**Futsal Rules**

**Villanova Intramurals**

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| Sport Type: | Season + Playoffs |  |
| Cost: | $40 per team |  |
| Location(s): | St. Mary’s |  |

**GAME TIME IS FORFEIT TIME!**

**All decisions on forfeit times are at the sole discretion of the on-site Intramural supervisor.**

**Rules**

**Eligibility**

* Current Villanova men’s and women’s soccer players are ineligible to play in the same academic year.
* No more than two (2) club players per intramural team.

**Teams**

* Play will be 5-on-5 (four field players and a goalkeeper)
* A team must have four players to begin play, anything less is a forfeit.

**The Game/Timing**

* **There is no offsides in Futsal.**
* Boundary lines will be the basketball court (updated spring 2023).
* Kickoff is indirect and must start with a participant-to-participant pass.
* Two (2) seventeen-minute halves.
* Possession will be determined by a coin toss at the captain’s meeting.
* The clock will be a running clock and will only be stopped for an injury. Clock will stop in the last minute of the game for dead ball situations and goals.
* NO TIMEOUTS in Futsal.
* Halftime will not exceed three (3) minutes.

**Mercy Rule**

* Will be called at the official’s discretion.
* If a team is ahead by ten (10) or more goals at any time in the second half.
* If a team is ahead by seven (7) or more goals with 5 minutes remaining in the second half.
* If a team is ahead by five (5) or more goals with 2 minutes remaining in the second half.

**Substitutions**

* All subs must check in at the scores table.
* Substitutions are allowed on stoppage of play (goals or any dead ball situations).
* Subs must stay against the wall behind the score table and may not interfere with play.

**Goal/Goalkeeper/Goal Box**

* Goal clearances: The ball is thrown in by the goalie anywhere inside the penalty area and is presumed live once it leaves his hands. Opponents must be outside the penalty area during a goal clearance.
* The goalkeeper shall not punt or drop kick but may either throw or roll the ball to release their possession of it. If thrown in the air, the ball must come in contact with an object (floor, wall, or body) before going over half court. If the ball does not come in contact with an object, then the other team receives a direct kick at half court.
* The goalie is not allowed to play the ball with his or her hands if it is played back to him/her by a teammate. A free kick will be awarded if broken.
* Goalies may leave the penalty box, but once outside cannot use their hands in any way.
* Results in a handball and possession to the other team.
* Goalies can slide to save a ball as long as they are not sliding toward any players.
* Once in possession of the ball, goalies have six (6) seconds to put the ball into play.
* A free kick is awarded to the opposing team at the nearest point at the edge of the penalty area if the play is not played within six (6) seconds.
* Goal boxes will be designated with tape. If there is no taped box, the basketball paint will be used.

**Boundaries**

* If any ball leaves the field of play, or hits the roof, the rafters, the ceiling, any part of the basket, and/or the lights it will result in a dead ball and the opposing team will get a kick-in where the ball went out of bounds.
* Kick-ins are indirect and must be taken within six (6) seconds of the ball being placed on the line. Kick-ins take the place of throw-ins.
* If the ball is deflected by the keeper and deflects into any part of the basket above their goal, the ball will be played as a corner.
* Corner kicks are direct and must be taken within six (6) seconds of the ball being placed on the corner.

**Penalties/Fouls**

* There will be no offsides.
* All dead ball penalties will be direct kicks. There will be no indirect kicks in the league.
* A player shall not intentionally charge, tip, push or slide tackle an opponent. Such actions will result in a foul called by the official.
* **NO SLIDE TACKLING! Slide tackles will result in a yellow card (see “cautionable offenses”).**
  + A player is allowed to slide to save a ball from going out of bounds.
  + Slides will be left to the referee’s discretion whether or not an attempt to save the ball is a potentially dangerous play or not. If so, a foul will be called, and a free kick will be awarded to the opposing team.
  + A goalie may slide to save a ball if they are in their designated penalty area. If the goalie leaves the penalty area and slides, they will be treated as a field player and a foul will be called.
* Obstructions are not permitted and will be called a foul by the official.
  + An obstruction is the intentional act by a player, not in possession of the ball or not attempting to play the ball, of running between an opponent and the ball or using the body as an obstacle.
* Dangerous plays and handballs will be called fouls and will result in direct kicks.

**Penalties Inside the Goalie Box**

* Penalties committed inside the goalie box will result in a penalty kick, to be determined by the official.
* Penalty kicks will be taken from a mark designated on the court by tape. If there is no mark, the referee will measure twelve steps from the goal line and mark the spot of the penalty.
* Goalkeeper violations inside the box will also result in penalty kicks for the opposing team.
  + The only exception to this rule is when a player kicks the ball to the goalie and the goalie picks up the ball illegally. This will result in a direct kick from the closest point outside the penalty box.

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| **Cautionable Offenses (yellow cards)**  A player is cautioned and shown the yellow card if he/she commits any of the following seven offenses: | **Sending-off Offenses (red cards)**  A player, substitute or substituted player is sent off if he/she commits any of the following seven offenses: |
| * Unsporting behavior. * Dissent by word or action. * Persistent infringement of the Laws of the Game. * Delaying/interfering with the restart of play. * Failure to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a direct kick (5 yards).   + Each team will receive a team warning for the first-time yards are blatantly ignored (within 2 yards prior to warning), after that the offending player will receive a yellow card for each additional violation. * Entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee’s permission. * Deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee’s permission. * Slide tackling   **A substitute or substituted player will also be cautioned if he commits any of the following offenses:**   * Unsporting behavior * Dissent by word or action * Delaying/interfering with the restart of play | * Serious foul play. * Violent conduct. * Spitting at an opponent or any other person. * Denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (does not apply to a goalkeeper within his own penalty area). * Denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player’s goal by an offense punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick. * Using offensive, insulting, or abusive language and/or gesture towards a player or staff. * Receiving a second caution (yellow card) in the same match.   **The team will have to play down a person for the remainder of the game.** |

**A player, substitute or substituted player who has been sent off must leave the vicinity of the field. If any player is sent off during the course of a match, that team will receive a sportsmanship rating of 2 or lower automatically.**

During playoffs, a red card could result in the individual or team expulsion from playoffs and is at the discretion of the Intramural Office.

**Drop Balls**

* A drop ball will be called when play is stopped due to an inadvertent whistle, when it is not clear who the ball last touched before going out of bounds, or if play is stopped by an outside agent.

**Overtime Rules**

* There is no overtime in the regular season. All games will end in a tie.
* During the playoffs, there will be a 5-minute, sudden death, overtime period. Possession will be determined by another coin toss at the beginning of the period.
* If play is still tied by the end of the 5-minute period, the match will go to a best of 5 penalty shootout. Only players who are on the field at the end of the overtime period are eligible to partake in the shootout. A coin toss is used to determine which team will kick first.
* If the shootout is tied after a best of 5 round, then the shootout will move to a sudden death round.

**Other**

* Please remain outside the gym until the previous game is finished.

**All-Gender Futsal Rules**

There is no All-Gender league for Futsal.