



# **2024 FUTSAL STATE TITLES RULES OF COMPETITION**

## Scope

### About

The Competition run by Football Queensland Futsal fulfils the requirements of the Football Queensland Futsal Player Pathway. This Competition is organised to provide for Players, Match and Team Officials who wish to participate in a statewide competition in which they can further develop their skills and provide an opportunity to be selected to represent Queensland at the FA Futsal National Championships.

This Competition is run under the auspices of Football Queensland Futsal. Football Queensland is a Member of the FA who is an Affiliated Association under FIFA. The Competition will be conducted to observe FIFA, FA and FQ Statutes, Regulations, Directives, Decisions, Guidelines, Circulars as well as the current FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game and Rules of Competition. The decisions of FQF are final.

## Version Control

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### **Approval**

**Delegation required for approval:** Chief Executive Officer

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# 1. Organisation & Admission

## 1.1. Scope, Admission and Application

- a) Football Queensland reserves the right to review the Rules of Competition (RoC) on an annual basis. Notwithstanding any annual review, Football Queensland may amend, change, or modify the RoC provided due notice (5 days) of any changes is given to all competing Clubs and participants.
- b) Football Queensland maintains the right to amend, change or modify the RoC, in its sole and absolute discretion.
- c) Clubs, players, team officials and match officials must comply with and agree to abide by the regulations of Football Australia and Football Queensland, including but not limited to.
  - i. [Football Australia National Registration Regulations](#).
  - ii. [Football Australia National Disciplinary Regulations](#).
  - iii. [Football Australia Code of Conduct](#).
  - iv. [Football Australia Grievance Resolution Regulations](#).
  - v. Football Australia Member Protection Framework and Football Queensland Member Protection Policies located on the [Football Queensland Forms and Policies Webpage](#).
  - vi. 2024 Football Queensland Disciplinary Regulations.
  - vii. [Football Queensland Social Media Guidelines](#).
  - viii. 2024 Media & Marketing Guidelines.
- d) If any part of the RoC, or relevant Regulations, Policies, By-laws or Statutes is void, that specific part shall be severable and will not affect the enforceability of the remaining sections of these RoC.

## 1.2. Consequences for Breach

- a) Any breach of these RoC or any failure to comply with any direction given by Football Queensland may result in the imposition of a penalty or penalties issued by Football Queensland under the RoC and any other relevant penalties pursuant to the Football Queensland Disciplinary Regulations.
- b) Any breach or failure to meet or adhere to Licencing Agreement may also result in further penalties (as stipulated below). These include but are not limited to.
  - i. Inability to field teams in all required competitions as per license.
  - ii. Non-participation of any/all aspects of the Club Assessment Criteria.
- c) Furthermore, if Football Queensland determines a Club/Team/Team Official to be in breach of the RoC or Licencing Agreement, FQ are permitted to take any reasonable action as required to ensure the breach does not affect the integrity or viability of its Competitions and product.
- d) The penalties will include any or all (but not limited to) of the following.
  - i. Monetary Fine/Financial Penalties as per 2024 Fines and Penalties document.
  - ii. Deduction of Points.
  - iii. Suspension of the Club/Participant/s from any/all Competitions.
  - iv. Removal of team/Club from the Competition/s.

### 1.3. Matches Played in Accordance with the Laws of the Game

- a) All Competitive matches (and all under the auspice of Football Queensland throughout the state) under the jurisdiction of these RoC will be played in accordance with the IFAB/FA Laws of the Game.
- b) The Football Queensland RoC outlined within are in addition to those stipulated in the IFAB/FA Laws of the Game.

### 1.4. Confirmation of Leagues/Age Division

- a) Football Queensland will conduct Competitions in the following Leagues and Age Divisions:

Girls	Boys
	Under 12
Under 13	Under 13
	Under 14
Under 15	Under 15
Under 17	Under 16
Youth	Youth

- b) Composition of the Leagues will be determined by Football Queensland on a team nomination basis.

### 1.5. Player Insurance

- a) Player Injury and Associated Liability Insurance cover is taken out by Football Queensland. Policy details and claims procedures are available on the Gow-Gates website.

### 1.6. Commercial Arrangements

- a) If Football Queensland (FQ) enters into a sponsorship or commercial agreement, a condition of entry into all FQ Competitions is that a Club is required to comply with any conditions imposed by Football Queensland arising out of the sponsorship agreement. Such requirements may include, but is not limited to, signage, the display of logos on Club websites, jerseys, the use of designated balls, ground and facility access requirements, visitor and commercial partner accreditation, ground and match ticketing terms and conditions etc.
- b) Football Queensland where possible will attempt to ensure that any requirement by a sponsor has minimal financial impact and not intrude on Clubs' existing sponsorship contracts.

