

Fall 2016 Newsletter



Bringing Real Futsal to North Alabama

Volume 3, Issue 2, September 2016

Thanks go to the league's Gold Level Sponsor:



The Third Summer Futsal Season was the Absolute Most Fun Yet!

The summer of 2016 proved to be the most exciting summer season thus far. Eight adult teams participated in the summer season with games in June and July with the team The Expendables winning the single, large, Champions Division. In addition to announcing the division winner and awarding championship t-shirts, golden boot and golden glove awards were given out, door prizes were given to spectators, and halftime music added a festive atmosphere for all. This winter there will be sufficient quantity of teams for both a Champions Division and a First Division. Further growth will add a second division, third division, etc. as North Alabama *FUTSAL* continues winter and summer seasons each year.



The Expendables
Summer 2016 Champions Division Winner



Nate Hayes
Golden Glove Award



Daniel Sigewitz
Golden Boot Award

Pictures of all of the teams that have played in the North Alabama *FUTSAL* League are on the league's website, <http://www.nafutsal.org>.

Winter 2016/17 Futsal Season Outlook

Based on recent growth in interest, expectations are for even more adult teams and the formation of two divisions, upper and lower competitive divisions. Further expectations, based on youth soccer club surveys, are for a huge growth in youth team participation. It's looking probable to have three youth divisions of 4 to 6 teams

each. This growth could easily exceed the availability of gyms to play in. We must soon find or build a facility for futsal first, a facility that has basketball and volleyball as secondary sports. Wouldn't that be nice? (Nothing negative here about basketball and volleyball – just basketball courts are often smaller than optimal when used for futsal.)

Venues for the Next Winter Futsal Season

Last winter the league used two gyms each week (Wednesdays and Fridays) for the youth and adult futsal games. This winter this number will double! Youth will play games in gyms at the Academy for Academics and Arts, at James Clemens High School, at Providence Elementary School and at Richard Showers Recreation Center. Adults will play games in gyms at James Clemens High School, at Providence Elementary School and possibly at Oakwood University around Christmas. Games will be played on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays in November, December and January. A team would play once each weekend.



Update on Futsal Facilities

There are indoor sports facilities being planned to be built in the near future. A replacement for the Joe Davis Stadium in Huntsville is currently being planned which will have futsal courts marked concentric with basketball courts – quantity TBA. The Madison Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2014-2025 states the need for multiple futsal courts in a multiple-purpose indoor recreation building. These are exciting futures for futsal in North Alabama.

Second Annual Dixie Defrost Futsal Tournament



Last year's tournament was great. The second year's tournament should be amazing. The Second Annual Dixie Defrost Futsal Tournament will be held on January 21 and 22, 2017. Put this in your plans for the culmination of the winter futsal season. You will not have more fun at any other tournament than at a futsal tournament.



USFF S.E. Regional Futsal Tournament

Last year’s regional tournament was in Charleston, SC, a great place for a number of recent regional tournaments. But the next tournament will be in Augusta, GA, in 2017. And plans are for the regional tournament to come to Alabama in 2018. Two points here: (1) Look forward to the 2017 regional tournament in Augusta, GA, which is not that far away, and (2) start talking it up for the regionals in Huntsville or Madison in 2018. We will need a practical location for the tournament. Will Huntsville finish their new indoor sports facility replacing the Joe Davis Stadium in time for this tournament? Or will the tournament be conducted in the Von Braun Center’s South Hall with flooring shipped in. Whichever way it will be a huge event in the South.



Sponsors

The following companies were sponsors of North Alabama *FUTSAL* during the winter season:

- West End Grill, Huntsville, AL – Gold Level
- ColorXpress, Madison, AL – Bronze Level



Please show your appreciation by visiting these sponsors' businesses. Additional sponsors will help offset the costs to teams to play futsal in the league. If you know of a company who would like to have their company name displayed as a sponsor during all North Alabama *FUTSAL* activities, have them view the [Sponsorship Opportunities Page](#) on www.nafutsal.org and/or contact N. A. *FUTSAL* to discuss. See [Contact Us Page](#).

Upcoming Events

Some important dates to plan for:

- 9/26/2016 – Winter Futsal Season Registration Opens
- 9/26/2016 – Adult Team Captains Meeting at Richard Showers Recreation Center at 7:00 PM
- 10/9/2016 – Last Day for Adult Teams Early Bird Discounts (10% discount on team fee, 25% discount on player registration fee)
- 10/17/2016 – Winter Futsal Season Youth Registration Starts
- 10/18/2016 – Youth Team Coaches & Managers Meeting at Richard Showers Recreation Center at 7:00 PM
- 10/19/2016 – Winter Season Adult Registration Deadline
- 10/30/2016 – Last Day for Youth Teams Early Bird Discounts (10% discount on team fee, 25% discount on player registration fee)
- 11/2/2016 – Adult Divisions Futsal Games Begin
- 11/4/2016 – Winter Season Youth Registration Deadline
- 11/10/2016 – New Futsal Player Clinic - Free to registered players
- 11/18/2016 – Youth Divisions Futsal Games Begin

All calendar entries can be viewed at www.nafutsal.org/index_files/Calendar.htm

The Rules Corner

The most notable distinguishing features of futsal are the **Kick-in**, the **Goal Clearance** and the requirement to take **all restarts within four seconds**. Let’s examine each in turn to ensure a soccer player, who is new to futsal, does not do them wrong.



A **Kick-in** is awarded to a team in a futsal game in the exact same way a throw-in is awarded in a soccer game. After a Kick-in is performed to put the ball back into play, the same limitations exist as after a soccer throw-in, e.g. the kicker may not be the immediate next player to play the ball, the teammate/goalkeeper of the kicker may not play the ball with his/her hands, if the ball goes directly into the opponent’s goal it doesn’t count, etc. The notable differences are in the taking of a kick-in. The player must kick the ball instead of throw it. But like a throw-in the non-kicking foot must be on the touchline or off the pitch. After kicking the ball if it does not enter the pitch the Kick-in is given to the opposing team. And a Kick-in not completed within 4 seconds is given to the opposing team.



A **Goal Clearance** is awarded to a team in a futsal game in the exact same way a goal kick is awarded in a soccer game. After a Goal Clearance is performed to put the ball back into play, the same limitations exist as after a soccer goal kick, e.g. the ball must exit the penalty area to be in play, the goalkeeper may not be the immediate next player to play the ball, etc. The notable differences are in the taking of the Goal Clearance. The goalkeeper must deliver the ball back into play using only his/her hands, i.e. throw it, and may not kick it. For this reason Goal Clearances are often called Keeper Throws. But like a goal kick, a Goal Clearance must be performed from within the penalty area. (There is no goal area in futsal.) A Goal Clearance not completed within 4 seconds is awarded to the opposing team as an indirect free kick at the edge of the penalty area.



All restarts must be completed within **four seconds** of player’s readiness to do so. Often the Referee will count the four seconds aloud and with his fingers over his/her head. While it is uncommon for a Referee to count aloud and display a finger count on kick-offs and penalty kicks, the four second requirement still applies. If a restart is not completed within four seconds, the ball is given to the opposing team but not always one for one. See list below.

Type of Restart that was Not Completed in 4 Sec's	Opposing Team's Restart
Kick-in	Kick-in
Goal Clearance	Indirect Free Kick
Corner Kick	Goal Clearance
Direct Free Kick	Indirect Free Kick
Indirect Free Kick	Indirect Free Kick
Kick-off	Indirect Free Kick
Penalty Kick	Indirect Free Kick