

# FUTSAL CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIP

## COMPETITION RULES

### 1. PREAMBLE

- a. The Competition is an official event of the Canadian Soccer Association (Canada Soccer).
- b. The format of the tournament shall be determined in advance by Canada Soccer.
- c. A team participating in the Competition shall have only such rights in relation to the Competition (and any match in the Competition) as are expressly granted to the team under the Competition Rules or by Canada Soccer in writing.
- d. Canada Soccer Competitions Committee shall have power to make, delete and amend regulations for the organization control and management of the Competition as it, from time to time, deems expedient subject only to the authority of Canada Soccer Board where such matters relate to financial or commercial matters.
- e. All Participants participating in any way in the Competition shall be bound by and comply with the Competition Rules (and any rules or regulations issued pursuant to the Competition Rules).

### 2. ENTRIES

- a. Participation in the Competition shall be open to one (1) representative team of each Association in Membership each playing season. Each Association in Membership will determine how the team will qualify for the Competition. Teams must meet the eligibility criteria outlined in these rules to be admissible to the Competition.
- b. Canada Soccer Competitions Committee may reject the participation of any team at its entire discretion where the team fails to meet the criteria.
- c. If any team who has qualified for the Competition, or at any time during the course of the Competition becomes subject to any of the following insolvency events:

- i. A manager, receiver or administrative receiver appointed in respect of that team or Club or
- ii. Any part of its undertaking or assets
- iii. An administration order made in respect of that Club
- iv. A winding up order made in respect of that Club
- v. Entering into any arrangement with its creditors or some part of them in respect of the payment of its debts or part of

...the Club must notify Canada Soccer immediately in writing. Canada Soccer will, at its absolute discretion, decide whether to allow that team to continue to compete in the Competition.

### 3. ORGANIZATION OF THE COMPETITION

- a. The Competition shall be played to determine annually the Futsal Canadian champions who will represent Canada Soccer in the subsequent Confederation Club Futsal Championship where this competition is organised by CONCACAF.
- b. The matches in the Competition shall be played according to the schedule determined by Canada Soccer Competitions Committee prior to the commencement of the Competition.
- c. Where the competition (or part thereof) is organised on a round-robin basis all games shall be played to regulation time only. Points will be awarded as follows: three (3) points for a win, one (1) point for a draw, zero (0) points for a loss.
- d. FOR 2015. If the procedure outlined in 3 above does not produce a result, i.e. if both teams have the same number of points, the following tie breaker rules will apply to determine the winner:
  - i. The Team with the greater number of goals scored over both games
  - ii. If goals scored are equal over both games at the end of regulation time in the second game kicks from the penalty mark will be taken in accordance with the FUTSAL Laws of the Game to determine the winner.
- e. Team representatives will be required to attend a Pre-Competition Meeting. Details of said meeting will be provided to each team no later than one week prior to the date the Competition is due to commence.
- f. Both teams are to arrive at the match venue no later than 90 minutes prior to kick-off.

#### 4. WITHDRAWALS

- a. Teams having entered the Competition are obligated to play all their matches. After entering the Competition, a team that fails to participate shall be penalized as specified below, except in unforeseen circumstances and cases of force majeure as determined by Canada Soccer.
- b. If a withdrawal takes place:
  - i. After entering the Competition but on, or before, the day of the first match of the Competition a fine of \$2,500 is to be paid
  - ii. Anytime during the Competition a fine of \$5,000 is to be paid
- c. If a team does not report for a match – except in cases of force majeure recognized by Canada Soccer Competitions Committee – or refuses to continue to play, or leaves the playing venue before the end of the match, the team shall be considered as having lost and will be disqualified from the Futsal Canadian Championship Competition. The guilty team shall not be eligible to participate in the next two Futsal Canadian Championship Competitions.
- d. Depending on circumstances and the decision of Canada Soccer Competitions Committee, a team which withdraws at any stage of the Competition may be ordered to reimburse the Canada Soccer and the Local Organising Host Committee any expenses they have already incurred as a result of their proposed involvement or non-involvement in the Competition and also pay compensation for any damages or losses arising from its withdrawal.
- e. Penalties specified in paragraph 4 above will not be applied in cases of force majeure, as verified by Canada Soccer Competitions Committee.
- f. Canada Soccer, as the governing body for soccer in Canada, shall be responsible for ensuring that specified sanctions are carried out and complied with.

