

STATE SCHOOL FUTSAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

HOSTED BY FOOTBALL FEDERATION VICTORIA & VICTORIA FUTSAL

1. Introduction

The rules, regulations and conditions that govern participation in the State School Futsal Championships are outlined in this document (Competition Regulations).

All rules contained herein are based on the current [2012/2013 FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game](#).

These Competition Regulations may only be varied by Football Federation Victoria (FFV) or Victoria Futsal (VF)

2. Age Categories

Age categories will only vary from those below at the sole discretion of the FFV/VF and are subject to a minimum of four teams per age group being entered by schools.

Male

Primary Boys
Junior Boys
Intermediate Boys
Senior Boys

Female

Primary Girls
Junior Girls
Intermediate Girls
Senior Girls

3. Eligibility

Players must:

- (a) Meet the age requirements for their particular age category.
- (b) Play in the gender specific category.
- (c) Agree to be bound by the FFV Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Regulations.

4. Age Requirements

Age Category	Criteria
Senior (19 and Under)	Not born prior to 31 December 1994
Intermediate (16 and Under)	Not born prior to 31 December 1997
Junior (14 and Under)	Not born prior to 31 December 1999
Primary (12 and Under)	Not born prior to 31 December 2001

A participant's age is determined by their age as at 31 December. Players may not be any older than the age category in which they are participating.

Therefore, a player wanting to participate in the Intermediate (16 and Under) age category may not be any older than 16 at 31 December 2013. The player may be younger than this.

5. Team Entries

Schools may enter more than one team per category.

Entries close two weeks prior the start of each competition date or when age groups are full.

6. Withdrawal and refunds

Any changes to entry details or team withdrawals must be made in writing to Football Federation Victoria. In the event of a team withdrawing a team from the Championships, FFV will utilise the following policy regarding team entry fees withdrawal fees.

Notice prior to tournament start	Withdrawal fee
More than 4 weeks	No fee
2 - 4 weeks	50% of entry fee
Less than two weeks	100% of entry fee

7. Player Nominations

The nomination of players to comprise each team is to be provided to FFV/FV on the Player Nomination Form (online), completed in full, no later than 4 days prior to the commencement of the competition. Only players on this nomination form can play on the day. Any changes must be made on with the tournament convenor (FFV/VF) on the competition day. A link to the Player Nomination Form will be provided upon confirmation of entry.

8. Insurance cover

FFV has \$20 million **Public Liability** insurance to cover its legal liabilities.

It is the responsibility of the school to ensure that their students have **Personal Injury** insurance cover.

9. Competition Draw Format

The draw format as specified below is designed to provide sufficient games and to ensure player enjoyment.

Elimination matches are included in the 'maximum' number of games. Teams not qualifying for elimination matches will play only the 'minimum' number of games.

NO TEAMS	DRAW FORMAT	MIN GAMES	MAX GAMES
3 or less	Age group not viable and to be amalgamated with the most suitable adjacent age category or scrapped.		
4 Teams	Play each other team once. Top two advance to Final.	3	4
5 Teams	Play each other team once. Top two advance to Final.	4	5
6 Teams	Play each other team once. Top two advance to Final.	5	6
7 Teams	Play each other team once. Top two advance to Final.	6	7
8 Teams	Teams split into two groups. Each team plays the other in their group once. Top two from each group advance to Semi Finals.	3	5
9 Teams	Teams split into two groups. Each team plays the other in their group once. Top two from each group advance to Semi Finals. One group will have a bye.	3	5+
10 + Teams	Teams split into two or more groups. Each team plays the other in their group once. Top team from each group advance to Semi Finals.	3	5+

10. Fixtures

Will be emailed to schools one week prior to the competition

11. Laws of the Game

All competitions shall be played in accordance with the current [FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game.](#)

12. Match Duration

The following applies to all matches:

Matches of 2 x 10 minute halves run off the clock will be played for all ages. The match duration will be shortened for groups with more than five teams.

Half time intervals will be a minimum of one (1) minute and a maximum of three (3) minutes duration.

Timeouts are not permitted.

13. Allocation of Points

The table below details the number of points allocated to teams, based on the results of pool/group matches, to determine the team's position on the points table.

Match Result	Points Awarded
Win	Three (3) Points
Draw	One (1) Point
Loss	Nil (0) Points
Forfeit For	Three (3) Points plus 5-0 win
Forfeit Against	Nil (0) Points plus 5-0 loss

14. Determination of Points Table

At the completion of the group matches the points table placement of teams will be determined by the number of points accrued in playing those matches. The team with the highest number of points will be placed first. The remaining teams will be placed according to their points accrual with the next highest number being placed second and so on.

