

2025 FUTSAL PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITION



RULES AND REGULATIONS





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CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITION
RULES AND REGULATIONS**



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(1) APPLICATION

- 1.1 These Rules shall apply to all Provincial Championship Competitions managed by the Manitoba Soccer Association (MSA). Any variances for specific competitions shall be as noted in these Rules.
- 1.2 **The playing rules are as per the applicable Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) Futsal Laws of the Game 2024/25 (“FIFA FLOTG” or “Law”), unless specifically indicated in these MSA Provincial Championship Rules.**
- 1.3 The MSA Futsal Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator is responsible for the management and control of all Provincial Competitions and shall maintain these Rules.
- The Competitions Coordinator decisions at the Competition, on any matter not covered in these Rules, shall be final, as far as the Competition is concerned.
- 1.4 Where these Rules are silent, the matter is subject to the MSA Rules and Regulations; in any absence in the MSA Rules and Regulations, the Canada Soccer (CS) Rules for Regional/National Competitions take precedence.
- 1.5 Within the constraints of 1.4, the MSA may make such temporary rules governing specific situations not otherwise provided for as are necessary.
- 1.6 **The necessary discipline and fines, where applicable, will be imposed during the Competition and the MSA reserves the right to apply additional discipline/sanctions at any time to be determined by the MSA (i.e. Board, MSA Discipline or Appeal Committee, Designate, etc.).**
- 1.7 Failure to comply with any of the requirements within these Rules may render any organization or individual subject to disciplinary procedures.
- 1.8 The MSA has an official Anti-Doping Policy. Any athlete who is a member of a Provincial Sport Organization or National Sport Organization or League or Club so registered shall be eligible for unannounced testing. A list of banned substances can be obtained from the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport at www.cces.ca or the CS.
- 1.9 It is the team’s responsibility to read, follow and adhere to the Rules; not the MSA’s on behalf of the team.





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(2) TEAM ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 The MSA Futsal Provincial Championship Competition is open to registered members of the MSA. Teams do not necessarily have to play in a member league but must be a registered member of the MSA. All teams must complete the corresponding registration forms and pay the annual registration fee.
- 2.2 Within the deadlines established, all teams must be registered with the MSA, submit the corresponding entry form, and satisfy the entry fee to be eligible to participate. Teams must submit a completed letter of intent and entry fee by the deadline set by the MSA to reserve a spot in the competition. Once teams are accepted into the tournament, rosters must be submitted to the MSA by the established deadline. Failure to submit rosters on time will result in an automatic disqualification from the tournament.

(3) PLAYER/TEAM OFFICIAL ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 Only players registered with the MSA or a Member/League in membership shall be eligible to compete in the MSA Futsal Provincial Championship Competition. **Teams are responsible for ensuring that their players are correctly registered with the MSA and their team and meeting the MSA Rules & Regulations. This includes having the necessary legal documents to prove that a player meets the criteria listed below and that they have an international or provincial transfer as required for registration.**
- 3.2 A minimum of 10 players on the final submitted roster shall be either:
 - A Canadian Citizen; or
 - A Permanent Resident (as defined by the Government of Canada);
 - A Protected Person (as defined by the Government of Canada).
- 3.3 Any player not meeting the required eligibility may apply, via their respective Provincial/Territorial Association, to the Canada Soccer Competitions Committee Eligibility Panel for an exemption. The decision of the Competitions Committee Eligibility Panel is final and not subject to appeal. **The deadline for submitting the exemption request is 30 working days prior to the start of the competition.** Any exemption granted is only valid for the competition in which it was issued.





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- 3.4 No Team shall register new players after qualifying for the Futsal Canadian Championship. Teams may register players for league competitions based on league rules, but those players are not eligible for the Club National Championships.
- 3.5 Teams are not permitted to have any 'guest players' or 'call ups' participate with their team during the MSA Futsal Provincial Championship Competition.
- 3.6 Each player and Team Official listed on the game sheet is required to have an approved MSA Photo ID card or as MSA determines necessary.
- 3.7 Any player registered as a professional player shall only be eligible to play when reinstated as an amateur player. An amateur player who is registered with a professional club shall not be eligible to play in the MSA Futsal Provincial Championship Competition. **The player must be reinstated 30 working days prior to the start of the competition.**
- 3.8 A player moving from one Provincial/Territorial Association to the MSA must receive written clearance from the Provincial/Territorial Association with which the player was last registered in order to be eligible. **The player must be registered 30 working days prior to the start of the competition.**
- 3.9 One member of the team's staff must be the same gender as the team. This staff member must be on the team bench at all matches and remain with the team until the end of the competition. This role cannot be fulfilled by a player.
- 3.10 **Any team questioning the eligibility of a player's status must submit a formal protest, as per the protest rules listed in section 8 of these rules and regulations. Correspondence sent to MSA due to possible participation of ineligible players will not be addressed unless the formal protest procedures are followed.**