### 1.7. Outstanding Debts

- a) Clubs competing in Football Queensland Competitions are required to be financial (without debt) no less than 14 days prior to the commencement of any FQ Competition or Competition Fixture. A failure to adhere to this stipulation may result in any or all (but not limited to) of the following.
  - i. Financial Penalties.
  - ii. Deduction of Points.
  - iii. Suspension of the Club from any/all Competitions.
  - iv. Removal from the Competition/s.
- b) This Section applies to all Competitions, Competition Fixtures and Cup Matches conducted by Football Queensland and the participating Clubs and participants therein.

## **1.8. Special Consideration**

- a) Football Queensland has the right to consider individual circumstances outside the prescribed limits of these RoC should it be clear those special considerations are in the best interests of the game. Nothing in these Regulations will prevent the Football Queensland Board from approving a course of action to meet unforeseeable circumstances not covered by these RoC.
- b) The decision by Football Queensland to review and consider contextual circumstances under this section is not subject to appeal or review.
- e) Football Queensland may waive the payment of any amount payable to it at any time.



## 2. CODE OF CONDUCT AND REGISTRATIONS

### 2.1. Code of Conduct

- a) All players, club officials and match officials are bound by and must comply with all FA Statutes and Regulations, including without limitation the FA Code of Conduct. All players must be registered in line with the National Registration, Statutes and Transfer Regulations. Failure to do so will mean the player is ineligible.

### 2.2. Eligibility

- a) Ineligible Players include:
  - i. Unregistered Players.
  - ii. Suspended Players - suspended by Football Queensland or any other Federation in line with the Football Australia National Disciplinary Regulations and/or 2024 Football Queensland Disciplinary Regulations.
  - iii. They have been expelled from a match on the day/s prior to the match (or day of the match) but before an infringement notice has been issued.
  - iv. Player who participates in the match but is not listed correctly on the Squadi Team Sheet prior to the match commencing.
  - v. They are deemed ineligible due to any section of the RoC, FA/FQ Regulations, Statutes or Policies and/or Football Queensland By-Law 9.

### 2.3. Consequences of Playing an Ineligible Player

- a) A team may lose a match on forfeit and be fined in accordance with these RoC and the 2024 Fines and Penalties document, if an Ineligible Player participates in the match.
- b) Any Club is permitted to lodge a protest regarding the alleged fielding of an ineligible player(s). A Squadi Incident Report must be lodged by a designated club official or contact outlining the details of the protest, and the player(s) involved. Should the protest involve the allegation of a player playing under another player's name, the protest is required to include a photograph of the player(s). An investigation into the protest will be undertaken as soon as possible.
- c) FQ also reserves the right to investigate any matter at its own discretion even though a formal protest has not been lodged.
- d) Any determination made by Football Queensland in relation to a player eligibility matter is final and not subject to appeal.

### 2.4. Age Eligibility

- a) The following table details the year of birth applicable to the age-eligible divisions of the Competitions. Players must be within these ranges to be eligible for registration and participation in matches.

Age Group	Eligible Years of Birth
Under 12	2012 or earlier
Under 13	2011 or earlier
Under 14	2010 or earlier

Under 15	2009 or earlier
Under 16	2008 or earlier
Under 17	2007 or earlier
Youth	2005 or earlier

## 2.5. Registration Period

- a) Any player registration to a Club may occur at any time during the Registration Periods. For 2024, the registration periods will be:

Competition	Registration Period Open	Registration Period Close
Futsal State Titles	10th September 2024	4th October 2024

- b) Players may register without restriction at any time up until 11:59pm on the Closing Date of each Registration Period.

## 2.6. Reacquisition of Amateur Status

- a) This section does not apply to Futsal State Titles.

## 2.7. Registrations Outside of Registration Periods

- f) Football Queensland may allow a Club to register a player outside of the Registration Periods if:
- i. Football Queensland is satisfied that the Club has justifiable reason for the request and has provided appropriate evidence.
- a) Clubs must make the request via the online link found on Football Queensland's website. The decision handed down to the Club is final and unsuccessful exemption requests cannot be appealed.

## 2.8. Visa Players

- a) This section does not apply to State Titles Competitions.

