</i> <p><i>If a team-mate of the goalkeeper is penalised for encroachment, they are warned for the first offence in the game and cautioned for any subsequent offence(s) in the game.</i></p> <p>If, before the ball is in play, one of the following occurs:</p>

(...)

- a player of both teams commits an offence, the kick is retaken unless a player commits a more serious offence (e.g. illegal feinting); the offenders are warned for the first offence in the game. If the same players commit any subsequent offence(s) in the game, they are cautioned. If a player commits a more serious offence (e.g. ~~illegal feinting~~), an indirect free kick is awarded to the opponents and the offender is cautioned without warning.

(...)

6 DFKSAF summary table

Outcome of the direct free kick beginning with the sixth accumulated foul (DFKSAF)		
Offence	Ball enters goal	Ball does not enter goal
Encroachment by attacking-team player	<i>Impact: DFKSAF is retaken No impact: goal</i>	<i>Impact: indirect free kick to defending team No impact: no retake</i>
Encroachment by defending-team player	<i>Impact: goal No impact: goal</i>	<i>Impact: DFKSAF is retaken and warning for defending-team player; caution for any further offence(s) No impact: no retake</i>
Encroachment by defending- and attacking-team player	<i>Impact: DFKSAF is retaken and warning for offending players; caution for any further offence(s)</i>	<i>Impact: DFKSAF is retaken and warning for offending players; caution for any further offence(s)</i>
Offence by goalkeeper	Goal	Not saved: DFKSAF is not retaken (unless kicker is clearly impacted) Saved: DFKSAF is retaken and warning for goalkeeper; caution for any further offence(s)
Goalkeeper and kicker commit offence at same time	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for kicker <i>without warning</i>	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for kicker <i>without warning</i>
Ball not kicked towards opponents' goal and with intention of scoring directly	Indirect free kick to defending team	Indirect free kick to defending team
<i>Kick not taken within four seconds</i>	<i>Indirect free kick to defending team</i>	<i>Indirect free kick to defending team</i>
Illegal feinting	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for kicker <i>without warning</i>	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for kicker <i>without warning</i>
Wrong kicker (not identified)	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for wrong kicker <i>without warning</i>	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for wrong kicker <i>without warning</i>

Law 14 – The Penalty Kick

1 Procedure

The ball must be stationary, *on with part of the ball touching or overhanging* the centre of the penalty mark, and the goalposts, crossbar and goal net must not be moving.
(...)

2 Offences and sanctions

Once the referees have signalled for a penalty kick to be taken, the kick must be taken. If it is not taken, one of the referees may take disciplinary action before signalling again for the kick to be taken.

Encroachment by players (except the defending-team goalkeeper)

A team-mate of the player taking the penalty kick is penalised for encroachment only if:

- *the encroachment clearly impacted on the goalkeeper; or*
- *the encroaching player plays the ball or challenges an opponent for the ball and then scores, attempts to score or creates a goalscoring opportunity.*

A team-mate of the goalkeeper is penalised for encroachment only if:

- *the encroachment clearly impacted on the kicker; or*
- *the encroaching player plays the ball or challenges an opponent for the ball and this prevents the opponents from scoring, attempting to score or creating a goalscoring opportunity.*

If a team-mate of the goalkeeper is penalised for encroachment, they are warned for the first offence in the game and cautioned for any subsequent offence(s) in the game.

If, before the ball is in play, one of the following occurs:
(...)

- a player of both teams commits an offence, the kick is retaken unless a player commits a more serious offence (e.g. illegal feinting); the offenders are warned for the first offence in the game. If the same players commit any subsequent offence(s) in the game, they are cautioned. If a player commits a more serious offence (e.g. ~~illegal feinting~~), an indirect free kick is awarded to the opponents and the offender is cautioned without warning.
(...)

3 Summary table

Outcome of the penalty kick		
Offence	Ball enters goal	Ball does not enter goal
Encroachment by attacking-team player	<i>Impact: penalty is retaken No impact: goal</i>	<i>Impact: indirect free kick to defending team No impact: no retake</i>
Encroachment by defending-team player	<i>Impact: goal No impact: goal</i>	<i>Impact: penalty is retaken and warning for defending team player; caution for any further offence(s) No impact: no retake</i>
Encroachment by defending- and attacking-team player	<i>Impact: penalty is retaken and warning for offending players; caution for any further offence(s) No impact: no goal</i>	<i>Impact: penalty is retaken and warning for offending players; caution for any further offence(s) No impact: no goal</i>
Offence by goalkeeper	Goal	Not saved: penalty is not retaken (unless kicker is clearly impacted) Saved: penalty is retaken and warning for goalkeeper; caution for any further offence(s)
Goalkeeper and kicker commit offence at same time	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for kicker <i>without warning</i>	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for kicker <i>without warning</i>
Ball kicked backwards to	Indirect free kick to defending team	Indirect free kick to defending team
Illegal feinting	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for kicker <i>without warning</i>	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for kicker <i>without warning</i>
Wrong kicker (not identified)	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for wrong kicker <i>without warning</i>	Indirect free kick to defending team and caution for wrong kicker <i>without warning</i>

Law 15 – The Kick-In

2 Offences and sanctions

(...)