In the event that two teams are equal on points then the following elimination process shall apply to determine the respective placements:

- The team with the higher goal difference would be placed as the higher of the two. If there remains a tied outcome then;
- The team with the highest goals for would be the higher of the two. If there remains a tied outcome then;
- The result of their match in the group match would place the winner as the higher of the two. If their match was drawn then;
- The team with the superior disciplinary record in this competition shall be the highest placed team.
- In the event of the teams still being equal, FFV/VF shall determine the final position via a coin toss.

If a team withdraws prior to the competition commencing, FFV/VF will try and find a replacement. If a replacement cannot be found then a 'bye' will be inserted for all matches involving the withdrawn team in that group.

If a team withdraws once the competition commences then all matches involving the withdrawn team will be recorded as a 5-0 loss to the withdrawn team (regardless of whether the match has already been played or not)

For any match postponed due to issues such as weather, lighting failure etc, these matches will be recorded as a 0-0 draw and a point each awarded. Due to the strict timelines we do not have the capacity to extend the length of the competition or to re-schedule matches.

If a match is abandoned as outlined in FFV Rules of Competition with less than 80% of the game played then the result will be a 0-0 draw and a point each awarded. If a match is abandoned with more than 80% of the game played then the score at the time will be final. Any team that walks off the pitch will forfeit the match and further penalties may apply.

15. Finals Matches

Finals matches include all Quarter Finals (if required), Semi Finals and Finals.

At the completion of regulation time in a Quarter Final or Semi Final the team with the highest number of goals moves to the next phase in the competition, or in the case of a Final, is declared the winner of the competition.

In the event that the match result is a draw at the completion of regulation time, the following shall occur:

Extra time of three (3) minutes each way will be played. The team scoring the most goals in the extra time period is deemed the winner and in the case of a Quarter Final or Semi Final advances to the next phase in the competition, or in the case of the Final, is declared the winner of the competition.

Where no goals are scored or each team scores the same number of goals, then penalties shall be taken in accordance with the FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game. The winner in the case of a Quarter Final or Semi Final advances to the next phase of the competition, or in the case of the Final, is declared the winner of the competition.

16. Qualification for the State Championships

The winner and runner-up qualify from each category from the State Regional Titles to participate in the State Championships.

Primary Schools and Schools in Regional Victoria qualify directly for the State Championships.

Dates as outlined in the Entry Rules and Conditions. In the event a qualifying team cannot participate in this Championship, then the next best team (as determined by FFV/VF) will qualify.

17. School Officials

The school official is responsible for all matters pertaining to their school team, including the conduct of team members and supporters. All shall agree to be subject to the FFV Code of Conduct.

18. Match Start Lists

Match Start Lists will be utilised for all matches in the competition. Distribution and collection will be the responsibility of the Competition Manager or his / her nominee.

The list must provide for full name of player, date of birth and jersey number.

Team management are required to complete the Match Start List prior the start of their first match. Players not entered on the Start List are ineligible to participate in the Competition.

The name of any suspended player is to appear on the Match Start List of the match for which he/she is suspended, with the word 'Suspended' appearing beside the player's name.

It is the responsibility of team management to ensure that players are eligible to compete in any match. It is the further responsibility of team management to ensure that players who are suspended have that designation against their name on the Match List.

A team that plays a suspended player shall be deemed to have played an ineligible player and accordingly the match shall be awarded to the opposing team with the goals recorded as 5-0 in favour of the opposing team.

19. Uniforms and Equipment

It is compulsory for all team members who are not the nominated Goalkeeper to participate in a colour coordinated uniform.

Goalkeepers must wear a jersey that distinguishes him / her from the other team members and the referees.

All jerseys must have a number on the back.

Socks must be long and players must use suitable non marking footwear. Shin pads that provide a reasonable degree of protection are compulsory for all players. Goalkeepers can wear either shorts or tracksuit pants. They may also wear knee or elbow pads and goalkeeping gloves.

Players and goalkeepers must not use equipment or wear anything which is dangerous to themselves or another player, including any kind of jewellery.

20. Match Balls

Match Balls will be provided for all matches.

The ball may not be changed during the game without the permission of the referee.

21. Number of Players

In accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game each team must have five (5) eligible players, one (1) of which must be the designated goalkeeper with one of the five being the designated captain.

The maximum number of substitutes permitted is nine (9).