## 2.9. Process for Registration of Team Managers and Coaches

- a) All Coaches, Team Managers and Volunteers must be registered in Squadi to be involved in any capacity with a Club participating in Football Queensland Competitions and must be able to always provide an appropriate accreditation of registration.

## 2.10. Submission of Registrations

- a) All registrations are to be processed, approved, and completed via Squadi before every match.

## 2.11. Professional Player Transfer Fees and Disputes

- a) This section does not apply to State Titles Competitions.

## 2.12. Player Rosters

- a) This section does not apply to State Titles Competitions.

### **3. PLAYER MOVEMENT**

This section does not apply to State Titles Competitions.

## **4. COMPETITION STRUCTURES AND REGULATIONS**

### **4.1. Structures and Competition Format**

- a) The 2024 Futsal State Titles will comprise of teams licensed or operating under a Participation Licence Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) as approved by Football Queensland.
- b) Football Queensland determines the number of teams in each competition each season.
- c) The composition and format of all competitions will be determined annually by Football Queensland.
- d) State Titles competitions will consist of two (2) stages.
  - i. Round robin matches
  - ii. Finals Series

### **4.2. Withdrawal from Competition Season**

- a) If a team is withdrawn, removed, or suspended before the competition has started and cannot be replaced, a bye in the competition will be substituted where possible and the Club will be levied an administration fee, and the following will apply accordingly.
  - i. If the first cycle (round) of fixtures wasn't completed in its entirety, the recorded results for that team will be deleted.
  - ii. If the second, or subsequent, cycle (round) of fixtures wasn't completed in its entirety then the results of the uncompleted cycle will be deleted while the results for all completed cycles will remain.
  - iii. FQ may re-arrange the draw so that the teams that were due to play the withdrawing team have a bye. Where the competition already had a bye in each round, FQ may change the draw as it sees fit to eliminate the bye.
  - iv. FQ reserves the right to negotiate with another Club/team to come into the competition as a replacement. FQ also reserves the right to decide how points are attributed to the replacement team for the remainder of the season.
  - v. The withdrawn Club involved will be subject to potential disciplinary action, sanction, and penalties. Please refer to the 2024 Fines and Penalties document for further information.

### **4.3. Promotion and Relegation – Football Queensland Competitions**

This section does not apply to State Titles Competitions.

### **4.4. Promotion & Relegation Requests/Withdrawal**

This section does not apply to the State Titles Competitions.

### **4.5. Promotion and Relegation – National Second Division**

This section does not apply to the State Titles Competitions.

#### 4.6. Competitions Points

- a) Teams will play in Competition Fixtures as scheduled by Football Queensland.
- b) The following points will be awarded for all Competitive competition matches during the Regular Season:

Result	Points Accumulated
Win	3 Points
Draw	1 Point
Loss	0 Points
Forfeit Received	3 Points and a winning 6-0 result
Forfeit Given	0 Points and a losing 0-6 result
Bye	0 Points

- c) No result will be recorded with more than a difference of ten (10) goals. E.g. if the result of a match is fifteen (15) – two (2), which is a difference thirteen (13) goals, the final score will be recorded as twelve (12) – two (2) instead.

#### 4.7. Competition Placings

- a) The position of each Club at the end of the Round Robin matches will be determined based on the following criteria for all competitions:
  - i. Highest number of points accumulated during the Regular Season.
  - ii. If two (2) or more Clubs are level on points accumulated, the following criteria will be applied, in order, until one (1) of the Clubs can be determined as the higher ranked:
    - a. Highest goal difference.
    - b. Highest number of goals scored.
    - c. Highest number of points accumulated in matches between the Clubs concerned.
    - d. Highest goal difference in matches between the Clubs concerned.
    - e. Lowest number of red cards accumulated throughout the regular season.
    - f. Lowest number of yellow cards accumulated throughout the regular season; and
    - g. Toss of a coin in the event of a tie of two (2) Clubs or drawing of lots in the event of a tie of three (3) or more Clubs.

#### 4.8. Finals Series

- a) The format and schedule of the Finals Series for each Football Queensland competition will be determined at Football Queensland's sole and absolute discretion.
- b) At the conclusion of the Regular Season, all competitions will feature Final Series
- c) The Final Series will be played in the specified Finals Series format outlined in the document titled "*Football Queensland State Titles Finals Structure*" found on our website.
- d) The Club/Team who wins each respective Grand Final will be crowned Grand Final Winners and will be awarded the Grand Final Winner's Trophy as Champions.
- e) To be eligible to play for a team in the Finals Series, a player must have played or been available for a minimum of 50% of Round Robin Matches in the respective age division.