If a team-mate of the kicker is off the pitch ~~to deceive an opponent or take up an advantageous position~~ when the kick-in is taken, a kick-in is awarded to the opposing team and the offending player is cautioned.

If this was an attempt to deceive an opponent or take up an advantageous position, the offending player is cautioned.

For any other offence, including if a kick-in is not taken within four seconds ~~or if a team-mate of the kicker is off the pitch when the kick-in is taken~~, a kick-in is awarded to the opposing team.

Interpretation and Recommendations Law 3 – The Players

Authorised departure from the pitch

In addition to a normal substitution, a player may leave the pitch without either *the referee's or the second referee's*

	<p>permission in the following situations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • as part of a playing movement whereby the player immediately returns to the pitch, i.e. to play the ball or dribble past an opponent. However, it is not permitted to leave the pitch and move behind one of the goals <i>or along the touchline</i> before re-entering the pitch with the aim of deceiving the opponents <i>or taking up an advantageous position.</i>; if <i>If</i> this happens, the referees stop play if they cannot apply the advantage. If they stop play, they must restart it with an indirect free kick. The player is cautioned for unsporting behaviour.
Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct	<p>Handling the ball</p> <p>If a player scores in the opponents' goal immediately after accidentally touching the ball with their hand/arm, <i>without the ball having been deliberately played by any other player thereafter (a deflection does not count as deliberately playing the ball), the goal must be disallowed and</i> an indirect free kick is awarded to the opponents. However:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a goal is not scored and the hand/arm did not make the player's body unnaturally bigger, play is to be continued. • If the ball goes off the pitch over the goal line, a goal clearance is awarded to the opponents. <p>"Immediately after" is considered independently of the distance from the place of the handball offence to the goal and/or the time from the accidental handball offence to scoring the goal.</p> <p>Therefore, if a player scores a goal just after the ball has touched their hand or arm, without the ball being played by any other player than the scorer, the goal must be disallowed.</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>Disciplinary sanctions</p> <p>There are circumstances when a caution for unsporting behaviour is required when a player handles the ball, e.g. when a player:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • attempts to score a goal by deliberately handling the ball; • <i>commits a deliberate handball offence in trying</i> tries to deny the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity by a handball offence when the goalkeeper is not inside their own penalty area, and fails in the attempt; • stops a ball going into the goal by a <i>deliberate</i> handball offence when the goal is guarded by the goalkeeper; • interferes with or stops a promising attack by the opposing team, <i>except where the referees award a penalty kick for a non-deliberate handball offence;</i> • <i>denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity and the referees award a penalty kick for a non-</i>

deliberate handball offence.
(...)

Offences committed by goalkeepers
(...)

In such cases, ~~the referee~~ *whichever of the referees* is nearest to the goalkeeper must clearly and visibly make the four-second count.

If the goalkeeper is in possession of the ball and enters the opponents' half, the referees stop the four-second count. If the goalkeeper then returns to their own half without having lost control of the ball, the referees restart the count from zero.

If the goalkeeper is in possession of the ball in their own half and is then substituted, the referees continue the four-second count as long as the goalkeeper who enters the pitch takes possession of the ball and remains in their own half.

In addition, after playing the ball anywhere on the pitch, the goalkeeper is not permitted to touch it again in their own half of the pitch after it has been deliberately played to them by a team-mate without an opponent playing or touching it. *If the goalkeeper plays the ball anywhere on the pitch and is then substituted, the goalkeeper who enters the pitch is likewise not permitted to touch the ball in their own half of the pitch after it has been deliberately played to them by a team-mate unless an opponent has played or touched it since the goalkeeping substitution.*

Moreover, the goalkeeper may not under any circumstances touch the ball with the hands or arms inside their own penalty area after it has been kicked to them by a team-mate, including directly from a kick-in.

Restart of play
• Indirect free kick

No disciplinary sanction is taken. However, if the goalkeeper deliberately stops the ball from going towards their own goal with their hand(s) or arm outside their own penalty area, they are sent off. This applies even if the ball comes from a deliberate pass back to them (including from a kick-in) or if they touch it again after it has been deliberately played to them by a team-mate without an opponent playing or touching it.
(...)

Using the goal or a team-mate for support

It is not permitted to playing the ball whilst deliberately using the goal or a team-mate for support—is not permitted, including by:

- hanging onto the crossbar;
- kicking/pushing the goal to get into an advantageous position;
- ~~being lifted up by a team-mate to get into an advantageous position;~~
- *using a team-mate's shoulder or any other part of their body to gain height;*
- being pushed by a team-mate to get into an advantageous position.

If a player commits this kind of offence, they must be cautioned, and an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team (see Law 13). If a player commits this kind of offence to deny the opponents a goal or *an* obvious goalscoring opportunity, they must be sent off, and an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team (see Law 13).