

# 45 - FUTSAL REGULATIONS

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### SECTION I: OBJECTIVES OF THE FUTSAL REGULATIONS

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1. The aims and objectives of the Futsal Regulations are to:
  - 1.1. promote and govern the game of futsal in England;
  - 1.2. define the structure for competitive futsal competitions in England;
  - 1.3. provide Clubs and Players with opportunities to take part in competitive futsal in accordance with the appropriate playing standards and geographical location;
  - 1.4. regulate the appointment of Match Officials to futsal matches;
  - 1.5. support the growth and development of futsal;
  - 1.6. provide for the seasonal movement of Clubs;
  - 1.7. coordinate the scheduling of futsal fixtures throughout the season; and
  - 1.8. provide a framework for discussion on matters of policy and common interest to Participants.
2. Participants taking part in futsal Competitions shall at all times be bound by and comply with:
  - 2.1. The Association's Rules and regulations;
  - 2.2. these Futsal Regulations; and
  - 2.3. the decisions of the Futsal Committee,subject to any right of appeal prescribed in these Futsal Regulations.
3. The Futsal Pathway shall be operated in accordance with these Futsal Regulations. Participants in membership of the Futsal Pathway shall at all times respect the hierarchy of the competition structure established under the Tiers.

### SECTION II: REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL COMPETITIONS

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4. Unless otherwise stated in these Futsal Regulations, all Competitions must:
  - 4.1. be administered under Futsal SCOR;
  - 4.2. arrange their matches in accordance with the FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game;
  - 4.3. be authorised by the Board or a County Association, as applicable pursuant to these Futsal Regulations; and
  - 4.4. to the extent that there is no conflict with these Futsal Regulations, comply with The Association's Sanction and Control of Competitions Regulations.
5. A Competition's application for authorisation must be submitted to a County Association or The Association (as applicable) at least 28 days prior to the date set for the Competition's AGM or SGM.
6. Any modifications to the FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game by an Affiliated Association, including those made pursuant to Regulation 9 of the Sanction and Control of Competitions Regulations, shall be subject to the prior approval of the Futsal Committee in its absolute discretion.

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7. Unless otherwise stated in these Futsal Regulations, in the event of a conflict between the Rules, the regulations of The Association and the applicable Competition Rules, it shall be resolved in the following order: (i) the Rules; (ii) these Futsal Regulations; (iii) any other regulations of The Association; (iv) the applicable Competition Rules.
8. For the avoidance of doubt, references to "Club" or "Player" in these Futsal Regulations shall be interpreted as including any club or player that plays the game of futsal in England and is recognised as such by The Association.

### SECTION III: STRUCTURE AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE FUTSAL PATHWAY

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#### STRUCTURE OF THE FUTSAL PATHWAY

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9. The structure of the Futsal Pathway is set out in Appendix I (Male Pathway) and Appendix II (Female Pathway). The composition of the Tiers of the Futsal Pathway may change in accordance with these Futsal Regulations.
10. A Competition may only participate in a given Tier if it takes the form permitted for that Tier in accordance with the below criteria (the "Eligibility Criteria"):

TIER	ELIGIBLE FORMS OF COMPETITION
<i>Male pathway and female pathway</i>	
Tier 1	• National Competitions
Tier 2	• Regional Competitions with National Coverage
Tier 3	• Regional Competitions with National Coverage • College and University Competitions
Tier 4	• Regional Competitions (competitive) • School Competitions
Tier 5	• Regional Competitions (recreational)

11. Competitions and their member Clubs must not hold themselves out as being in membership of the Futsal Pathway or a particular Tier in a way that is contrary to their status within the Futsal Pathway as approved by the Futsal Committee.

