



**ONTARIO
FUTSAL
CUP 2024**

ONTARIO FUTSAL CUP COMPETITION RULES

Senior Divisions

(revised November 23, 2023)

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1.0 COMPETITION NAME AND DIVISIONS

- 1.1 The name of the competition shall be the **ONTARIO FUTSAL CUP**, hereinafter referred to as ***the competition***.
- 1.2 The competition shall be limited to the following divisions for 2024.

Men	For teams registered as Senior Open
Women	For teams registered as Senior Open

- 1.3 In the event that there is not a division for a specific Team Age Classification, the team shall be permitted to enter the division for the next highest Team Age Classification, provided there is space available in the higher age division.
- 1.4 The competition will be played in each of the above divisions providing that there is a minimum of four entries in the division.
- 1.5 Subject to age restrictions, a female player may play on a team in any one of the above divisions.
- 1.6 Subject to age restrictions, a male player may only play on a team in Men's divisions.



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2.0 MANAGEMENT OF THE COMPETITION

- 2.1 The Competitions Management Committee shall be responsible for developing the rules, policies, and procedures governing the competition. The Chair of the Competitions Management Committee shall be accountable to the Chief Executive Officer for the Competition Rules, Policies, and Procedures.
- 2.2 The Ontario Soccer staff shall be responsible for managing and implementing the operational functions of the competition. The staff shall be accountable to the Chief Executive Officer for these operational functions.
- 2.3 Protests shall be managed by the Ontario Futsal Cup Protest Committee.
- 2.4 Discipline shall be managed by the Ontario Futsal Cup Discipline Committee.
- 2.5 The Competitions Management Committee shall have the final decision on all issues related to the Competition. Decisions made by the Competitions Management Committee shall be deemed final and are not subject to an appeal process.

3.0 PROCEDURES FOR ENTERING THE COMPETITION

- 3.1 Application to enter the Ontario Futsal Cup must be made on the Online Entry Form accessible through the Ontario Soccer website at www.ontariosoccer.net.
- 3.2 Teams must register online for the **2024 Men's Ontario Futsal Cup** by **no later than December 19, 2023 and must include full team identification.**
- 3.3 The entry fee is **\$650.00**. The entry fee may be paid online using a credit card at the time of Entry submission. Payment will also be accepted in the form of cheque or money order payable to **The Ontario Soccer Association**. Cheque or Money Order payments must be received by the Ontario Soccer Provincial Office or District office by no later than the entry deadline of **December 19, 2023**. ***If a team has submitted an Online Entry Form before the deadline, but payment has not been received by the Ontario Soccer Provincial Office or District Office by the Entry Deadline, that team will be denied entry into the Competition.***
- 3.4 Each Online Entry Form must be approved by the team's Club. When a team or club completes the Online Entry Form and submits it, a copy will be sent to the team's Club. The Club must then complete the online approval process by no later than December 22, 2023. A team will not be entered in the Men's Ontario Futsal Cup if its Club does not approve the Entry before December 22, 2023.
- 3.5 Teams participating in the Ontario Futsal Cup must have two uniforms of different colour at all Ontario Futsal Cup games to avoid colour conflicts. These uniform colours will be registered with Ontario Soccer.
- 3.6 A Team that has entered the Ontario Futsal Cup but withdraws after the deadline but more than three days prior to the Ontario Futsal Cup Draw will be charged a \$100 administration fee. If a Team that has entered the Ontario Futsal Cup but withdraws less than three days before the Ontario Futsal Cup Draw, the team will forfeit its Ontario Futsal Cup Entry Fee.
- 3.7 **The use of Free-Standing Videography Equipment, such as a VEO Camera on a tripod, is not permitted in the Ontario Futsal Cup.** Failure to adhere to this regulation may result in a fine or other sanction.

The Ontario Futsal Cup Final games will be livestreamed by Ontario Soccer, and the equipment used to stream these matches is the only exception.



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4.0 FORMAT FOR THE COMPETITION

4.1 The competition shall be organized in five regions. The regional breakdown of the District Associations is:

REGION A:	Durham Region, Hamilton Soccer, Huronia District, Toronto, Niagara, North York, Peel Halton, Scarborough, Southwest Soccer, York Region
REGION B:	Elgin Middlesex, Essex County, Lambton Kent
REGION C:	East Central Ontario, Eastern Ontario and District, Southeast Ontario
REGION D:	Greater North
REGION E:	Soccer Northwest Ontario

4.2 For each division, the competition shall consist of:

- a) a preliminary round which could be played in a **"round-robin tournament"** format or a **"single-game knockout"** format; and
- b) a final round which will be played in a combination of **"round-robin tournament"** format and the **"single-game knockout"** format.

4.3 For each division, a minimum of one team from each Region shall qualify for the **Final Round** (i.e. last 8 teams). Further representation by each Region in the **Final Round** of each division shall be based on the percentage of total entries from that Region for that division.

4.4 For each division, a **Preliminary Round** shall be used to qualify teams for the **Final Round**.

5.0 TEAM ELIGIBILITY

5.1 The competition shall be open to all registered Indoor and Futsal amateur teams whose clubs are affiliated with Ontario Soccer.

5.2 Club shall mean the Governing Organization that is affiliated to, and under the jurisdiction of a District Association and is established and operates in accordance with Operational Procedure 3.0 Organizations Procedure 6.0 Club; organizes teams, registers all players, team officials and administrators of their organizations.

5.3 A team may only be entered in the division for which it is registered with Ontario Soccer (i.e. team age classification and team gender classification).

5.4 Notwithstanding *Rule 5.3*, if there is no division provided for a specific age/gender classification, the team will be permitted to enter the division for the next highest age division of the same gender.