22. Delayed Start / Forfeits

Under circumstances deemed acceptable by the FFV/VF, a team not ready to take the court at the time the match was scheduled to commence, will be granted a five (5) minute extension to take the court. In the event they do not meet that deadline a decision on playing the game or declaring a forfeit shall be determined by the FFV/VF Representative.

23. Disciplinary Matters

Law 5 of the FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game confirms the decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with play, are final. Only in the case of mistaken identity in cautioning or the sending off of a player or official can there be consideration of any written appeal.

General information in relation to disciplinary matters is as follows:

Yellow cards accumulated in group matches carry into a Quarter, Semi or Final match.

Red cards impose an automatic one match suspension, in addition to any other suspension imposed by the FFV/VF Representative as a result of agreement with the recommendation of the referee that a harsher penalty be considered. Any such suspension and any additional match suspension shall apply to the next, and where applicable, to any subsequent match involving the player's team.

Any team that plays an ineligible player shall be deemed to have lost the match. The opposing team shall be awarded 3 points and goals recorded as 5-0 in their favour.

Any player who receives a send off by accruing his second yellow card in the match or is shown a red card, is prohibited from;

- a) taking any further part in the match

- b) sitting on the team bench for the remainder of the match or for the period of his/her suspension
- c) remaining in the vicinity of the court area under the jurisdiction of the referee.

Specific information in relation to disciplinary matters is as follows:

When a player receives two (2) yellow cards in a single match the player is shown the red card and must vacate the court and leave the area under the jurisdiction of the referee. He receives an automatic one match suspension that must be served in the team's next match. The player's name will appear on the Match Start List of the next match with the word 'suspended' marked against it. These two yellow cards will not count in the player's accumulated yellow card tally as they are regarded as a red card for the purpose of suspension.

Where a player receives a single red card in a match the player must vacate the court and leave the area under the jurisdiction of the referee. He receives an automatic one match suspension plus any additional suspension that may have been imposed by the FFV/VF Representative if there is a recommendation from the Referee to impose a harsher penalty because of the nature of the offence committed. The suspension must apply to the next match(s) in which his team is participating. The player's name will appear on the Match Start List of the next match(s) with the word 'suspended' marked against it.

Where a player accumulates three (3) yellow cards through the course of the competition the player shall receive an automatic one match suspension that must be served in the team's next match. The player's name will appear on the Match Start List of the next match with the word 'suspended' marked against it. The yellow card tally is restored to Nil after the suspension has been served.

Where a player accumulates a further two (2) yellow cards after having been suspended as a result of receiving an initial three (3) yellow cards that player shall receive a further automatic one match suspension which shall be taken in the next match in which the player's team is involved. The player's name will appear on the Match Start List with the word 'suspended' marked against it. The yellow card tally is restored to Nil after the second suspension has been served.

Where a player has received two (2) suspensions resulting from the accumulation of yellow cards and then receives a further yellow card, that player shall receive a one (1) match suspension which must be served in the next match in which the player's team is involved. The player's name will appear on the Match Start List with the word 'suspended' marked against it. The yellow card tally is restored to Nil after the third suspension has been served.

All teachers and coaches are to keep a strict eye on all students under their care and discipline where necessary otherwise FFV/VF:

- remove points and/or
- withdraw teams/entire schools
- entirely cease the running of the competition

24. Abandoned Matches

Matches may be abandoned when it is deemed by the Referee that the game cannot continue due to the violent conduct of players, team officials or spectators which creates a situation untenable for all concerned or where the playing surface or court area is deemed dangerous for players and or officials.

Where an abandonment occurs the Referee and other Match Officials are to provide a report to the FFV/VF Representative who shall determine the outcome based on the circumstances that brought about the abandonment. That report is required immediately after the decision being taken.

In the event that the conduct of a particular team brought about the abandonment then that team shall be asked to show cause why they should not be banned from the remainder of the competition. That advice shall be delivered to the Team Manager of the offending team.

25. FFV/VF Representative

The FFV/VF representative in reaching any decision, which he/she is empowered to take, may at his/her discretion convene a sub committee to assist in assessing material or hearing statements from individuals, either or both of which are required in taking that decision. Such members of any sub committee cannot be representatives from the schools involved in the dispute or occurrence. The appointed Competition Manager shall also be involved in the taking of any decision.

26. Match Officials

Match Officials appointed to the competition shall be FFA National Accredited Futsal Officials. On appointment they shall agree to abide by the FFA Code of Conduct regulations.

The appointment of Match Officials to matches shall be undertaken by the person(s) appointed by FFV.