#### MEMBERSHIP OF THE FUTSAL PATHWAY (COMPETITIONS)

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##### TIER 1 - TIER 2

12. A Competition seeking to become a Tier 1 or Tier 2 Competition, must obtain prior written permission from the Futsal Committee to operate a Competition at that level. The Futsal Committee may approve or reject applications to become a Tier 1 or Tier 2 Competition in its absolute discretion which may be pursuant to any criteria issued by it from time to time.
13. Competitions approved pursuant to paragraph 12 shall not be administered under Futsal SCOR, or be authorised by the Board. Instead, such Competitions shall be administered under their own Competition Rules, which shall be subject to prior approval by the Futsal Committee before the start of each season.

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### TIER 3

14. A Competition seeking to participate in Tier 3 of the Futsal Pathway must make an application to the Futsal Committee, which shall be approved or rejected in the Futsal Committee's absolute discretion pursuant to any criteria issued by it from time to time (including, but not limited to, the Eligibility Criteria and the Tier Requirements).
15. College and University Competitions may be administered under their own Competition Rules, which shall be subject to prior approval by the Futsal Committee before the start of each season.
16. To participate in Tier 3, a Competition approved by the Futsal Committee pursuant to paragraph 14 shall be subject to prior authorisation by the Board (via an application to The Association) before the start of each season.

### TIER 4 - TIER 5

17. A Competition shall be deemed as being in membership of the Futsal Pathway in Tier 4 or below provided that it complies with the requirements set out in these Futsal Regulations and obtains authorisation as follows:
  - 17.1 all School Competitions shall be subject to prior authorisation by the Board (via an application to The Association) before the start of each season; and
  - 17.2 all other Competitions shall be subject to prior authorisation by the applicable County Association before the start of each season.
18. Competitions in Tier 4 or below consisting of Clubs within the area of, or affiliated to, two or more County Associations, shall make an application for authorisation to, and may be affiliated with, the County Association which has most of that Competition's Clubs in membership.

### ADMINISTRATION OF APPLICATIONS TO JOIN THE FUTSAL PATHWAY

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19. A Competition that applies to join Tier 1 to Tier 3 of the Futsal Pathway may be required by the Futsal Committee to demonstrate its compliance with the Eligibility Criteria, to include, where applicable, by providing evidence that it has, or will have by the time it becomes a member of the Futsal Pathway in the relevant Tier, National Coverage.
20. Before approving or rejecting a Competition's application to join Tier 1 to Tier 3 of the Futsal Pathway, the Futsal Committee shall be entitled to consult with other futsal stakeholders, including, but not limited to, those stakeholders that may be impacted by the Futsal Committee's decision. In making its determination, the Futsal Committee may consider the outcomes of such consultation, together with the best interests of the Futsal Pathway and the game of futsal as a whole.

### SUSPENSION AND REMOVAL FROM THE FUTSAL PATHWAY

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21. The Futsal Committee may suspend a Competition from the Futsal Pathway if the Futsal Committee determines, in its absolute discretion, that the Competition has breached the Futsal Regulations.
22. The Futsal Committee may remove a Competition from the Futsal Pathway where:
  - 22.1 the Futsal Committee determines, in its absolute discretion, that the Competition has failed to comply with the Eligibility Criteria or enforce the Tier Requirements; or
  - 22.2 the Competition is found, by a competent body of The Association or an Affiliated Association, to have breached the Rules and/or regulations of The Association.

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23. Any Competition whose membership of the Futsal Pathway is suspended or removed by the Futsal Committee will not be eligible to:
- 23.1. participate in any business of the Futsal Pathway; and
  - 23.2. hold itself out as being in membership of the Futsal Pathway, during the period of suspension or after the date of such removal of membership.
24. The Futsal Committee shall be entitled to make representations and recommendations to other bodies of The Association, Affiliated Associations or other futsal stakeholders in relation to a Competition's suitability for authorisation and/or membership of the Futsal Pathway.