(4) TEAM RULES

- 4.1 Both Men's and Women's teams must list a maximum of fourteen (14) players and four (4) team staff on the match sheet. Teams must identify the goalkeeper and captain for each match.
- 4.2 A maximum of thirteen (13) persons shall be allowed on the team bench: nine (9) substitutes and four (4) team officials.





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- 4.3 Unlimited substitutions shall be permitted in accordance with the *FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game*. Substitutions of players may be made as per the FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game.
- 4.4 Each team participating in the MSA Futsal Provincial Championship Competition must use the Official Roster Form prescribed by the MSA Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator which certifies that each player and team official is eligible.
- 4.5 For the purpose of competing in the MSA Futsal Provincial Championship Competition, all teams are required to electronically submit a completed Official Roster Form no later than **twenty (20) working days** prior to the competition's opening match, to the MSA office.
- 4.6 Players and team officials may be listed on the team's Official Roster Form while under suspension, however, they are not permitted to participate until the suspension is served. Players serving a suspension are not permitted to sit in the technical area.
- 4.7 Injured players may occupy a position in the technical area as long as they are listed on the Official Team Roster, the game sheet and have an ID Card as determined by MSA.
- 4.8 All teams will be held responsible for the conduct of their players, team officials and spectators during the competition. Refer to **Rule 1.9**.

(5) MATCH RULES

- 5.1 **Team credentials (photo ID), as determined by MSA, shall be checked prior to the start of each match or the competition.**
- 5.2 **One representative from each team may inspect the ID cards, as determined by MSA, of the opposing team. A team questioning the eligibility of a player's status must submit a formal protest, as per the protest rules listed in section 8 of these rules and regulations. It shall be the responsibility of a team representative to notify the MSA Representative, either in person or via email, of the team's formal protest.**
- 5.3 A match is played by two (2) teams, each consisting of not more than five (5) players on the pitch, one of whom is the goalkeeper. The minimum number of players required to start a match is three (3), one of whom must be the goalkeeper. The match is abandoned if one of the teams has fewer than three (3) players on the pitch.



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5.4 Each match shall last forty (40) minutes, comprising of two periods of twenty (20) minutes with an interval of five (5) minutes in between. Matches will be played with stopped time. Time shall be kept by the Timekeeper who will be positioned at the timekeeper's table situated at the hallway line.

Note: "Stopped time" means the game clock is stopped whenever the ball is not in play or if the match is interrupted. The clock only starts again once play resumes.

5.5 Teams will be afforded a thirty (30) minute warm up period on the pitch before each match.

5.6 Players who receive a red card during the match are not permitted to remain in their team's technical area and must leave the gymnasium.

5.7 Fouls accumulated by each team are recorded in the match report by the referees and by the timekeeper at their table.

5.8 Team uniform colors will be determined by the Competitions Coordinator for each game. It is the responsibility of the teams to know and wear the assigned colors provided. If necessary, the Competitions Coordinator will determine the team who is responsible for changing colors. All teams must have an alternate set of uniforms (jersey/socks) at the competition.

5.9 During the match, substitutes must wear bibs of a different colour than the players on the pitch. Coaches and team staff must also wear a colour different from the colours of the players on the pitch. Teams are responsible for providing their own bibs during Round-Robin matches, while the MSA will provide during the Playoffs and Finals.

5.10 Goalkeepers must wear playing uniforms that distinguish them from the other players and match officials.

5.11 Players are not permitted to wear anything that is dangerous to themselves or other players. This includes any kind of jewelry, regardless of the material, such as: rings, bracelets, earrings, necklaces, or other visible body piercings are strictly forbidden and must be removed. Medical alert bracelets are permissible but must be either made of Velcro or a similar soft material or covered with a sweatband. The practice of taping jewelry is not acceptable (CS Rule).