- i. Where number of games in the Round Robins are uneven, number of matches will be rounded-up from the 50%. For clarification, when a competition has a total of 13 games for example in the regular season, eligibility to play Final Series would be a minimum of 7 matches.
  - ii. A goalkeeper will be the exception to this rule providing the goalkeeper is currently registered with their registered age division.
- f) If a player does not meet the minimum number of games required to be eligible to play in the Finals Series of any of the above competitions, Clubs are eligible to submit a dispensation request for approval for players to participate in the Finals Series under exceptional circumstances, not limited to but including.
- i. Injury.
  - ii. Date of Registration.
  - iii. Player availability.
  - iv. Circumstances that prevented the player from playing the requisite number of matches.
- g) Football Queensland reserves the right to determine the eligibility of any player to participate in the Finals Series, in their sole and absolute discretion.

## 5. MATCH DAY PROCEDURES

### 5.1. Competition Scheduling

- a) Football Queensland will schedule the dates, times and venues of all matches in collaboration with Clubs and their requested preferences. Draft draws will be released to Clubs to allow for feedback prior to the commencement of the season. Football Queensland reserves the right to schedule matches on any day, time and venue and in any format in alignment with the best interests of the competition(s). This includes scheduling matches to accommodate media requirements and Match official appointments. Football Queensland reserves the right to reschedule matches in its absolute discretion.
- b) All Football Queensland matches take precedence in scheduling over non-FA affiliated matches at all Football Queensland Clubs.
- c) Day & Time Scheduling/Rescheduling Guide:
  - i. Matches will be scheduled between 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM on the Saturday, Sunday and Monday.
  - ii. No team will be required to play back-to-back games at any point during the competition.
- d) This is a general guide and Football Queensland reserves the right to schedule games outside of these times if required or if exemptions are granted.
- e) Exemptions may be granted in the case of public holidays or where both teams agree, for any fixture(s). Any request for an exception must be submitted in writing to Football Queensland for approval and the decision made will be final. The request must be submitted in line with the fixture amendment process.

### 5.2. Duration of Matches

- a) The following will apply to all scheduled matches:

Competition	Duration	Interval	Time Allowed Between Matches	Injury/Stoppage Time
Futsal State Titles	2 x 20 Minutes	Maximum 2 Minutes	Maximum 5 Minutes	No

- b) FIFA Laws of the Game will apply except for:
  - c) **Time Outs:** there will be time outs during Regular Season and Final Series Matches for all age divisions. One (1) time out per half will be available per team, the duration of the time out will be one (1) minute, and the clock will **not** stop unless it is in the final two minutes of the match.

#### 5.2.1. Added Time

- a) This section does not apply to State Titles Competitions.

#### 5.2.2. Extra Time and Penalties

- a) There will be no extra time or penalty shoot-outs played in matches during the Round Robin matches in the event of scores being equal at the conclusion of regular time.
- b) If the scores are equal at the conclusion of regular time in any Finals Series match, extra time will be played as follows to determine a winner:

Competition	Duration of Extra Time
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Futsal State Titles	2 x 5 minutes
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- c) There shall be an interval of two (2) minutes at the end of normal playing time and the commencement of the first period of extra time, for all competitions.
- d) This is no interval at half time and Teams and Team Benches swap direction and play resumes.
- e) If the scores are still equal after extra time, then a penalty shoot-out in accordance with FIFA regulations will be taken to determine the winner.

### 5.3. Substitution and Interchange

- a) For all divisions within the Futsal State Titles, unlimited substitution applies.
- b) Procedure and rules for the unlimited substitution of players:
  - i. The substitution zone will be defined by the referee or FQ staff prior to the start of the match.
  - ii. A team's substitution zone is situated in the half of the pitch defended by that said team and changes in the second half of the Match and periods of extra time (if applicable).
  - iii. A substitution can be made any time during the Match, and for which the following conditions shall be observed:
    - a. The player leaving the field shall do so from sideline, crossing over at the sector called the substitution zone.
    - b. The player entering the field shall also do so from the substitution zone, but not until the player leaving the field, has passed completely over the sideline.
    - c. The number of substitutions made during a Match is unlimited. A player who has been replaced, may return to the field for another player.
    - d. If during a substitution, a substitution player enters the field before the replaced player has completely left it, the Referee shall ensure the replaced player leaves the field, then caution the substitution player and then restart the Match.
    - e. If during a substitution, a substitution player enters the field or a replaced player leaves it from a place other than the substitution zone, the Referee shall caution the offending player.
- c) If during the taking of the penalty kicks the Goalkeeper is injured, he/she may be replaced with another Goalkeeper providing the replacement was listed on the team sheet.
- d) Substitution players cannot be used to replace any player who has been dismissed from the Match by the Referee, until the required time lapse for two (2) minutes, or a goal has been scored by the opposition (refer to Law 3 FIFA LOG Players and substitutes sent off).