### SECTION IV: THE MOVEMENT OF CLUBS WITHIN THE FUTSAL PATHWAY

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#### PROMOTION AND RELEGATION

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25. Unless otherwise stated in these Futsal Regulations, the movement of Clubs between Competitions and/or the Tiers of the Futsal Pathway shall be determined in accordance with the applicable Competition Rules.
26. All Competitions must comply with, and ensure that their member Clubs comply with, the Tier Requirements as issued by the Futsal Committee from time to time.
27. Where Competitions in Tier 2 and Tier 3 agree to the seasonal promotion and relegation of Clubs between them, the following provisions shall apply to the Tier 2 and Tier 3 Participants concerned:
- 27.1. Clubs must comply with the Competition Rules of the relevant Competition in respect of promotion and/or relegation.
  - 27.2. A Club is not entitled to be promoted to Tier 2 unless it is compliant with the Tier Requirements that apply in respect of Tier 2.
  - 27.3. No more than two Clubs:
    - 27.3.1. may be promoted from any one Competition in Tier 3 to Tier 2; and
    - 27.3.2. may be relegated from any one Competition in Tier 2 to Tier 3.
  - 27.4. No more than four Clubs:
    - 27.4.1. from all Competitions in Tier 3 may be promoted to Tier 2; and
    - 27.4.2. from all Competitions in Tier 2 may be relegated to Tier 3.
  - 27.5. Any Club finishing in the bottom half of its Division in Tier 3 shall not be eligible for promotion to Tier 2.
28. There shall be no promotion or relegation between College and University Competitions in Tier 3 and other Competitions (including Competitions that are not in Tier 3 or are not College and University Competitions).

#### CLUB MERGERS

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*Unless otherwise stated, paragraphs 29 to 32 apply to Participants in Tier 1 to Tier 3 (excluding College and University Competitions).*

29. If two or more Clubs (the "Merging Clubs") are proposing a transaction or series of transactions that result in the merging or consolidation of the Merging Clubs into one Club (the "Merged Club"), provided that at least one of the Merging Clubs is a member of a Competition in Tier 1 to Tier 3, the Merging Clubs must make a joint application for approval to the Futsal Committee.

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30. Where the Futsal Committee approves such application, the Futsal Committee shall determine, in its absolute discretion, the Tier(s) in which the Merged Club may be readmitted to the Futsal Pathway following consultation with other futsal stakeholders, including the Competition(s) concerned.
31. In the event of a merger of Clubs pursuant to paragraphs 29 and 30, out of the Merging Clubs, only the Merged Club shall be entitled to continue participating in the Futsal Pathway.
32. Before a Merged Club participates in a Competition:
  - 32.1. the Merged Club must notify its status as a Merged Club to:
    - 32.1.1. the County Association to which it shall affiliate; and
    - 32.1.2. the Competition in which it wishes to participate;
  - 32.2. the affiliation of the Merged Club with the County Association shall be subject to the County Association receiving confirmation from the Futsal Committee that it approves the application made pursuant to paragraph 29; and
  - 32.3. the Competition in which the Merged Club wishes to participate must comply with the decision of the Futsal Committee made pursuant to paragraph 30.

### **SECTION V: CLUBS WITH MORE THAN ONE TEAM IN THE FUTSAL PATHWAY**

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*Unless otherwise stated, paragraphs 33 to 46 apply to Participants in Tier 1 to Tier 3 (excluding College and University Competitions).*

#### **DESIGNATION OF TEAMS**

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33. No more than one Team from the same Club may participate in each of Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 of the Futsal Pathway.
34. Before the start of each season a Club with more than one Team in Tier 1 to Tier 3 must designate which of its Teams shall be its First Team and which shall be its Second Team or Third Team. A Club may not have more than one First Team.
35. Where more than one Team from the same Club participates in Tier 1 to Tier 3:
  - 35.1. the Second Team may not play in a Tier above the First Team;
  - 35.2. the Third Team may not play in a Tier above the Second Team; and
  - 35.3. the names of all Second Teams and Third Teams must be so described in accordance with any guidance that may be issued by the Futsal Committee from time to time.
36. In the event that a Club fails to designate its Teams pursuant to paragraph 34, the Futsal Committee may, in its absolute discretion, make such a designation on that Club's behalf.
37. A Club may not change the designation of its Teams during the season without the approval of the Futsal Committee.