#### 5. CANADA SOCCER COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE

- a. Canada Soccer Competitions Committee, is responsible for the organization of the Futsal Canadian Championship Competition.
- b. Canada Soccer Competitions Committee shall, amongst other matters, be responsible for:
  - i. Appointing a Local Organising Host Committee (LOC)

- ii. Overseeing general preparations, deciding on the competition format, any draws and forming groups that may be required
  - iii. Approving Venues for the matches
  - iv. Approving the dates, venues, and determining kick-off times (in conjunction with the LOC)
  - v. Where a match is abandoned determining if, when, and where, the game will be replayed
  - vi. Verifying that the requirements concerning the eligibility of players are met
  - vii. Appointing the Canada Soccer Representative, Supervisor of, and Match Officials
  - viii. Dealing with breaches of the doping regulations
  - ix. Approving the official ball and the stipulated technical material
  - x. Reporting cases in relation to disciplinary action to Canada Soccer Disciplinary Committee
  - xi. Judging protest and taking appropriate steps to verify their admissibility
  - xii. Settling cases of force majeure
  - xiii. Dealing with any other aspect of the Futsal Canadian Championship Competitions that is not the responsibility of any other body under the terms of these Competition Rules
- c. Canada Soccer Competitions Committee's decisions shall be final and not subject to appeal.

## 6. CANADA SOCCER DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

- a. In cases of infringement of these Competition Rules, misconduct, or unsporting behaviour on the part of the participating teams, their players, officers and directors, or in any kind of incident, Canada Soccer's Disciplinary Committee shall be empowered to:
- i. Admonish, sanction, fine, suspend or disqualify players, match officials, teams, team officials or coaches
  - ii. Take action in accordance with FIFA's Disciplinary Code against any person or Team(s) which may violate the Competition Rules, the FUTSAL Laws of the Game or the rules of Fair Play
  - iii. Prohibit violators from participating in a specific number of Canada Soccer organized competitions in which they might otherwise have participated
- b. Breach of Competition Rules, misconduct, or unsporting behaviour on the part of participating teams or their officials, shall be reported by Canada Soccer Organising Committee to the Disciplinary

Committee for application of such sanctions as it may deem appropriate.

- c. When taking a decision, the Disciplinary Committee shall refer to the reports made by the Match Officials, Canada Soccer Representative and Supervisor of Officials. It may also refer to reports from the technical delegate, security officer and other Canada Soccer officials present, television and video recordings. The latter may be used as evidence but only as far as the disciplinary aspects of the case being dealt with are concerned, and shall not affect a referee's decision regarding facts connected with play.
- d. The Disciplinary Committee may convene a personal hearing and will decide the procedure to be followed.
- e. The following decisions of the Disciplinary Committee, made in relation to the Futsal Canadian Championship Competitions, shall not be subject to appeal:
  - i. Cautions and censures imposed on players, match officials, delegation officials, or other persons
  - ii. Suspensions of up to two matches or of up to two months imposed on players, match officials, delegation officials or other persons
  - iii. Fines imposed on players, delegations, match officials, delegation officials or other persons (not exceeding \$5,000) or on Teams (not exceeding \$10,000)

...Appeals against any other decisions taken by the Disciplinary Committee may be lodged with the Appeal Committee.

- f. If a team does not report for a match, except in cases of force majeure, recognized by Canada Soccer Organising Committee, or if it refuses to continue to play, or leaves the playing venue before the end of the match, the team shall be considered to have lost the match.
- g. If a game is abandoned due to withdrawal, the team(s) refusing to complete the match shall be ineligible to participate in the next two Futsal Canadian Championship Competitions.
- h. Any other infringement of these Competition Rules, whether by players, match officials, team officials, coaches or officers that are punishable by economic sanctions shall be reported to the General Secretary of Canada Soccer.

## 7. APPEALS COMMITTEE

- a. An Appeals Committee shall hear appeals lodged against decisions passed by the Disciplinary Committee.
- b. The procedure to be applied by Canada Soccer Appeals Committee is defined in the FIFA Disciplinary Code.
- c. Canada Soccer Appeals Committee shall reach its decisions on the basis of the documents and other means of evidence contained in the Disciplinary Committee's file. However, the Appeals Committee may, if necessary, resort to further evidence (including television and video recordings, etc.), which it considers relevant.
- d. Decisions pronounced by the CSA Appeals Committee are final.

## 8. PROTESTS

- a. Protests, subject to the following provisions, are objections of any kind connected with matches of the Futsal Canadian Championship Competitions.
- b. Protests shall be submitted in writing to the appointed Canada Soccer Representative at the match not later than two (2) hours after the game and followed up immediately with a full written report, including the original protest, to be sent to the Canada Soccer for the attention of the Office of the General Secretary by fax.
- c. Protests for reasons outlined in paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 below must be accompanied by a cheque in the amount of \$500 payable to the Canada Soccer.
- d. Protests against the eligibility of players chosen to take part in the match shall be submitted in writing to the appointed Canada Soccer Representative not later than two (2) hours after the match in question.
- e. Subject to the conditions of paragraph 7 below, protests against any incidents that occur during a match shall be made in writing to the appointed Canada Soccer Representative at the match not later than two (2) hours after the match in question.
- f. Protests against the state of the pitch, the markings, floodlights, the ancillary equipment (goals, etc.) or the match balls shall be made in writing to the Referee before the start of the match by the Official

responsible for the team lodging the protest and followed up in writing to the appointed Canada Soccer Representative not later than two (2) hours after the match in question.