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- 5.12** Any player who intends to wear a cast, brace or any other medical equipment is to present the equipment to the MSA Competitions Coordinator at least 24 hours prior to kick off. If cleared to play the player must report to the referee of the match prior to the match for inspection. The referee will assess the player's eligibility to play in accordance with the FIFA FLOTG and CS Policies on medical matters.
- 5.13** If undergarments are worn, the color of the sleeve must be the same color as the main color of the sleeve of the jersey. If undershorts or tights are worn, they must be of the same main color as the shorts. Players not complying will not be allowed to enter the field until the referee of the match is satisfied that the equipment conforms to the FIFA FLOTG. All players must wear the same color undergarments and undershorts or tights.
- 5.14** The MSA Futsal Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator shall reserve the right to order a replay or any variation of a replay, cancel, postpone, terminate or make any decision for the best interest of the competition, for any match that is cancelled, suspended or not completed for any reason. The Competitions Coordinator may also designate a Representative or Committee to make a ruling. **An appeal may be submitted within two hours of the decision being communicated to the party (or parties). If leave to appeal is granted, the Competition Manager (or Designate) will, at that time, establish timelines for the appeal process and appeal fee submission. The decision of the Competition Manager (or Designate) is final and binding as far as the competition is concerned, unless it is appealed, in which case that decision is final and binding. Notwithstanding the hearing or appeal timelines set in the MSA Disciplinary code, the timelines set within this competition will take precedence due to the schedule of the competition**
- 5.15** Any Team not participating in a scheduled game without just cause may be expelled for the remainder of the Competition and may be subject to disciplinary action. In cases where the actions of said Team impact the integrity of the Competition, the Competition Manager may declare all matches played by the Team null and void and/or the Competition Manager may designate a Representative or Committee that is at arm's length to review and render a decision that will maintain the integrity of the Competition. All decisions of the Competition Manager, Representative, or Committee are final and binding as far as the Competition is concerned.



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- 5.16** Where a match is abandoned as a result of discipline issues from one or both competing teams, the matter shall be reported to the MSA Futsal Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator who will decide the appropriate course of action. The Competitions Coordinator has the authority to designate a Representative or Committee to make a ruling. **An appeal may be submitted within two hours of the decision being communicated to the party (or parties). If leave to appeal is granted, the Competition Manager (or Designate) will, at that time, establish timelines for the appeal process and appeal fee submission. The decision of the Competition Manager (or Designate) is final and binding as far as the competition is concerned, unless it is appealed, in which case that decision is final and binding. Notwithstanding the hearing or appeal timelines set in the MSA Disciplinary code, the timelines set within this competition will take precedence due to the schedule of the competition.**
- 5.17** Disposition of all yellow cards and red cards received during a match that was subsequently abandoned shall be dealt with by the MSA Futsal Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator, Representative or Committee.

(6) COMPETITION RULES

- 6.1** The format for each competition shall be determined by the MSA.
- 6.2** The MSA shall be responsible for assigning all match officials.
- 6.3** In all competitions (or parts thereof) organized on a round robin basis the following rules shall apply:
- 6.3.1** All round robin matches shall be played to regulation time only unless unforeseen circumstances apply as determined by the MSA.
- 6.3.2** Three (3) points shall be awarded for a win and one (1) point for a tie and zero (0) points for a loss. Final standings shall be determined by points accumulated at the completion of the round robin, with tie breaking as outlined in rule 6.3.4.
- 6.3.3** The final rounds shall be determined in advance by the MSA based on the criteria below in rule 6.3.4
- 6.3.4** The following criteria shall be used, in order, to determine the final standings:
- (a) Most points in all group matches





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- (b) If two **(2) teams** are tied in points in all group matches:
 - (i) Greater number of points in matches between the teams concerned (head to head competition);
 - (ii) Greater goal difference in all group matches.
 - (iii) Greater number of goals scored in all group matches.
 - (iv) A drawing of lots.
- (c) The following must be used if **three (3) or more teams** are tied in points in all group
 - (i) Greater goal difference in matches between the teams concerned.
 - (ii) Greater number of goals scored in all matches between the teams concerned.
 - (iii) Greater goal difference in all group matches.
 - (iv) Greater number of goals scored in all group matches
 - (v) Drawing of lots to determine ranking at a time and place decided by the Competition Coordinator.