#### **PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

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38. Before the start of each season, a Club that has more than one Team in Tier 1 to Tier 3 must designate its Players to one of its Teams and report such designation to the Competitions in which the Club participates.

## 45 - FUTSAL REGULATIONS

39. A Player shall only play for the Team to which they have been designated by the Club, save that they may be selected (whether in the starting line-up or as a substitute) for a different Team of the same Club on up to four occasions per season, of which the Club must maintain a record and notify the Competitions in which its Teams compete. Clubs and Competitions must provide such records to the Futsal Committee upon request.
40. A Club may not change the Team to which a Player is designated during the season without first:
- 40.1. completing a Futsal Transfer Request Form in respect of the Player; and
  - 40.2. obtaining the approval of the relevant Competition(s) for the change in the Player's eligibility.
41. A Player shall not be eligible to play for a Team in any special championship, play off, promotion or relegation deciding Competition match unless that Player:
- 41.1. has been designated to that Team in accordance with paragraphs 38, 40 or 44; and
  - 41.2. has played no fewer than five matches for that Team in the Competition to which the match relates in the current season.
42. Each Club shall register no more than 30 Players across all Competitions per Team per season. If a Club has registered 30 players for a Team, new players may only be registered if a registered Player's registration is cancelled (by mutual consent between the Club and the registered Player) or transferred to another Club.
43. All Clubs must maintain accurate records of Player designation and participation for each of its Teams which must be lodged with the secretary of the relevant Competition on a monthly basis throughout the season. Clubs and Competitions must provide such records to the Futsal Committee upon request.
44. In the event that a Club fails to designate its Players pursuant to paragraph 38, the Futsal Committee may, in its absolute discretion, make such designations on that Club's behalf.

### COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY COMPETITIONS

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45. A Player registered with a Club that enters a Team in College and University Competitions may at the same time:
- 45.1. be registered with and play for that Team, but no other Teams affiliated to that Club; and
  - 45.2. be registered with and play for a different Club, albeit not in College and University Competitions.
46. Where a Player is registered for a Club and represents that Club's Team in College and University Competitions and another of that Club's Teams, the Player may not register or play for another Club at the same time.

### FULFILMENT OF FIXTURES

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47. A Club with more than one Team shall fulfil its fixtures (including in respect of team selection) in the following order of precedence: (i) The FA Futsal Cup fixtures; (ii) other First Team fixtures; (iii) Second Team fixtures; (iv) Third Team fixtures; (v) College and University Competition fixtures; and (vi) County FA Competition fixtures.

## SECTION VI: COMPETITIONS OUTSIDE THE FUTSAL PATHWAY

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48. Subject to paragraph 49, before the start of each season all Competitions not in membership of the Futsal Pathway (to include open age and youth cup Competitions) consisting of Clubs within the area of, or affiliated to, two or more County Associations, shall:
- 48.1. be subject to prior authorisation by the County Association which has most of that Competition's Clubs in membership; or



## 45 - FUTSAL REGULATIONS

- 48.2. where such Competition intends to provide National Coverage or will be a preliminary/qualifying stage for a Competition that shall provide National Coverage:
- 48.2.1. be subject to prior approval by the Futsal Committee in its absolute discretion pursuant to any criteria that may be issued by it from time to time; and
  - 48.2.2. if so approved by the Futsal Committee, be subject to prior authorisation by the Board.
49. For the avoidance of doubt, these Futsal Regulations shall not apply in respect of futsal Competitions organised pursuant to the Professional Game Youth Development Rules.