### 5.4. Technical Area

- a) Only registered players and registered team officials are permitted in the Technical Area.
  - i. Players not participating in the match are not permitted to occupy the Technical Area. Only players and team officials listed on the Squadi Team Sheet and are appropriately registered/accredited are permitted in the Technical Area.
  - ii. A player or team official who is under suspension must not occupy a seat in the Technical Area.
  - iii. All players in the Technical Area must wear a bib or alternative coloured uniform to the colours worn by players of both teams, match officials, and substitutes of the opposing team.



- iv. All players must remain seated unless moving to and from warm-up.
  - v. One (1) person in the Technical Area is authorised to convey tactical instructions from the Technical Area.
  - vi. All other members of the Technical Team and Substitutes must be seated while in the Technical Area.
  - vii. The Coach and other officials must remain within the confines of the Technical Area, except in special circumstances, for example, a team physio or doctor entering the field of play, with the match official's permission, to assess an injured player.
- b) In all fixtures, a maximum of three (3) registered team officials are permitted to occupy the Technical Area, all of which must be listed on the Squadi Team Sheet (excludes Physio/Sports Medicine).
  - c) All occupants of the Technical Area must behave in a responsible manner. The match official has the right to eject any person from the Technical Area at any time as he or she sees fit. The game will not recommence until that person has left to the match official's satisfaction.
  - d) Smoking and consuming alcohol within the confines of the player barrier/fence is strictly prohibited. This includes the team bench within the Technical Area and all its occupants.

### **5.5. Playing Strips and Clash of Colours**

- a) In the case of a colour clash, the Away Team will be required to wear their alternate kit or a combination of the alternate playing kit and their main playing kit to resolve any clash of colour.
- b) During any fixture, the teams of the same Club must wear the same colour playing kit unless otherwise expressly ordered by the match official to resolve the clash with the match official's kit.
- c) Unless already determined and communicated by Football Queensland, the match official will be the sole decision maker of a clash of colours.
- d) In the case of goalkeeper's colours clashing with either the opponent's field players, goalkeeper or the match official's kit, the match official will determine which keeper will change, always keeping in mind the principle that the visiting team should change.
- e) In the case of a combination of main and alternate kit colours of both teams clashing with the Match Officials, the match official will determine the final colours to be worn by all players and match officials.
- f) If a Competition Fixture does not commence due to an inability to resolve a clash of strips, and it can be established that a Club did not comply with the requirements above, the offending Club may be deemed to have forfeited the match and subject to a fine as per the 2024 Fines and Penalties document.
- g) Should a match official proceed with a match in which a Club has not complied with the requirements above, the match official is to report this to Football Queensland. The offending Club will be fined as per the 2024 Fines and Penalties document and provided with a warning. If any team within the offending Club repeats the same offence they will be penalised with a forfeit.

### **5.6. Match Balls**

- h) All match balls will be provided by Football Queensland for the event.