5.5 Each team entered in the competition must have a registered team head coach who has completed the:

1. Respect in Soccer certification; and
2. **Soccer for Life** course plus MED (Making Ethical Decisions).
3. Making Head Way in Soccer

Assistant Coaches registered to the team must also have completed the:

1. Respect in Soccer certification; and
2. **Soccer for Life** course plus MED (Making Ethical Decisions).
3. Making Head Way in Soccer



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- 5.6 Each team must have at least one team official registered to the team that is the same gender as the players.
- 5.7 A Team Official may only be on the bench and listed on a game sheet for one team in a division in the Ontario Futsal Cup.
- 5.8 If a team has entered another tournament on the same weekend as the Men's or Women's Ontario Futsal Cup, the team shall be denied entry into the competition. *(The Ontario Soccer Published Rules prohibit a team already entered in the Ontario Cup from entering a tournament scheduled for the same weekend as a scheduled round for its division of the Ontario Cup.)*

6.0 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

6.1 For the competition, eligibility shall be defined as the following:

- a) A player may only play for the club to which he/she is registered, subject to Competitions Procedure 21.1 3) of the Ontario Soccer Published Rules and Rule 6.1 c) below.
- b) A player shall be deemed registered for the competition if his/her registration form has been properly registered by his/her District Association *(in accordance with Ontario Soccer Published Rules)* before a game in which he/she plays in the competition.
- c) A player shall **NOT** play for more than one team in the competition.
- d) Save for provision of proof to the contrary, a player whose name and signature appears on the teamsheet shall be deemed to have played in the game.
- e) Short Term Registration Permits (S.T.R.P.'s) and Temporary Eligibility Permits (T.E.P.'s) shall not be permitted in the competition.
- f) Subject to Competition Procedure 21.0, a player may, with permission of their Club, play for another Team within the same Club to which they are registered provided the player plays up to a **higher team age classification** Team. Players will not be permitted to play up within the Club under any other circumstances.
- g) Subject to **Rule 6.1 c)**, a transferred player shall be deemed registered for the competition if their transfer form has been properly registered by their District Association *(in accordance with Ontario Soccer Published Rules)* before a game in which they play in the competition.
- h) A player who has been a professional or non-amateur player and who has been reinstated by the Canadian Soccer Association shall be eligible to participate in the competition provided that he has been a registered amateur player with their Club for a period of **thirty days** prior to the game. The player may not register as an amateur player until their reinstatement has been approved by the Canadian Soccer Association.

6.2 An ineligible player shall be defined as one or more of the following:

- a) a player who does not conform with one or more of the requirements in **Rule 6.1**;
- b) a player who plays during a time period in which they are suspended;



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- c) a player who plays when they require an *International Transfer*;
- d) a player who plays under an assumed name;
- e) a player who plays for a team of a Club with which they are not registered; and
- f) a player who is not registered or is improperly registered.

6.3 Each player and team official shall be identified on the teamsheet, in accordance with the following procedures:

- a) *Ontario Cup teamsheets* shall be available online at www.ontariosoccer.net for all teams to download and print prior to the competition. **Each team must print one copy of the teamsheet for each game** This copy must be signed by all players and team officials participating in the game. Each team must also print one copy of the online "Teamsheet - Referee Report".
- b) If an *Ontario Cup teamsheet* is not available prior to the start of the game, a *substitute teamsheet* may be used. The following information must be included on a *substitute teamsheet*:
 - division
 - game number
 - date of game
 - kick-off time
 - venue (location of game)
 - name of Home Team
 - name of Visiting Team
 - for each player, their:
 - name
 - Ontario Soccer Registrant Number
 - signature
 - jersey (sweater) number
 - name and signature of each Team Official
- c) The team sheet shall list all eligible players (including potential substitutes) and up to five team officials.
- d) The team sheet must be signed by **all** players and team officials.
- e) After the referee has checked the team sheets for proper completion, a representative team official from each team may take a photograph of the team sheets prior to the game. Paper copies of the team sheets will not be provided to the teams at the pitch.

- 6.4
- a) In each game of the competition, a team shall be permitted to dress and play up to **14** players.
 - b) Only the **14 "dressed" players** and the **five** team officials included on the team sheet may sit on the team bench or in the area designated for that team.
 - c) Unlimited substitutions shall be permitted in accordance with the *FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game*. Substitution of players may be made at any time during the game.
 - d) The games for all divisions will be played by two teams, each consisting of not more than five players, one of whom is the goalkeeper.



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- 6.5** Each player/team official must produce their Ontario Soccer Player Registration Book/Card/OSCAR Digital ID before being eligible to participate in a game of this competition, subject to the following:
- a) In games played in the **Preliminary Round**, one representative from each team shall inspect the Player Registration Books/Cards/OSCAR Digital ID of the players on the opposing team. It shall be the responsibility of the team representative to notify the referee of any discrepancy **prior to the game**. The referee **shall** record such discrepancies in their report to Ontario Soccer.
 - b) In games played in the **Final Round, Semi-Final Round, or Cup Final**, the Ontario Soccer representative(s) shall inspect the Player Registration Books/Cards/OSCAR Digital ID of the players on both teams. In such cases, the Ontario Soccer representative(s) may declare a player ineligible to play in the game.
 - c) Notwithstanding **Rule 6.5 a)** above, in extenuating circumstances where the Player ID is not present at the start of the game, the Player Registration Books/Cards/OSCAR Digital ID may be checked at any time prior to the beginning of the second half. In such cases, it shall be the responsibility of the (opposing) team representative to notify the referee of any discrepancy **immediately after the Player IDs have been checked**; and the referee **shall** record such discrepancies in their report to Ontario Soccer.
 - d) Notwithstanding **Rules 6.5 a) and 6.5 c)** above, a player, whose name is included on the teamsheet but is not present at the time when the Player IDs are checked by the (opposing) team representative, shall not play in the game until after their Player Registration Book/Card/OSCAR Digital ID has been checked (by the opposing team representative) in their presence and they have signed the teamsheet. In such cases, it shall be the responsibility of the (opposing) team representative to notify the referee of any discrepancy **immediately after the Player Registration Book/Card/OSCAR Digital ID has been checked**; and the referee **shall** record such discrepancy in their report to Ontario Soccer. **A player that arrives after the start of the second half shall not be eligible to participate in the game.**
 - e) When a team representative has reported a player eligibility discrepancy to the referee (*in accordance with Rules 6.5 a), 6.5 c), and 6.5 d), above*), the referee shall have the player complete the section on the reverse side of the teamsheet (regarding "**player eligibility**"), in which the player must write their date of birth and signature.