### SECTION VII: THE STATUS OF FUTSAL PLAYERS

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*In the event of a conflict between the Rules and the provisions of this Section VII, the provisions of this Section VII shall apply in respect of futsal Participants.*

*Unless otherwise stated, paragraphs 50 to 55 apply to Participants in Tier 1 to Tier 3.*

#### REGISTRATION OF FUTSAL PLAYERS

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50. Subject to paragraph 45, a Player may only be registered for one Club at a time.
51. Clubs are not permitted to enter into Playing Contracts with Players.
52. The registration of a Player who is registered with another Club shall be subject to the prior completion by both Clubs of a Futsal Transfer Request Form, a copy of which each Club must submit to the Competition of which it is a member prior to the Player's registration with the new Club.
53. A futsal player who was last registered under a playing contract with a futsal club affiliated with another national association is not permitted to register with a Club until at least 30 days after their most recent match played pursuant to the playing contract.
54. All Competitions, Clubs and Players must ensure that Players are registered with the relevant Competition and Affiliated Association (as prescribed, and in accordance with, the rules of the relevant league and The Association's Rules and regulations).
55. Players may not change either the Club to which they are registered or, where paragraphs 38, 40 or 44 apply, the Team to which they are designated more than once in total per season.

#### PAYMENTS TO FUTSAL PLAYERS

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56. All payments made to Players, must:
- 56.1. only be made by the Club and be fully recorded in the Club's accounting records;
  - 56.2. be made to Players gross, before deductions for all applicable taxes; and
  - 56.3. comply with any relevant tax legislation.

#### INTERNATIONAL TRANSFER OF MINORS

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57. In respect of the international transfer of minors and the first registration of a non-national minor, Participants are required to adhere to the provisions of the RSTP.

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### INTERNATIONAL CLEARANCE

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58. Any player aged 10 or above who was last registered with a club affiliated with another national association may only be registered with a Club once an IFTC has been delivered by the former association and The Association has confirmed receipt of the IFTC.
59. The transferee Club must apply to The Association (via the County Association to which that Club is affiliated) and provide such documents as are required by The Association in order to register a player that falls within the scope of paragraph 58

### OTHER PROVISIONS

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60. Players may only be registered with a Club for the purposes of playing futsal matches sanctioned by The Association and/or an Affiliated Association.
61. No Club or Player may enter into an agreement with a party (to include an agreement entered into between a Club and a Player) which contravenes The Association's Rules and regulations.

## SECTION VIII: MATCH OFFICIALS

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62. All Competitions shall comply with any policy that The Association may have from time to time regarding the appointment of Match Officials to futsal Competitions which shall be a matter for The Association to determine as it sees fit.
63. Subject to the discretion of The Association, the appointment of Match Officials to futsal Competitions shall be prioritised according to the level of Competition in the following order of priority:

TIER	ELIGIBLE FORMS OF COMPETITION
1	The FA Futsal Cup
2	Tier 1
3	Tier 2
4	The FA Futsal Youth Cup (round of last 16 onwards)
5	Tier 3
6	The FA Futsal Youth Cup (prior to the round of last 16)
7	Tier 4
8	Tier 5
9	Other

64. All Participants must comply with and enforce any policies that may be set by The Association from time to time in relation to fees and expenses to be paid to Match Officials.
65. Where a Match Official officiates in a Competition that fails to comply with paragraph 64, the Match Official shall not be assessed or graded for the purposes of promotion within the Match Official pathway in respect of the matches concerned.

### SECTION IX: DISCIPLINE

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66. A suspension imposed in terms of matches on a Player for an infringement committed when playing futsal or in relation to a futsal match shall only affect the Player's participation for his futsal club.
67. A suspension imposed in terms of matches on a Player participating in eleven-a-side football shall only affect the Player's participation for his eleven-a-side club in accordance with the Disciplinary Regulations.
68. A suspension imposed in terms of days and months shall affect a Player's participation for both his futsal as well as his eleven-a-side club, regardless of whether the infringement was committed in eleven-a-side football or futsal.

