

## Match Rules

### Teams:

U6-U7 plays in a 4-a-side format on a modified-sized field. This is inclusive of 4 outfield players and no goalkeeper.

U8+ plays in a 5-a-side format which is inclusive of four (4) outfield players and one (1) goalkeeper.

We operate a flexible squad system. Teams may use as many players as they wish during the season, however only 8 players may be used on any one match.

All Players must wear shin pads. The wearing of any form of jewellery is not permitted during play. Referees will refuse to allow players to play without shin pads.

All team members must wear the same 'primary coloured' shirts (no shirt numbers required) except for the goalkeeper. Players cannot wear long trousers or tracksuit bottoms except for goalkeepers.

**Age group:** The age group for a player is based on the oldest age they will be at in point in time in 2015. e.g. A player whom turns 8 in 2015 is only eligible for Under 8 or older. They are not eligible for Under 7.

**Substitutions:** Unlimited substitutions can be made during the game. Outgoing substitutes must leave the field of play before the replacement enters the playing area. Substitutes must stand outside the pitch perimeter and spectators must not enter the field of play under any circumstances.

Teams may change their goalkeeper but only if the ball is 'dead' and the referee has authorised the change of goalkeeper.

**Kick-ins:** A sideline kick-in will be awarded when the whole ball has crossed the sideline. The kick will be taken by a player of the opposing team to that which last touched the ball. The kick-in must be taken within 5 seconds of placing the ball on the line. The player must approach the ball from outside the field of play when taking the kick.

Opposing players must be 3 metres away from kick-in.  
If the player doesn't comply with these procedures, the referee will award a sideline kick-in to the opposing team.

Corners are awarded for U8s and older. The ball must be placed on the corner where the side-line and end-line meet. The match result will not take into consideration the corner count in normal competition conditions.

*There are no corners in U6 and U7 matches.* When the ball crosses the end line, a goal kick to the defending team is awarded. The opposition must retreat to halfway and can only advance as soon as the goal kick has been taken. U6 and U7 players have the choice to either pass or dribble from a goal kick or sideline kick-in.

**Restart after a goal:** The goal conceding team plays a kick-off from half way, just like a normal game. The ball must be played forward before going back into the defensive half. The kick-off can only commence after the referee has indicated so.

**Goalkeeper:** All players can enter the goal area (semi-circle in front of goal), however only the goalkeeper can handle the ball in this area.  
The traditional Futsal pass-back rule is not enforced in our matches. Goalkeepers are able to pass to a teammate and receive the ball back immediately afterwards without being penalised. If a goalkeeper picks the ball up from an intentional back-pass, an indirect freekick will be awarded from the spot the goalkeeper handles the ball.

The goalkeeper cannot perform dropkicks.

For goal kicks (game restarts), the goalkeeper starts with the ball in their hand. They can move anywhere inside the goal area with the ball in their hand. As soon as the ball touches the ground or is thrown, the ball is in play – this is inclusive of dropping the ball to line up a kick.

Goalkeepers can throw the ball over the halfway line at any time.

A goalkeeper cannot score via a throw.

The goalkeeper must be on the goal line when a penalty is being taken.

**Goal scoring:** A goal may be scored from any point within the field of play. However, a goal cannot be scored directly from a kick-in (or indirect free kick). A goal may not be scored *directly* from the kick-off.

**Slide tackles:** No slide tackles are allowed. Infringement of this rule will lead to a free kick being awarded against the offending players team.

**Restarts:** All restarts must be made within 5 seconds.

**Fouls/Discipline system:** The Referees decision on all on-field matters is final and no discussions will be entered into either on or off the field with him/her about any decision. The Referees jurisdiction on disciplinary matters will apply until the game is finished and players have left the field of play. Players repeatedly disputing decisions may have further disciplinary action taken against them.

Professional fouls will be penalized with a penalty and the guilty player may face disciplinary action.

Foul or abusive language will not be tolerated and any offending player will be cautioned.

Five fouls per half rule

For every foul after the fifth foul in one half of the game, the team that the free kick is awarded to is given a 10-metre penalty. All players except the goalkeeper must remain behind the line of the ball before it is kicked. (For U12+ only).

**Free kicks:** All free kicks will be direct unless advised otherwise by the referee. Opposition players must be at least five meters from where any freekick is taken. The referee will mark the distance for the opposing players. If the referee is marking out the distance for the defensive wall, the team who is awarded the freekick is not permitted to take it quickly. They must wait for the referees call.

**The Game rules** are not exhaustive and may be added to or amended at any time.

**Complaints:** Teams with a valid complaint against a match official must be put in writing within 48 hours of the match finishing. The complaint must be emailed to [admin@lindfieldsportscentre.com.au](mailto:admin@lindfieldsportscentre.com.au). Complaints by phone or in person will not be recorded.