7.0 TEAM NO-SHOWS AND TEAM WITHDRAWALS

- 7.1** If a team fails to appear or does not have enough players (3) to start its scheduled Ontario Futsal Cup game:
- a) the team's Club shall:
 - i) forfeit its Ontario Futsal Cup entry fee
 - ii) pay the applicable match officials' fees and travel expenses
 - iii) pay a penalty of **\$1100.00** to Ontario Soccer; and
 - b) the manager and the coach of the team may be subject to further disciplinary action.



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- 7.2 If a team is unable to fulfil its scheduled Ontario Futsal Cup game and:
- a) has notified Ontario Soccer twenty one or more days prior to the scheduled tournament weekend that it is withdrawing from the competition, the team's Club shall:
 - i) forfeit its Ontario Futsal Cup entry fee
 - ii) pay a penalty of **\$600.00** to Ontario Soccer; or
 - b) has notified Ontario Soccer twenty or fewer days prior to the scheduled tournament weekend that it is withdrawing from the competition, the team's Club shall:
 - i) forfeit its Ontario Futsal Cup entry fee
 - ii) pay a penalty of **\$850.00** to Ontario Soccer.
- 7.3 If a team is unable to fulfil its scheduled Ontario Futsal Cup game in the "**single game knock-out format**" and:
- a) has notified Ontario Soccer five or more days prior to the scheduled weekend that it is withdrawing from the competition, the team's Club shall:
 - i) forfeit its Ontario Futsal Cup entry fee
 - ii) pay a penalty of **\$350.00** to Ontario Soccer; or
 - b) has notified Ontario Soccer four or less days prior to the scheduled tournament weekend that it is withdrawing from the competition, the team's Club shall:
 - i) forfeit its Ontario Futsal Cup entry fee
 - ii) pay a penalty of **\$500.00** to Ontario Soccer.
- 7.4 Notwithstanding 7.1, 7.2, or 7.3, teams withdrawing from or failing to appear at a scheduled Ontario Futsal Cup game may not be accepted into the Ontario Cup the following year, pending a review by the Competitions Management Committee.
- 7.5 A team must produce the minimum number of required players (3) in order for it to be considered as fulfilling its scheduled game. If a team starts a game with the minimum number of players and then the game is abandoned due to the players being injured or leaving the game, that team may be subject to a penalty pending review by the Competitions Management Committee.

8.0 MATCH OFFICIALS

- 8.1 Match Officials shall be appointed to **each** Ontario Futsal Cup game.
- 8.2 The Ontario Soccer Manager of Match Official Development shall be responsible for **appointing** the match officials to all games.
- 8.3 All match officials officiating Ontario Futsal Cup games shall be registered Match Officials with Ontario Soccer.
- 8.4 The "**Match Officials Fees**" shall be paid in accordance with the following:
- a) For games played in the **Final Round**, Ontario Soccer shall be responsible for paying the "**Match Officials Fees**" and any approved (by Ontario Soccer) expenses to the Match Officials, upon completion of the Match Officials' duties after the game.
 - b) For other games played in the **Preliminary Round**, the "**Match Officials Fees**" shall be paid by each participating team to the **Convenor** prior to the commencement of the round. The **Convenor** shall be responsible for paying the "**Match Officials Fees**" upon completion of the Match Officials' duties after the game,



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including the submission of the team sheets and all misconduct reports, and their attendance at any *discipline hearing(s)*.

- c) The "**Match Officials Fees**" shall be **\$40.00** per game for each Match Official.
- d) In the Semi-Finals and Cup Final only, a Match Official is entitled to a *travel allowance* of **0.45 cents per kilometre (return trip)** for each kilometre. When possible and practical, the Match Officials shall travel in one vehicle, in which case only the driver is entitled to the *travel allowance*.
- e) In the Semi-Finals and Finals only, for travel over 200 kilometres one way, a Match Official shall be entitled to a *meal allowance* of **\$10.00**.
- f) If for any reason, the game is not played, each Match Official present shall be paid one half of their "**Match Official Fee**" and the full applicable allowances/expenses, in accordance with **Rules 8.4 a), b), c), d), and e)**.

8.5 The teamsheets, and misconduct reports must be completed by the Referee immediately after the game and submitted to the Ontario Soccer Representative at the game. The Referee shall also be required to attend the discipline hearing of any player dismissed during the game who requests a hearing if requested by the discipline hearing panel. Such hearing shall take place within 30 minutes after it is requested and no later than one hour after the game.

9.0 DURATION OF PLAY

9.1 For all games, the *duration of play* shall be:

<u>Regulation Time</u> two periods of 20 minutes	<u>Extra Time</u> No extra time
(Games will be played with a stop clock format. Stoppages will be at the discretion of the referees.)	

9.2 The referee shall be the sole judge of the amount of time played and their decision on this matter **shall NOT** be subject to appeal or protest.

9.3 In accordance with **Rule 9.1** and **Rule 9.2**, if the game is tied at the end of **Regulation Time**, the winner of the game shall be determined by "**the taking of penalty kicks from the penalty mark**", in accordance with the current edition of the **F.I.F.A. Futsal Laws Of The Game**.

