

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Question:** How many teams have registered in my age group so far – I want to be sure that the division is competitive or not too competitive?

Answer: *LI Futsal* will provide and publish a list of teams that have registered usually in November and a list of tentative bracket alignments will be published soon after registration closes. Coaches will have some time to review and comment on the alignments (adjustments to the brackets will be made based on coach comments) prior to the league starting the scheduling process. So, my recommendation to all inquiries of this nature, is to register your team **as soon as you make the decision to play futsal** for the Winter season, and indicate that you will “**pay by check**” when asked for the payment solution on-line. This way, there is absolutely no financial risk for the team, but does reserve your spot and allows *LI Futsal* to start aligning divisions as well as publish the list of registered teams sooner. If too many teams waited until they were sure of the competition level, we would have great difficulty aligning divisions and teams may get closed out – **so signing up early** actually enhances the competition level throughout the league – it is a **Win – Win** situation for all!

Also, *Long Island Futsal* is now one of the largest futsal leagues in the country (**thanks to you!**), and as a result, we have consistently have had multiple divisions in the same age group.

2. **Question:** Can you guarantee that our team will play back to back games every week and how and when do I make schedule requests?

Answer: Unfortunately, we cannot **guarantee** (but we do come pretty darn close) back to back games as there are so many “sister teams” that register in each group, that it becomes mathematically impossible. However, we do our best to accommodate this request and do meet them a great percentage of the time. **Schedule requests/conflicts or any other special requests** must be entered on-line with your team’s registration. The requests must be put in before the deadline (usually a few days before we start the scheduling process – the deadline date for requests will provided to you when you receive your teams registration email confirmation

REQUESTS NOT ENTERED BEFORE THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE OF , WILL NOT BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION. Even if you had previously e-mailed us, talked with LI Futsal staff or any other type of communication regarding a conflict or request , IT NEEDS TO BE ENTERED HERE (ON-LINE) OR IT WILL NOT BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION. A CONFLICT IS DEFINED AS A DATE (S) YOUR TEAM CANNOT PLAY (Only ONE conflict date is allowed) PLEASE BE SPECIFIC – IF YOUR TEAM IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR THE WEEKEND, THEN BOTH DATES MUST BE LISTED - THIS WILL BE CONSIDERED AS ONE CONFLICT.

If you have no conflicts or coach multiple teams, put NA in the box., put N/A in the "Conflict Comments" box. Requests for schedule changes after the deadline will only be considered if there is gym space available and the opposing teams agrees.

3. **Question:** Why does a “sister team” have to pay the league registration fee?

Answer: The “sister team” concept which was incorporated into the league several years ago, was done to allow coaches to move players from one of their teams to another on a week to week basis. This made it easier for coaches to split their outdoor team into two or more futsal teams without a concern for: a) who they would permanently roster on each team for the whole futsal season, and b) the concern of one futsal team being short one week not being able to borrow players from their sister team. This concept also allowed high school and club teams in the same age group to roster players on both teams Coaches throughout the league have been overwhelmingly in favor of this change, as they felt (as do I) that the Winter futsal season is primarily about development, and getting the players touches on the ball. Since the “sister team” plays a full 8 game schedule, utilizing the same court and referee time as any other team, the sister teams must pay a registration fee. *LI Futsal* does, however, offer discounts to clubs or trainers that register five or more teams.

Also, players only pay the **player registration fee once**, no matter how many futsal teams they are on.

If you enter two sister team, both teams will be receive a \$25 per team discount – for example: if you enter three teams, then all three teams will receive a \$25 per team discount. DISCOUNTS ARE ONLY APPLIED WHEN PAYING BY CHECK

4. **Question:** What is the [player registration](#) fee and what does it cover?

Answer: The [player registration](#) seasonal fee is \$10.00 per player and covers the registration and insurance of players with [Eastern New York State Soccer Association](#).

5. **Question:** What days, locations and times will my team be playing this season?

Answer: We can give general answers to these questions i.e. the older (U13 and above) will play in the larger gyms **or** the younger age groups usually start first in the day.

Since, we try to follow the same format as the previous year; it may be helpful to look at last year's schedule (but that is not a guarantee either). We will make an attempt to provide days and locations as soon as we have all the gym requests approved by the school districts.

Makeups due to school cancellations or other re- schedules (request submitted) may very possibly on an opposite day you are not scheduled to play – due to school availability and it is very difficult to schedule a make-up on the same day as your typical playing day due to both team having to “double up” (play two games in one day) – so please be prepared for that possibility

6. **Question:** Can a team play their game without submitting a roster or can a player play without being on the roster and registered (waiver signed and paid)?

Answer: [Long Island Futsal](#) must stay in compliance regarding registered teams and players being verified prior to each game. If a team does not have a printed roster to submit to the referee prior to the game, the team must then complete and submit a hand copy. A report will be made by the referee and submitted to the League for review. Teams that do not have a roster will have one point deducted from the standings. Passes are NOT required.

7. **Question:** Do teams have to pay the referees fees?

Answer: **NO**, the referees are paid by the Long Island Futsal League.

8. **Question:** What is the deadline for submitting requests and/or conflict dates?

Answer: The deadline for submitting requests is December 8, 2019 – the request **must be made using the on-line registration form – NOT by email or phone**

9. **Question:** Are there games scheduled on Super Bowl and Winter Recess weekends?