- g. No protests may be made against the Referee's decisions on points of fact connected with play, such decisions being final.
- h. Teams may not bring disputes with Canada Soccer before a Court of Justice and they shall undertake to submit any such disputes, without reservation, to the jurisdiction of the competent authority of the Canada Soccer, CONCACAF and FIFA.
- i. If an unfounded or irresponsible protest is lodged, a fine may be imposed.
- j. The expenses, which arise from a protest, shall be charged by Canada Soccer, either wholly or in part, to the losing party.
- k. Once the winning team has been proclaimed, any protest or complaint about the sports procedure followed during the Futsal Canadian Championship Competitions shall be disregarded.

#### 9. MATCHES PLAYED ACCORDING TO THE LAWS OF THE GAME

- a. All matches will be played under the FUTSAL Laws of the Game as approved by the International Football Association Board and published by FIFA.
- b. In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the FUTSAL Laws of the Game, the English text shall be authoritative.
- c. A maximum of thirteen (13) persons shall be allowed on the team bench: nine (9) substitutes and four (4) team officials. The names of the team officials and their functions must be indicated on the form provided prior to the match.

#### 10. DURATION OF THE GAME

- a. Each match shall comprise of two periods of twenty (20) minutes with an interval of fifteen (15) minutes in between. Time shall be kept by the Timekeeper who will be positioned at the timekeepers table situated at the half way line.
- b. The teams are entitled to one (1) one-minute time-out in each period.

- c. No extra time will be played if a game ends in a tie at the end of regulation time. NOTE: for 2015 extra time will be played at the end of the second game if the aggregate score over both games is tied.
- d. The venue must have a scoreboard showing the remaining time in the period, score, foul count, and period during the match. The timekeeper, positioned at the timekeeper's table, is responsible for this function and ensures that the clock is stopped and started in accordance with the development of play.

## 11. FIELD OF PLAY, STADIA, BALLS

- a. The Local Organising/Host Committee for the Futsal Canadian Championship Competition shall ensure that the venue and its facilities in which the matches are to take place fulfill FIFA requirements and comply with the standards of safety and security required for hosting matches. The fields of play and the ancillary equipment shall comply with the provisions stipulated in the FUTSAL Laws of the Game. The fields and the facilities shall be in optimum condition.
- b. The Local Organising/Host Committee for the Futsal Canadian Championship Competition shall guarantee that the field of play complies with the FUTSAL Laws of the Game. This shall be subject to the approval of the appointed Canada Soccer representative and the match Referees.
- c. The match balls for the Futsal Canadian Championship Competition shall be supplied by the Local Organising/Host Committee for the Futsal Canadian Championship Competition. All balls that may be used are to be provided to the Referee one (1) hour before kick-off for inspection.
- d. An electronic scoreboard must be provided by the Local Organising/Host Committee for the Futsal Canadian Championship Competition in the venue to display remaining time in the period, score, foul count and period. This scoreboard must be able to be controlled by the Timekeeper situated at the halfway line on the field of play.

## 12. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS, LIST OF PLAYERS

- a. Teams will be required to field their eligible roster players to compete in the Futsal Canadian Championship Competition



- b. Players must be properly registered with an Association in Membership, and eligible to play in any Futsal league match for the current playing season. No team shall register players after qualifying for the Futsal Canadian Championship Competition. FOR 2015 Players must have been registered with the participating team for the 2014/15 FUTSAL (indoor) season to be eligible for the 2015 FUTSAL National Championship Competition
- c. Teams must submit their roster of players and staff to the Canada Soccer no later than seven (7) days prior to the opening match in the Competition.
- d. No reinforcement players may be registered or called up.
- e. Players must be in possession of their Provincial/Territorial approved photo ID-card otherwise, they will not be permitted to play. At the Pre-Competition Meeting the identification documentation for all players listed on the player roster, specified in paragraph 3 above, is to be checked for verification by the appointed Canada Soccer representative.
- f. Once having appeared in the Association in Membership's Futsal Canadian Championship Qualifying Competition for a team, a player may not appear for any other team for the duration of that qualification or final competition.
- g. After arrival in the playing venue, and not later than sixty-five (65) minutes before the scheduled kick-off time, each team shall submit, to the appointed Canada Soccer representative, the final roster of fourteen (14) players for the match, from their list specified in paragraph 3 above.
- h. Any team found guilty of fielding an ineligible player shall forfeit the match.