9.4 In games played under the "**round-robin tournament**" format, the "**drawing of lots**" may be necessary as part of the *tie-breaking procedure* to determine the *Group Winner*, in accordance with **Rule 15.0**. In this event, the Match Officials from the last tournament game would officiate this procedure. Such a procedure should commence within **20 minutes** after the last game.

9.5 In the event that a game cannot be played for the full duration of time, the game shall be considered complete if at least 75% of the game has been completed. This rule will not apply if the game does not run its full duration because the referee has abandoned the game as a result of the actions of one or both teams; and in such a case, the Ontario Futsal Cup Discipline Committee shall determine the status of the game. As the sole



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judge of the amount of time played, the referee shall report how much time had lapsed before the game was terminated.

10.0 PROTESTS

10.1 With the exception of games played at the **Final Round**, each protest arising from a game in the competition shall be sent in accordance with the following policies and procedures:

- a) by 12:00 p.m. on the Tuesday following the game, the protesting club shall advise the Ontario Soccer Provincial Office by:
- telephone (905) 264-9390 or
 - e-mail - ontariocup@ontariosoccer.net or
 - in person

(Please note that Ontario Soccer is not responsible for protests sent by e-mail that are not received by 12:00 p.m. on the Tuesday)

(In the event that a game has been rescheduled and is not played on a weekend, the protesting club shall advise the Ontario Soccer Provincial Office by 12:00 p.m. two days following the game)

that it is protesting the game and provide the following information:

- name of protesting club
- date of game
- game number
- division
- name of club's team
- name of opposing team
- rule(s) which were violated
- additional information to support protest
- name and position (within club) of person advising Ontario Soccer.

b) within **TWO** days (Saturdays, Sundays, and Legal Holidays excepted) of the conclusion of the game being protested, the protesting club shall send:

- the written protest to the Ontario Soccer Provincial Office (7601 Martin Grove Road, Vaughan, Ontario, L4L 9E4) by:
 - * **registered mail or registered courier service,**
 - * **hand delivery,**
 - * **e-mail to ontariocup@ontariosoccer.net**
- to the Ontario Soccer Provincial Office accompanying the protest, a protest fee in the amount of **\$500.00**
(if letter of protest is e-mailed, the fee must be received within five response days after the receipt of the e-mail)

c) **in cases of disputed delivery date regarding protests submitted by hand delivery or e-mail, it is the responsibility of the protesting Club to prove which date the protest was received at the Ontario Soccer Provincial Office.**

10.2 If the terms of **Rule 10.1** are not met, the protest shall be declared *to be out of order*.

10.3 The *protesting club* must provide evidence to substantiate the protest.



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- 10.4 Upon receiving the initial notification of the protest (*in accordance with Rule 10.1 a*)), the Ontario Soccer staff shall notify the D.O.C.C. (or an alternate person in that District Association) of the *opposing team's club* about the nature of the protest. The D.O.C.C. (or the alternate person) shall advise the *opposing team's club* about the nature of the protest.
- 10.5 Upon receiving the written protest, (*in accordance with Rule 10.1 b*)), the Ontario Soccer staff shall provide the opposing team's club with a copy of the Protest.
- 10.6 Protests shall be dealt with by the *Ontario Futsal Cup Protest Committee*.
- 10.7 After the protest is received, the hearing will be scheduled and the date and time will be communicated to all parties.
- 10.8 Officials from both clubs/teams and both D.O.C.C.'s have the right to send written submissions to the Ontario Soccer Provincial Office regarding the protest. Such submissions shall be considered by the *Ontario Futsal Cup Protest Committee*. Additional information will be considered providing it arrives **two hours** prior to the scheduled meeting of the *Ontario Futsal Cup Protest Committee*.
- 10.9 The *Ontario Futsal Cup Protest Committee*, in reviewing the protest, shall consider all written submissions including:
- the written protest from the *protesting club*
 - any submissions received *in accordance with Rule 10.8*
 - the referee's report
 - any other submissions received
- and shall render a decision based on the evidence presented and there shall be no further appeal of any kind against its decision(s).
- 10.10 Notwithstanding **Rule 10.8**, at its discretion, the *Ontario Futsal Cup Protest Committee* may convene a *protest hearing* at which officials from both clubs/teams, the match officials, or other persons may be required to attend. The Committee shall render a decision based on the evidence presented and there shall be no further appeal of any kind against its decision(s).
- 10.11 In the event a team is found to be in *contravention of the competition rules* as a result of a protest, the *Ontario Futsal Cup Protest Committee* has the authority to:
- i) decide, on the basis of the evidence provided, which team (if any) will be declared the winner of the game; and
 - ii) levy a fine against an *offending team* to a maximum of **\$1,100.00 per game**.
- 10.12 Protests at the **Final Round** must be submitted in accordance with the following procedures:
- i) *within 30 minutes after the conclusion of the game being protested*, the *protesting club* shall submit:
 - the written protest to the Ontario Soccer Representative at the competition
 - a protest fee in the amount of **\$500.00**
 - ii) the Ontario Soccer Representative shall notify the opposing team that the game has been protested and shall advise it about the details and grounds on which the protest is based



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- iii) the Ontario Soccer Representatives shall convene a **Protest Hearing** *within one hour after the receipt of the protest*
- iv) both teams shall be invited to send a representative(s) to the **Protest Hearing** and the Ontario Soccer Representative(s) may invite other persons to provide testimony at the **Protest Hearing**.
- v) the **Protest Hearing Panel** shall consist of a minimum of three persons which shall consider all testimony and reports presented to them; and shall render a decision; and there shall be no further appeal of any kind against its decision(s).
- vi) in the event that a team is found to be in contravention of the *competition rules* as a result of the protest, the **Protest Hearing Panel** has the authority to:
 - decide, on the basis of the evidence provided, which team (if any) shall be declared the winner of the game; and/or
 - levy a fine against an *offending team* to a maximum of \$1,100.00 per game.