### SECTION X: THE FUTSAL COMMITTEE

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69. The powers, duties and responsibilities of the Futsal Committee are set out in its terms of reference.
70. The structure, composition and all other requirements in respect of the Futsal Pathway shall be matters for the Futsal Committee to determine in its absolute discretion.
71. The Futsal Committee shall be entitled to publish a national futsal calendar which may set out dates which are to be reserved for international or cup fixtures (the "National Futsal Calendar"). All Participants must observe the National Futsal Calendar and shall refrain from organising or participating in fixtures on such dates.

### SECTION XI: THE UEFA FUTSAL CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

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72. The Futsal Committee may, in its absolute discretion, nominate a Club in membership of Tier 1 to enter the UEFA Futsal Champions League (in accordance with any policy it may have in place from time to time).
73. Where the Futsal Committee permits a Tier 1 Competition to nominate a Club for participation in the UEFA Futsal Champions League:
  - 73.1. the Futsal Committee shall be entitled to approve or reject such nomination in accordance with any criteria which may be issued by the Futsal Committee from time to time; and
  - 73.2. that Competition's permission to nominate a Club may be revoked by the Futsal Committee at any time.
74. In order for a Club to be eligible for nomination for participation in the UEFA Futsal Champions League, it must have no outstanding fines or overdue payables to Participants.

### SECTION XII: DISPUTE RESOLUTION

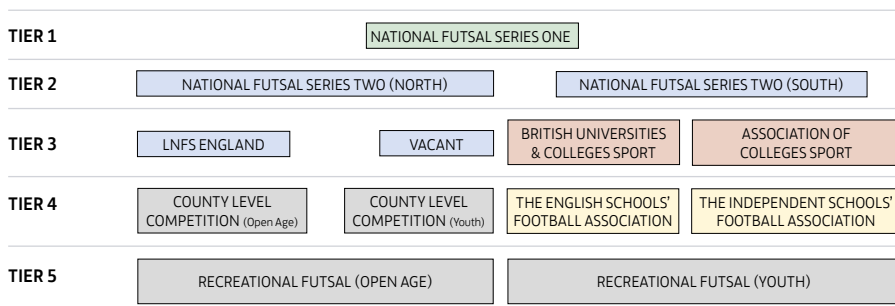
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75. The Futsal Committee may adopt such procedures for the determination of any matter, dispute or difference as it considers appropriate and expedient, having regard to the aims and objectives set out at paragraph 1.
76. Any matter, dispute or difference between a Competition and a Club in connection with Tier 1 to Tier 3 relating to questions of promotion, relegation, lateral movement within a Tier and/or any other eligibility criteria or requirements (including, but not limited to, the application of the Eligibility Criteria and the Tier Requirements) must be referred for determination, in its absolute discretion, to the Futsal Committee, which shall be final and binding on the parties subject only to arbitration in accordance with Rule K.

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77. Subject to paragraph 76, any other decision of the Futsal Committee shall be subject to a right of appeal to an Appeal Board. The decision of that Appeal Board shall be final and binding on all parties. All referrals of appeals shall be conducted in accordance with Part C of the Disciplinary Regulations of The Association (Appeals – Non-Fast Track).
78. The Futsal Committee may require the attendance at a meeting or the written observations of any Competition or Club, as it considers appropriate to assist any determination it makes.
79. The Futsal Committee may, in its absolute discretion, delegate the resolution of any matter, dispute or difference arising under these Futsal Regulations to any body it considers to be appropriate (including a body constituted by an Affiliated Association or a sub-committee which may be comprised of members of Council not appointed to the Futsal Committee).