6.4 The Final will require a winner, the following rules will apply:

- 6.4.1 The team with the higher score at the end of regulation time shall win the match.
- 6.4.2 Should the score be tied at the end of regulation time, there will be two (2) equal Extra Time periods of five (5) minutes played in their entirety with an interval of five (5) minutes at the end of normal playing time, but not between the two periods of extra time.
- 6.4.3 Should the score remain tied at the end of Extra Time; the winner shall be decided in accordance with the "Penalty kicks procedure specified in the FIFA FLOTG.





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(7) DISCIPLINE

- 7.1** The MSA Provincial Championship Competition Manager will deal with (or arrange to deal with) all discipline cases involving Players, Team Officials, or Spectators. The Competition Manager may designate a Representative or Committee to deal with discipline cases. Misconduct by Players, Team Officials, or Spectators reported by the Match Officials or MSA Representative(s) shall be dealt with by the MSA Provincial Championship Competition Manager, Designate, or Discipline Committee prior to the next match. An appeal may be submitted within two hours of the decision being communicated to the party (or parties). If leave to appeal is granted, the Competition Manager (or Designate) will, at that time, establish timelines for the appeal process and appeal fee submission. The decision of the Competition Manager (or Designate) is final and binding as far as the competition is concerned, unless it is appealed, in which case that decision is final and binding. Notwithstanding the hearing or appeal timelines set in the MSA Disciplinary code, the timelines set within this competition will take precedence due to the schedule of the competition.
- 7.2** The Competition Manager, Designate, or Discipline Committee may decide to conduct a hearing for misconduct (on or off the field of play) involving Players, Team Officials, or Spectators. The hearing time and location shall be determined by the Competition Manager, Designate, or Discipline Committee. Any accused and/or witness(es) who are unable to attend the hearing may submit a written statement. The Competition Manager, Designate, or Discipline Committee has the authority to make a decision even if the accused (having been given notice of hearing and the option to respond in writing) is not present. If attending the hearing, the Player or Team Official must be accompanied by a Team Representative. An appeal may be submitted within two hours of the decision being communicated to the party (or parties). If leave to appeal is granted, the Competition Manager (or Designate) will, at that time, establish timelines for the appeal process and appeal fee submission. The decision of the Competition Manager (or Designate) is final and binding as far as the competition is concerned, unless it is appealed, in which case that decision is final and binding. Notwithstanding the hearing or appeal timelines set in the MSA Disciplinary code, the timelines set within this competition will take precedence due to the schedule of the competition.
- 7.3** In most cases, suspended Players or Team Officials shall serve their suspension in the competition in which it was received for the specified number of games. However, time suspensions and suspensions from all soccer activities in any other competition shall be enforced during the MSA Provincial Championship Competition.



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- 7.4 Any player or team official who receives a third caution during the MSA Futsal Provincial Championship Competition (except in their team's final match) shall receive a one-match suspension to be served in their next MSA Provincial Championship Competition match.
- 7.5 **If the third caution is received on their team's final match, the one-match suspension will be served in the Member League play.**
- 7.6 Any Player or Team Official who is dismissed during the MSA Futsal Provincial Championship Competition (except in their Club's/Team's final match) shall receive a minimum, automatic, one-match suspension to be served in their next MSA Provincial Championship Competition match and any additional suspension determined by the MSA Disciplinary Committee.
- 7.7 **Any Player or Team Official who is dismissed in their team's final match of the MSA Futsal Provincial Championship Competition will serve the suspension, determined by the MSA Discipline Committee, in the Member League play.**
- 7.8 The MSA Provincial Championship Competition Manager, Designate, or Discipline Committee shall rule on any alleged breach of the competition rules by an individual or organization. An appeal may be submitted within two hours of the decision being communicated to the party (or parties). If leave to appeal is granted, the Competition Manager (or Designate) will, at that time, establish timelines for the appeal process and appeal fee submission. The decision of the Competition Manager (or Designate) is final and binding as far as the competition is concerned, unless it is appealed, in which case that decision is final and binding. The MSA may impose further disciplinary sanctions **during or after the competition**. Notwithstanding the hearing or appeal timelines set in the MSA Disciplinary code, the timelines set within this competition will take precedence due to the schedule of the competition.
- 7.9 Generally, any team that is found guilty of fielding an ineligible player for whatever reason (e.g., under age limit, omission from the Official Roster, omission from the game sheet, etc.) may forfeit the match. Victory and the resulting three points may be awarded to the opposing team, as well as the score of 3 – 0 (or greater, up to a maximum of five, depending on the score of the match). The Competition Manager may designate a Representative or Committee to make a ruling and/or take further action as deemed appropriate based on unique circumstances. **The MSA may impose further disciplinary sanctions during or after the competition.**