11.0 RULE CONTRAVENTION WITHOUT PROTEST

11.1 Notwithstanding **Rule 10.0**, the *Ontario Futsal Cup Protest Committee* may:

- i) reverse a game result of a team

for that team's *contravention of a competition rule(s)*, even if a protest has not been lodged correctly, or lodged at all, providing the *Ontario Futsal Cup Protest Committee* makes such decision *by no later than the Monday preceding the next game of that team*. The *Ontario Futsal Cup Protest Committee* may also:

- ii) fine a team
- iii) take any other disciplinary action deemed appropriate by the Committee

12.0 DISCIPLINE

12.1 Jurisdiction

12.1.1 The *Ontario Futsal Cup Discipline Committee* shall be responsible for handling all cases of reported misconduct with the Ontario Futsal Cup, except for:

1. **match official assault**
2. physical assault or attempted physical assault of a youth aged player by a team official or administrator
3. immediate discipline of players at games played in Tournament Rounds

12.1.2 It is the responsibility of each Club to ensure that its Players and Team Officials are aware of the Ontario Futsal Cup Discipline rules and of the discipline systems used at different levels of the competition

12.2 Discipline Systems

12.2.1 Ontario Futsal Cup Discipline shall be rendered in accordance with the **Discipline by Review (D.B.R.)** system for all Misconduct Types listed in **12.6.1**



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12.2.2 All other misconduct shall be referred to the *Ontario Cup Discipline Committee* and discipline shall be rendered in accordance with the **Discipline By Hearing (D.B.H.)** system with penalties as specified in Ontario Soccer Discipline Section 12, Procedure 9.0

12.2.3 At the **Preliminary Rounds**, an *Ontario Futsal Cup Tournament Discipline Hearing/Review Panel* shall be appointed by Ontario Soccer in which the tournament is being played and shall use the **Discipline by Review (D.B.R.)** system to review all cases of **player** misconduct reported by a match official, **except for**:

- a) **match official assault**
- b) misconduct by a **player** which occurred in their team's last game in the tournament, unless the player requests a Discipline Hearing;
- c) misconduct which falls under the **Discipline By Hearing (D.B.H)** System;

and shall render discipline in accordance with the mandatory suspensions, as specified in **12.6.1**

(Note: Except for Match Official Assault or physical assault/attempted physical assault of a youth registered player by a team official or administrator, there shall be no discipline rendered for team officials or administrators at a Preliminary Round)

12.2.4 At the **Final Round**, a *Discipline Hearing/Review Panel* shall be appointed by the *Ontario Futsal Cup Discipline Committee* and shall use the **Discipline by Review (D.B.R.)** system to review and render discipline in **all** cases of reported misconduct occurring in these rounds, **except for**:

- a) **match official assault**
- b) misconduct which falls under the **Discipline By Hearing (D.B.H)** System;

and shall render discipline in accordance with the mandatory suspensions, as specified in **12.6.1**

12.3 Reporting and Review of Discipline

12.3.1 Within one day after the conclusion of a Preliminary Round, the *Ontario Cup Representative* shall send the following items to the Ontario Soccer Provincial Office:

- teamsheets for all games
- misconduct report for each incident of misconduct by a player, team official, administrator, or match official
- *Ontario Cup Discipline Summary Form* for all games
- Minutes of all *Discipline Hearings* conducted at the tournament
- the *Request For Hearing Fee(s)* for any hearings conducted at the tournament
- the *Tournament Discipline Summary Report* for each team which participated in the tournament, including the number of tournament games from which each player was suspended.

12.3.2 The *Ontario Futsal Cup Discipline Committee* shall review all cases of reported misconduct and shall render discipline in accordance with the mandatory penalties, as specified in **Rule 12.6.1**, after taking into consideration the number of games suspended at the tournament, as reported by the *Ontario Cup Representative*, in accordance with **Rule 12.3.1**, or the number of games suspended at the Final Round.

12.3.3 In the event that (based on the reports which it reviews) the *Ontario Futsal Cup Discipline Committee* decides that additional misconduct has occurred or that a Serious Foul Play or Violent Conduct misconduct warrants more than the mandatory suspension, it shall advise the person (either directly or through their Club) that additional charges are being laid and that a *Discipline Hearing* is being scheduled in accordance with the following procedures:

- 1) the discipline hearing shall be heard by an *Ontario Futsal Cup Discipline Hearing Panel* prior to the next round being played



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- 2) the accused shall receive at least 48 hours notice of the hearing and the hearing shall proceed with or without the attendance of the accused or their representative
- 3) if the *Discipline Hearing Panel* finds the accused guilty of the reported misconduct, discipline shall be rendered in accordance with **Ontario Soccer Discipline Section 12, Procedure 9.0**

12.4 Request for Discipline Hearing

12.4.1 An accused subject to **Discipline by Review** has the right to request a **Discipline Hearing**:

a) In **Preliminary Rounds** (not including Preliminary Round Single Knock-out games) and **Final Rounds** such request, and subsequent hearing, must adhere to the following procedures:

- 1) the request may pertain to any game, including the last game of the player's team
- 2) the *Request For A Hearing* must be made **in writing**
- 3) the request must be submitted within **30 minutes** after the conclusion of the game in which the player committed the alleged misconduct
- 4) a **\$250.00 Request For Hearing Fee** must be included with the request
- 5) Unless it is the last game of the preliminary tournament round the *Discipline Hearing* must convene within **30 minutes** after receipt of the request
- 6) the player must attend the hearing. The referee must attend the hearing if requested by the discipline hearing pane
- 7) the player may not participate in any soccer activities until the decision of the *Discipline Hearing Panel* has been communicated

b) for **all other games**, such requests must adhere to the following procedures:

- 1) the accused or their Club's representative must advise Ontario Soccer of the intent to request a hearing by one or more of:
 - telephone to (905) 264-9390
 - e-mail to ontariocup@ontariosoccer.net
 - in person at the *Ontario Soccer Provincial Office***by no later than 3:00 p.m. on the first Monday** following the game in which the alleged misconduct occurred

- 2) the *Request For A Hearing* must be forwarded in writing, by *registered mail, certified mail, trace mail, or courier service* **within one day of the conclusion of the match** in which the alleged misconduct occurred, to the *Ontario Soccer Provincial Office*

- 3) a **\$250.00 Request For Hearing Fee** must accompany the *Request For A Hearing*
- 4) the *Discipline Hearing* shall be heard by an *Ontario Cup Discipline Hearing Panel* prior to the next round being played
- 5) the accused person shall receive **48 hours notice of the hearing** and the hearing shall proceed with, or without, the attendance of the accused person or their representative

c) If the *Discipline Hearing Panel* finds the player to be **guilty** of the reported misconduct, the mandatory discipline shall be rendered, in accordance with **Rule 12.6.1**

If the *Discipline Hearing Panel* finds the player to be **not guilty** of the reported misconduct, the player shall be refunded their **\$250.00 Request For Hearing Fee**.

12.4.2 Failure to request a *Discipline Hearing*, in accordance with **Rule 12.4.1** shall mean that any suspension levied under the *Discipline By Review (D.B.R.) System* may **NOT** be appealed to Ontario Soccer or any other organization.

12.5 General Discipline Rules



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12.5.1 In all cases of **match official assault**, the accused shall be **immediately suspended from all soccer activities**, the report shall be referred to Ontario Soccer, and discipline shall be handled by an *Ontario Soccer Discipline Hearing Panel*, in accordance with the Ontario Soccer Published Rules.

12.5.2 In cases where a team official or administrator is reported by a Match Official, or if charges are laid by the police, for Physical Assault or Attempted Physical Assault of a youth registered player, the team official or administrator in question shall be **immediately suspended from all soccer activities** and discipline shall be handled by an Ontario Soccer *Discipline Hearing Panel*, in accordance with Ontario Soccer Published Rules

12.5.3 In a case of *mistaken identity*, the accused person must prove to the *Discipline Hearing Panel* at a *Discipline Hearing* that they were incorrectly identified and must identify and prove the **correct identity** of the player who actually committed the reported misconduct; and in such case the player will not be suspended but the player who actually committed the reported misconduct shall be disciplined, in accordance with **Rule 12.6.1**

12.5.4 Cautions shall be recorded in the Ontario Soccer's Ontario Cup Discipline database. The accumulation of cautions shall only apply to the Ontario Futsal Cup competition.

12.6 Mandatory Penalties

12.6.1 a) Players (*only Players may be disciplined at Tournament Rounds*): For the Misconduct Types found on Tables 5 and 6 of Section 12, Procedure 9.0 of the Published Rules and occurring in Ontario Futsal Cup games, discipline shall be rendered under the *Discipline by Review* system and the mandatory penalties as outlined in Table 1 shall apply.

b) If the match official's report indicates that a charge of 1.16A is justified, the Review Hearing Panel will deal with the player under 1.16 and forward the report to the Ontario Cup Committee for further disciplinary action at a subsequent hearing. If the match official's report indicates that there was intent to injure i.e. types 1.19A and 1.21A, the Review Hearing Panel will deal with the player under types 1.19 and 1.21 and forward the reports to the Ontario Cup Committee for further disciplinary action at a subsequent hearing.

12.6.2 a) Coaches and other Team Officials: For the Misconduct Types found on Tables 2 of Section 12, Procedure 9.0 of the Published Rules and occurring in Ontario Futsal Cup games, discipline shall be rendered under the *Discipline by Review* system and the mandatory penalties as outlined in Table 2 shall apply.

12.7 Suspensions Levied by the Ontario Cup Discipline Hearing/Review Panel

12.7.1 On misconduct being proved to its satisfaction, the *Ontario Cup Discipline Committee* shall have the power to order the offender:

- a) **to be suspended from all or any specific soccer activity for a stated period of time;**
- b) **to be suspended for a specific number of games in the Ontario Futsal Cup competition; and**
- c) **to be fined and/or bonded (with or without suspension).**

12.7.2 An Ontario Futsal Cup Discipline Hearing Panel may only suspend an accused from **all soccer related activity** when a finding of guilty is rendered for one or more of the Misconduct Types listed in Ontario Soccer Discipline Policy 9.5.1