### APPENDIX I: THE FA FUTSAL PATHWAY (MALE)



#### KEY

	NATIONAL COMPETITIONS
	REGIONAL COMPETITIONS WITH NATIONAL COVERAGE
	COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY COMPETITIONS
	SCHOOL COMPETITIONS
	REGIONAL COMPETITIONS

## APPENDIX II: THE FA FUTSAL PATHWAY (FEMALE)

TIER 1	THE FA FUTSAL WOMEN'S SUPER SERIES			
TIER 2	THE FA FUTSAL WOMEN'S SUPER SERIES (North)		THE FA FUTSAL WOMEN'S SUPER SERIES (South)	
TIER 3	VACANT		BRITISH UNIVERSITIES & COLLEGES SPORT	ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES SPORT
TIER 4	COUNTY LEVEL COMPETITION (Open Age)	COUNTY LEVEL COMPETITION (Youth)	THE ENGLISH SCHOOLS' FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION	THE INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS' FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION
TIER 5	RECREATIONAL FUTSAL (OPEN AGE)		RECREATIONAL FUTSAL (YOUTH)	

### KEY

	NATIONAL COMPETITIONS
	REGIONAL COMPETITIONS WITH NATIONAL COVERAGE
	COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY COMPETITIONS
	SCHOOL COMPETITIONS
	REGIONAL COMPETITIONS

## APPENDIX III: DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise stated, the defined terms used in these Futsal Regulations shall have the meanings given to them in this Appendix III, the Rules of The Football Association Limited and the Articles. In the event of a conflict, it shall be resolved in the following order: (i) this Appendix III; (ii) the Rules of The Football Association Limited; (iii) the Articles.

“**College and University Competition**” means the rules under which a Competition is administered.

“**Competition Rules**” means the rules under which a Competition is administered.

“**Division**” means a division of a Competition.

“**Eligibility Criteria**” shall have the meaning given to it at paragraph 10.

“**Female Pathway**” means the Futsal Pathway for female competition.

“**FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game**” means the laws of the game of futsal as issued by FIFA from time to time.

“**First Team**” means a Club’s first Team participating in the Futsal Pathway.

“**Futsal Pathway**” means The FA Futsal Pathway as described in paragraph 9.

“**Futsal Regulations**” means these regulations.

“**Futsal SCOR**” means The Association’s Standard Code of Rules for futsal or any version of the same produced by The Association for youth futsal, as applicable.

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**“Futsal Transfer Request Form”** means the form that must be completed to complete the transfer of a Player’s registration in accordance with any guidance that may be issued by the Futsal Committee from time to time.

**“IFTC”** means the International Futsal Transfer Certificate, as issued by FIFA in respect of international transfers.

**“Male Pathway”** means the Futsal Pathway for male competition.

**“Merged Clubs”** shall have the meaning given to it at paragraph 29.

**“Merging Clubs”** shall have the meaning given to it at paragraph 29.

**“National Competition”** means a Competition that is comprised of Clubs from more than one region of England in a single Division.

**“National Coverage”** means, in respect of a Competition, being comprised of Clubs from more than one region of England when all the Divisions or preliminary/qualifying stages of that Competition are taken into account.

**“National Futsal Calendar”** shall have the meaning given to it at paragraph 71.

**“Regional Competition”** means a Competition that is comprised of Clubs from one region of England only.

**“School Competition”** means a private members Competition made up of Players under the age of 18 who are full-time registered school students and where the participating Clubs represent their schools.

**“Second Team”** means a Club’s second Team (which may include a Club’s ‘Development Team’) participating in the Futsal Pathway.

**“Team”** means a team affiliated to a Club.

**“Third Team”** means a Club’s third Team (which may include a Club’s ‘Development Team’) participating in the Futsal Pathway.

**“Tier”** means the level at which a Competition and Club participates in the Futsal Pathway as set out in paragraph 10 of these Futsal Regulations.

**“Tier Requirements”** means the criteria issued by the Futsal Committee from time to time that Participants shall comply with, and which vary according to the applicable Tier, in respect of the standards relating to the following areas: (i) futsal pitch standards; (ii) venue and spectator seating requirements; and (iii) Player roster requirements.