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- 7.10** Any Player or Team Official who is suspended during the MSA Provincial Championship Competition and is unable to serve the full length of the suspension during the MSA Provincial Championship Competition shall be required to serve the remainder of the suspension during Member League play.
- 7.11** A Player or Team Official dismissed during the final match may participate in the closing ceremonies and medal presentation. Any additional misconduct that occurs during the closing ceremonies will be dealt with by the MSA Discipline Committee.
- 7.12** All participants are expected to follow the Canada Soccer Code of Conduct and Ethics policy (http://manitobasoccer.ca/files/csa_code_of_conduct_and_ethics_final_22_09_17.pdf) approved by the MSA Board of Directors.
- 7.13** Every team is responsible for the actions of its Players, Team Officials, and Spectators.

Every team is required to take all precautions necessary to prevent its players, Team Officials and Spectators from threatening or assaulting anyone at games, especially the Match Officials.

(8) ADMINISTRATION OF THE COMPETITION

8.1 Protests

Any protests arising out of any match in the MSA Futsal Provincial Championship Competition shall be made in writing to the MSA Futsal Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator within three (3) hours of the completion of the match, accompanied by a protest fee of three hundred and seventy five dollars (\$375) in cash, **e-transfer**, money order or cheque payable to the MSA. The protest must be submitted to the MSA Futsal Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator or Designate by email. Notwithstanding the timelines set in the MSA Disciplinary code, the timelines set within this competition will take precedence due to the schedule of the competition. The Competitions Coordinator may designate a Representative or Committee to rule on the protest.

The protest must contain the details of the protest, including the rule that was allegedly breached, and the evidence to support the claim. Protests can only be considered on the grounds of the eligibility of a Team or Player(s), or on breaches of the Competition Rules and Regulations.

NOTE: Decisions of a Match Official on points of fact in a match cannot be protested.





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- 8.2** In most cases, the MSA Futsal Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator or Designate shall rule on the protest, including the disposition of the protest fee.
- 8.3** An appeal may be submitted within two hours of the decision being communicated to the party (or parties). If leave to appeal is granted, the Competition Manager (or Designate) will, at that time, establish timelines for the appeal process and appeal fee submission. The decision of the Competition Manager (or Designate) is final and binding as far as the competition is concerned, unless it is appealed, in which case that decision is final and binding. Notwithstanding the timelines set in the MSA Disciplinary code, the timelines set within this competition will take precedence due to the schedule of the competition.
- 8.4** Game day protocols must be followed by the teams participating and fines will be imposed when such protocols are not followed.
- 8.5** All teams that win their respective MSA Provincial Championship Competition are required to participate in the Canada Soccer Regional/National Championships. Failure to participate in the Regional/National Championships will result in discipline and/or sanction.

(9) SCHEDULE OF FINES

- 9.1** Team fails to appear for a scheduled match without just cause.
- Forfeiture of the game, \$500 fine, plus field and Match Official costs per match that is forfeited. The Competition Manager, Designate, or Discipline Committee may take further action, as deemed appropriate.
- 9.2** Team withdraws from the Competitions after the entry deadline.
- Forfeiture of the competition entry fee and the Competition Manager, Designate, or Discipline Committee may take further action as deemed appropriate (which may include further fines and/or sanctions).
- 9.3** Team not attending the medal presentation.
- \$500 fine. The Competition Manager, Designate, or Discipline Committee may take further action, as deemed appropriate.





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9.4 Team Official not accompanying player attending a hearing.

- \$250 fine. The Competition Manager, Designate, or Discipline Committee may take further action, as deemed appropriate.

9.5 Failure to return a trophy.

- \$500 fine plus the cost of a trophy up to \$500. The Competition Manager, Designate, or Discipline Committee may take further action, as deemed appropriate.