12.7.3 In the case of "**suspensions for a stated period of time**";:



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- a) The "*beginning date*" of a suspension shall be the **Wednesday** following the Discipline Hearing in which the coach, player, team official was found guilty.
- b) It is the **responsibility of the player/team official's Club** to check with the District Association and/or the team's League to find out what the suspension is (*i.e. the "beginning date" and "expiry date"*)
- 12.7.4** In the case of "**suspensions for a specific number of games**",
- a) A player suspended for a specified number of games shall serve such suspension in the Ontario Futsal Cup competition (*i.e. shall be suspended from a specific number of Ontario Futsal Cup games*) until the player's team has concluded its participation in that year's Ontario Futsal Cup. After a team has concluded its participation in that year's Ontario Futsal Cup, the player's remaining number of suspended games shall be served in their team's league, league cup, and league playoff games.
- b) For each player who has a remaining number of suspended games to be served after their team has concluded its participation in that year's Ontario Futsal Cup, Ontario Soccer shall transfer the suspended games (still to be served) to the team's league and Ontario Soccer (for Provincial, Regional and Multi-Jurisdictional District Leagues) or District Associations (for its District Leagues) shall designate the specific games in that league from which the player will be suspended.
- c) It is the **responsibility of the player/team official's Club** to check with its Club's District Association and/or the team's League to find out what the suspension is (*i.e. the specific games from which the player is suspended*)
- 12.7.5** If the player/team official's team plays in a *Provincial League, Regional League, or Multi-Jurisdictional District League*, Ontario Soccer shall enter the data in the Soccer Discipline System database **by no later than the Monday** preceding the **suspension**.
- 12.7.6** If the player/team official's team plays in a *District League*, the league's District Association shall advise it about the **suspension period or suspended games** levied to the player or team official **by no later than the Tuesday** preceding the **suspension period**.
- 12.7.7** **By no later than the Monday preceding any suspensions**, a listing of all suspensions (resulting from misconduct in the **Ontario Futsal Cup**) shall be entered in the Ontario Cup Discipline database by Ontario Soccer. The suspension is e-mailed to the team contact after obtaining a game number for the Ontario Futsal Cup, the corresponding league or District.
- 12.7.8** Any suspended games transferred to a League shall be indicated in the Ontario Cup Discipline database by Ontario Soccer. For *Provincial Leagues, Regional Leagues, and Multi-Jurisdictional District Leagues*, the league shall indicate game numbers for the suspended games transferred to it. For *District Leagues*, the District Association shall indicate the game numbers for suspended games transferred to it.
- 12.8 Fines, Bonds and Penalties**
- 12.8.1** In the event a team, including team officials, contravenes the *competition rules* as contained herein, the **Ontario Cup Committee** and/or the **Ontario Futsal Cup Discipline Hearing/Review Panel**, has the authority to levy fine(s) against the offending team, up to a maximum of **\$1,100.00** per game.
- 12.8.2** A club representative required to attend a discipline hearing for one of its players, coaches or administrators who fail to appear at the hearing will be fined \$200.00 for non appearance.



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12.8.3 If a game is abandoned due to the action(s) of its players, coaches, administrators or spectators and such actions are warranted as invalid reason(s) for abandoning the game, the Ontario Cup Committee may declare a team ineligible to enter the Ontario Futsal Cup in the subsequent year and the team will be fined in accordance with Discipline Procedure 9.0 Table 5

12.8.4 Bonds may be levied at the discretion of the Ontario Futsal Cup Discipline Committee for a specified period of time and purpose. No interest will be paid on any bond levied.

12.9 Forfeiture of Game

12.9.1 In cases of severe team misconduct, the Ontario Futsal Cup Discipline Hearing Panel has the authority to **reverse a game result of a team**

13.0 MEN'S ONTARIO FUTSAL CUP TOURNAMENTS

13.1 The competition may be played under the "**single knock-out**" format and/or the "**round-robin tournament**" format in the **Preliminary Round** and then, the preliminary round winners will advance to the **Final Round** which will be played under the "**round-robin tournament**" format with the winners advancing to the **Semi-Finals** and **Finals** which will be played under the "**single-game knockout**" format.

13.2 The preliminary rounds shall be finalized after the *Cup Draw*.

13.3 Based on the total number of team entries in a division, a tournament group will be comprised of one of the following:

- 3 teams
- 4 teams
- 5 teams

13.4 Scheduling Games Played Under The "Round-Robin Tournament" Format

13.4.1 The schedule shall be a generic schedule prepared by Ontario Soccer prior to the *Men's Ontario Futsal Cup Draw*. The schedule shall identify the *order of games* for teams designated as *Team #1, Team #2, Team #3, Team #4, and Team #5* (if necessary) in each *Tournament Group*.

13.4.2 At the *Ontario Futsal Cup Draw*, the following shall be determined (*by a draw*) for each team:

- the group
- the other teams in the group
- the team number (*eg., Team #1, Team #2, etc*)

13.4.3 Scheduled Games that Can't be Completed

- a) In the event that some or all games of a tournament group cannot be played due to weather conditions preventing teams from travelling or the facility manager declaring that *the field is closed*, the unplayed games shall be rescheduled to a date determined by Ontario Soccer.
- b) Every attempt should be made to complete the entire schedule of games of a tournament group.



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- 13.5 If a team does not appear at any one of its scheduled games at a *Tournament* or, if a Club withdraws its team from the Ontario Futsal Cup prior to its participation, the team's Club shall be fined, in accordance with **Rule 7.0**.
- 13.6 Prior to the commencement of the **Preliminary Round**, each team shall pay, to the *Ontario Cup Representative*, 50% of the *match officials fees* **IN CASH** for all of the games to be played during the tournament.
- 13.7 *Late For Game Rule*
- 13.7.1 A grace period of *fifteen minutes* will be given to each team that is late for the scheduled kickoff time of its game.
- 13.7.2 If a team is more than *fifteen minutes* late or does not produce the minimum number of players required for any game in the tournament, it will be *disqualified from the tournament*.
- 13.7.3 In the event that a team is late for a game or does not produce the minimum number of players required and that game is forfeited, that team may be subject to further disciplinary action.
- 13.8 In the event that a team is *disqualified from the tournament*, all games involving that team shall be *declared null and void*.
- 13.9 The verification of *Player Eligibility* is the responsibility of the representative of the *opposing team*, in accordance with **Rules 6.5 a), 6.5 c), 6.5 d), and 6.5 e)**.
- 13.10 In the event that two or more teams are tied for first place in a *Tournament Group*, the higher standing shall be determined in accordance with **Rule 15.0**.
- 13.11 In the event that **wild card teams** are selected for play in the Final Round, the second place team in each group will be identified and the following procedure will be applied:
- where the second place teams in each group have played the same number of tournament round games, the second place team which has
 - a) the most points in accordance with **Rule 15.1**, failing which:
 - b) the team with the highest **goal difference** (determined by deducting the "*goals against*" from the "*goals for*"), failing which:
 - c) the team with the most goals scored, failing which:
 - d) the team which, in the "*drawing of lots*", draws the higher placing, in accordance with **Rule 15.2**.
 - where the second place teams in each group have played a different number of tournament round games, the second place team which has the best goal difference average (determined by finding the goal difference ("*goals-for*" minus "*goals-against*") and dividing the difference by the number of games played) will be selected.
- 13.12 The Visiting Team must wear its registered main colours and if the colours of the two teams are similar (as judged by the referee), the Home Team must wear alternate colours. The Visiting Team is only permitted to wear alternate colours to its main colours, providing that such colours are not similar to the colours worn by the Home Team. Only jersey colours will be considered a conflict and therefore, the team would only be required by change its jerseys. (NOTE: *The main colours and alternate colours of each team have been registered with Ontario Soccer*)



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13.10 If there is a conflict with the goal keeper colours and the outfield players of the opposing team, the goal keeper must change regardless of which team is home or away.