### 13. DOPING CONTROL

- a. Doping is defined as the use of certain substances or methods capable of artificially enhancing the physical and/or mental condition of a player, with a view to improving his athletic and mental performance. It is prohibited.
- b. Canada Soccer is empowered to arrange doping tests and to decide at which laboratories and who shall carry out the analysis. Every player in a team will be liable to undergo doping tests.

- c. Canada Soccer reserves the right to arrange random doping tests at all the matches in the Futsal Canadian Championship Competition.
- d. Any player or team that refuses to take a doping test, or falsifies the result of a test, or attempts to do so, or is found guilty of having taken prohibited substances whether intentionally or not, will be referred to Canada Soccer.
- e. Any official who encourages or incites a player, either intentionally or through negligence, to commit such an infringement as stated in paragraph 4 above, will be referred to Canada Soccer.
- f. Reference is made to the FIFA Doping Control Regulations, which contain the list of prohibited substances and methods.
- g. If, in accordance with the FIFA Doping Guidelines, a player is tested positive for using banned substances, he shall be immediately declared ineligible from further participation in the Competition and shall be referred to the CSA Board of Directors for further consideration.

#### 14. EQUIPMENT

- a. A Club's equipment must comply with the FIFA Equipment Regulations and the FUTSAL Laws of the Game with the following modifications:
  - i. Uniform Colors – Clubs must communicate their preferred and alternate uniform colors (one light and one dark) to Canada Soccer no later than the date to be determined by Canada Soccer Organising Committee and notified to the participating teams. The appointed Canada Soccer representative and Supervisor of Officials will assign the team colours. Teams shall have a least two (2) different and distinct sets of uniforms and will present them at the pre-competition meeting. Goalkeepers are to have 2 uniforms that distinguish them from the other players and the match officials.
  - ii. Shirts **MUST** be numbered and the corresponding number used for identification on the team sheet
  - iii. Player Names – Players may be identified by means of their surname, or an abbreviation, or nickname on their shirts. The player's name shall correspond with the name on the players' list.
  - iv. Sponsor Advertising – Teams may wear the uniform they wear in their current league competitions providing that it is

not is conflict with Canada Soccer or the Futsal Canadian Championship Competition title sponsors. However, the advertising of tobacco or distilled spirits, as well as slogans of a political, religious, or racist nature, or for other causes that offend common decency, is prohibited.

## 15. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

- a. The Referees and Assistant Referees shall be selected from the list of Canada Soccer approved FUTSAL match officials
- b. Canada Soccer's Supervisor of Officials shall appoint the Referees and Assistant Referees for all matches.
- c. Canada Soccer's decision on the appointment of match officials shall be final and not subject to appeal.
- d. After each match, the Referee shall complete the designated official Canada Soccer report forms and hand them to the appointed Canada Soccer Representative on site.
- e. The fees and expenses of all match officials appointed by Canada Soccer to officiate in the Futsal Canadian Championship Competition are paid by the Local Organising Host Committee.
- f. Economy class airfares for the match officials will be payable by Canada Soccer. An allowance of \$0.40 per mile will be allowed to all match officials officiating who travel to and from the venue by private car. Hotel Accommodation will be organised and paid for by the Local Organising Host Committee. Per diems at the existing Canada Soccer rate, on the date of expense, will be paid by Canada Soccer. Claims are to be submitted by the match officials direct to Canada Soccer on completion of the competition

*Scale of Fees to be paid to Match Officials  
To be paid the equivalent of the fee payable for the qualifying Competition in the  
Host Province*

## 16. TECHNICAL RULES

- a. All matches shall be organized by Canada Soccer according to the Competition Rules provided herein.
- b. Disciplinary Process:
  - i. Where a player accumulates two (2) cautions (yellow cards) during the Futsal Canadian Championship Competition he

will be automatically suspended from the teams' next game in this Competition. A fine of \$25 will also be levied against that player. This is not subject to appeal.

- ii. Where a player is sent from the field of play (red card) the player will automatically be suspended from the Teams' next game in the Futsal Canadian Championship Competition. A fine of \$100 will also be levied against that player. This is not subject to appeal. If the dismissal is for violent conduct or serious foul play the case will automatically be reviewed by Canada Soccer Disciplinary Committee under Article VI paragraph 3 and 4 of these Competition Rules and a further sanction, fine and/or suspension may be imposed. Any suspension imposed that has not been completed during the Futsal Canadian Championship Competition will be subject to review by Canada Soccer Disciplinary Committee for a decision.