Answer: **Yes** to both questions – although we will finish the games on Super Bowl Day by 4 pm – and games that would normally be played 4 pm or later, will be made up during the regular schedule.

10. **Question:** Are coaches required to have a background check?

Answer: **Yes, all coaches are required to have a current background check on file with ENYSSA.**

11. **Question:** What about weather cancellations?

Answer: Games may be cancelled due to the weather and/or if the school district closes the school district for any reason. Please check the website and your email in the event of questionable weather. We will also call those teams that are scheduled to play the early morning games. Makeups for cancelled games will be scheduled based on school availability – most likely we will have to extend the season a week.

12. **Question:** What are the rule differences between outdoor soccer and futsal and what are the **Long Island Futsal** specific rules?

Answer: - *see below:*

Differences between USSF/FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game and Long Island Futsal League

FIFA / USSF	Long Island Futsal League
Pitch is marked with 2 penalty marks (1 st and 2 nd)	Only the penalty mark is used (no 2 nd mark)
On all kick restarts (not including Kick off), opponents must be a minimum of 5 yards away from the ball	Opponents must be 3 or 5 yards away from restart point, dependent upon the size of the field. (Smaller fields - 3 / larger fields - 5)
Each half is 20 minutes long and the clock stops when the ball is out of play. Halftime is not to exceed 15 minutes.	Each half is 25 minutes, running clock. Halftime is not to exceed 2 minutes. – Games must start on time
Each team is permitted 1 time-out a half	There are no time outs permitted
Coin toss determines who kicks off and side of pitch defended. Teams Change benches at half time	Home team kicks off, teams defend side of pitch their bench is on. Teams do not change benches at half time
Slide tackling is legal, as long as not performed in a careless or reckless manner.	No slide tackling permitted. Indirect free kick awarded if performed with no opponents within playing distance – Direct free kick / Penalty kick awarded when performed around opponents or within a player's own penalty area – NO SLIDING
An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if after releasing the ball from his possession, the goalkeeper receives it back from a team- mate without the ball first having been touched by an opponent	This only applies to U-13 and above. The U12 and younger age can pass back to the keeper (keeper must use feet) with no restrictions
On the taking of a penalty kick all players other than the kicker and goalkeeper must be behind the ball. After 5 th and subsequent Direct Accumulated Foul in the half, opponent is awarded a penalty kick	On the taking of a penalty kick all players other than the kicker and goalkeeper must be behind the halfway line. Accumulated foul rule is the same
A team who has a player sent off must play with one fewer player for 2 minutes or until the offended team scores	A team who has a player sent off must play with one fewer player for 3 minutes or until the offended team scores

Additional Points of Emphasis for Long Island Futsal

The Home Team is responsible for providing the futsal ball for the match – if the Home team does not have a futsal ball, one can be borrowed from the visiting team or the league if available. If no futsal ball is available, then the game cannot be played and will not be made up – it will be recorded as NG (no game).

ALL TEAMS MUST PRESENT THE OFFICIAL US YOUTH FUTSAL ROSTER (Detail Report), BEFORE EACH MATCH - NO OTHER FORMAT IS ACCEPTABLE IF TEAM CANNOT PRESENT AN OFFICIAL ROSTER, a hand written copy must be completed and submitted by the team and provided to the referee.

A report will be made by the referee and submitted to the League for review. The team will have one point deducted from the standings.

A team must have a certified supervisor. If no supervisor is present, the match cannot start or continue (if supervisor has been dismissed) Sports Googles may be worn if tied around the head and made of plastic. No “everyday” glasses permitted.

A team has a 5 minute grace period from the scheduled game start time in order to field meet all requirements, otherwise that team forfeits.

After gaining possession of the ball with his/her hands, a goalkeeper may not throw the ball over the halfway line without it first touching the floor or a player. He/She may not punt or drop kick the ball after making a save (restart at midfield)

NO HAND CHECKING OR SHIELDING WITH THE ELBOW – this will be called a “push” – indirect foul Players who receive a yellow card must serve a 5 minute penalty in which they may not play

Goalkeepers may dive forward on their knees but may not extend their feet **The GK is allowed to slide with hands first in an attempt to clear or save the ball, if in referees' judgment, his slide is an attempt only to make contact with the ball and not the opponent**

If GK slide is reckless (a foot in air, a hook, rolling tackle) it is a foul and possibly a cardable offense.

RED Cards – player is ineligible for a minimum of one week or next scheduled game, whichever is greater. If the player who receives a red card is on another roster, he/she is also ineligible to play on that team (s); includes the same day if player received a red card is scheduled to play on another team on the same day. **The player still must sit out one full game before being eligible to play in a future match – at the League's discretion, the player can be given credit (time served) for a full game that the player sat out from the previous week. Players receiving a red card can sit on the team bench, if in the referee's opinion he or she is not a negative influence on the game from then on. If the red carded player continues to be disruptive, the referee will ask the player to leave the gym (must be under the supervision of an adult team representative.)**

Coaches receiving a red card, must leave the gymnasium before the match can continue.

Please take the time to read all the rules and additional points of emphasis posted on the website.

Thank you

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any other questions or suggestions – Thank you

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