14.0 FINAL ROUND, SEMI-FINALS AND CUP FINAL

14.1 The Final Round will be made up of no more than eight teams. The format will be a tournament round of two groups with the top two teams in each group advancing to the Semi-Finals.

14.2 The games in the Final Round will be played at:

TOURNAMENT ROUND

TBA

SEMI-FINALS AND CUP FINAL

TBA

14.3 The Final Tournament Round may be played over two or three days, Friday, Saturday and Sunday of one weekend, and the play-offs on another Saturday and Sunday. The games will run from 7:00p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Saturday and from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Sunday.

14.4 Ontario Soccer will cover all Match Official Fees in the Final Round.

14.5 In the event that a game in the Semi-Finals or Cup Final is tied at the end of regulation time, the game will be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark.

15.0 TIE BREAKING PROCEDURES

15.1 For games played under the "round-robin tournament" format at the *Preliminary Round* and in the *Final Round*, the *Tournament Group* winners, the *Tournament Group Runners-Up*, and the *other placings in the standings* shall be determined by the following formula:

i) The team standings shall be based on:

3 points for a win
1 point for a draw
0 points for a loss

ii) If two teams accumulate the same number of points at the completion of the round-robin tournament format, the higher standing shall be awarded to:

- a) the team winning the match(es) between the tied teams, (The team with the most points accumulated in Head to Head matches; please note an aggregate Goal Difference between two teams is not used to determine a Head to Head winner) failing which:
- b) the team with the highest **goal difference** (determined by deducting the "goals against" from the "goals for"), failing which:
- c) the team with the most goals scored, failing which:
- d) the team which, in the "drawing of lots", draws the higher placing, in accordance with **Rule 15.2**.



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iii) If three, four, or five teams accumulate the same number of points at the completion of the round-robin tournament format, the team position standings shall be determined by the following:

a) **the team with the highest goal difference (determined by deducting the "goals against" from the "goals for") in matches between the teams concerned shall have the highest standing.** If all teams have the same goal difference then proceed to **15.1 iii) b**. If some teams remain tied for goal difference but some positioning has been determined, the positioning that has been determined stands, and the remaining teams tied for goal difference proceed to **15.1 iii) b** to determine the remaining positioning.

b) **the team with the most goals scored in all matches between the teams concerned shall have the higher standing.** If all teams have the same goals scored then proceed to **15.1 iii) c**. If some teams remain tied for goals scored but some positioning has been determined, the positioning that has been determined stands, and the remaining teams tied for goals scored proceed to **15.1 iii) c** to determine the remaining positioning.

c) **the team with the highest goal difference (determined by deducting the "goals against" from the "goals for") in all group matches shall have the highest standing.** If all teams have the same goal difference then proceed to **15.1 iii) d**. If some teams remain tied for goal difference but some positioning has been determined, the positioning that has been determined stands, and the remaining teams tied for goal difference proceed to **15.1 iii) d** to determine the remaining positioning.

d) **the team with the most goals scored in all group matches shall have the higher standing.** If all teams have the same goals scored then proceed to **15.1 iii) e**. If some teams remain tied for goals scored but some positioning has been determined, the positioning that has been determined stands, and the remaining teams tied for goals scored proceed to **15.1 iii) e** to determine the remaining positioning.

e) the team which, in the "drawing of lots", draws the higher placing, in accordance with **Rule 15.2**

Note: Head to Head is not considered if three or more teams are tied.

15.2 In the event that two or more teams are still tied after applying criteria a), b), and c) of **Rule 15.1**, the "drawing of lots" shall be handled as follows:

- 1) the name of each team will be placed on a small piece of paper;
- 2) each team name will be placed in a bowl or similar object;
- 3) the first team to be drawn from the bowl shall be awarded the "higher group standing";
- 4) the next team to be drawn from the bowl shall be awarded the next highest placing;
- 5) if applicable, the remaining team shall be awarded the next highest placing.



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15.3 **Rule 15.2** shall be implemented **within 20 minutes** following the final game of the *Tournament Round* for that *Tournament Group*.

The *match officials* of the final game shall officiate at the "*drawing of lots*".

15.4 Each team involved in the "*drawing of lots*" has the right, at its discretion, to have a team representative present when the draw is made. The draw shall still be conducted in accordance with **Rule 15.3** even if a team representative for each team is not present.

16.0 ONTARIO FUTSAL CUP FINALS

16.1 In the event that a player/team official is dismissed in the cup final or is suspended from the cup final, that player/team official may or may **NOT** receive their medal during the ***Trophy/Medal Presentations*** after the game at the discretion of the Ontario Cup Committee. If the player/team official is not permitted to participate in the ***Trophy/Medal Presentations*** they shall receive their medal at a later time.

16.2 Both finalists teams in an Ontario Futsal Cup Final shall participate in the Trophy/Medal Presentations which are held after the game.

16.3 If a team does not participate in the ***Trophy/Medal Presentations***, without a valid reason, it shall be severely disciplined, in accordance with **Rule 12.8**.



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