### **5.7. Squadi Team Sheet**

- a) Clubs must adhere to the requirements relating to the use of electronic team sheets in Squadi, results reporting and match data recording, as prescribed by FQ through Squadi. If Clubs require support using the system, they are to email or call FQ Competitions.
- b) Clubs must list on the Squadi Team Sheet all players and team officials taking part in a Competition Fixture, with correct jersey numbers assigned and ID photos loaded.
- c) All Squadi Team Sheets must be submitted by no later than fifteen (5) minutes prior to the scheduled fixture. The Squadi Team Sheet will lock 5 minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off time for the fixture, allowing for late changes to be made if required.
- d) If a Club disagrees with any of the details on the Squadi Team Sheet prior to the commencement of the fixture, the fixture must still take place as per the fixtured start time.
- e) A Club may be charged with Misconduct if:
  - i. No Squadi Team Sheet is submitted prior to the deadlines outlined in these regulations: or
  - ii. Any player listed on the Squadi Team Sheet is ineligible in accordance with either these regulations or any FQ Regulations; or
  - iii. More than the permitted number of players are listed on the Squadi Team Sheet; or
  - iv. It fails to correctly list on the Squadi Team Sheet the shirt number, ID photo and name for each player, or adds players to the Squadi Team Sheet after the 5-minute deadline prior to the scheduled kick-off time (without the match official's permission).
- f) Any breaches as per section 5.7.f shall be processed in accordance with section 1.2 and/or the 2024 Fines and Penalties document.
- g) If a Club disagrees with any of the details on a Squadi Team Sheet (either its own or the opposition's), the Club must indicate any disputed information by emailing [competitions@footballqueensland.com.au](mailto:competitions@footballqueensland.com.au). Only the following information can be disputed:
  - i. Goal Scorers.
  - ii. Red and Yellow Cards.
  - iii. Final score.
  - iv. Player eligibility
- h) Any Club is permitted to lodge a protest regarding the alleged fielding of an Ineligible Player(s) through Squadi as per the process outlined in section 2.3.b.
- i) FQ reserves the right to amend the Squadi Team Sheets and will only do so if FQ is satisfied that there was no malice or intent to gain an advantage. In this instance, Clubs may not be charged with Misconduct, and FQ's decision is final in this regard and is not subject to appeal.

#### **5.7.1. Match Official Entry of Squadi Team Sheet**

- a) Match officials are to submit all match results and incidents in Squadi at the conclusion of their games. This is integral in ensuring match official payment. Football Queensland reserves the right to withhold match official payment until this information is received in conjunction with a match official's stipulated role and responsibility.
- b) If no Football Queensland match official is appointed to a match, it is the responsibility of the Football Queensland to enter the results of the match by as soon as possible after the match.

#### **5.8. Match Commissioners**

- a) Football Queensland may appoint Match Commissioners, to scheduled matches, in conjunction with the Football Australia Disciplinary Regulations and Football Queensland Disciplinary Policy.
- b) Should a Match Commissioner report non-compliance, a Breach Notice and/ or fine may be issued to the Club who must address and remedy the issues raised within a timeframe agreed upon after consultation with Football Queensland

## **5.9. Ground Officials**

- a) This section does not apply to State Titles Competitions.

## **5.10. Medical Coverage**

- a) FQ will provide medical coverage for the duration of the event.

### **5.10.1. Concussion Management**

- a) Any player with a suspected concussion should be immediately removed from play and should not be returned to activity until they are assessed by a qualified medical practitioner as per the [FA Concussion Guidelines](#). There should be no return to play on the day of a concussive injury.

## **5.11. Media Operations**

- a) Due to obligations to Football Queensland partners and rights holders, each Club must ensure that they comply with the 2024 Match Day Deliverables and 2024 Media and Marketing Guidelines, which will be provided by Football Queensland. If you require further information on Media Operations and the Deliverables/Guidelines, please email [media@footballqueensland.com.au](mailto:media@footballqueensland.com.au)
- b) Failure to comply with any article of the 2024 Match Day Deliverables and 2024 Media or Marketing Guidelines will be dealt with under these RoC as per the Table of Offences and/or section 1.2.

## **5.12. Host Venues**

- c) The venue for competition matches will be the Nissan Arena.
- d) The venue is to be compliant with the FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game and regular FQ Futsal Competitions.
- e) No smoking inside the venue. Smoking areas must be in accordance with Government Regulations.
- f) No alcoholic beverages are permitted outside of licensed areas.
- g) No animals are permitted inside the venue.
- h) Persons causing any damage to the venue and or its fittings and fixtures will be held responsible for all costs and the matter will be referred to the Disciplinary Committee.
- i) All facilities, i.e., Change rooms etc shall be left in a clean and tidy condition.
- j) No spectators are permitted in the playing area.
- k) No persons under the age of 11 Years of Age (or more than 2 years under the age category of the match being played) are permitted in the playing area.
- l) Only participants actively competing in the Match should be near the field of play. Those which are about to take part of have just finished a Match are permitted to be within the Playing Areas but outside of the Field of Play and should enter / leave the Playing Areas within a reasonable timeframe.
- m) Football Queensland will undertake periodic Safety Checks of the venue for the benefit of participants and spectators.

- n) Football Queensland to submit the Centre Information form back to FQ Futsal prior to matches taking part at the venue and if there are any changes to the venue at which matches are played.
- o) Any advertising must also be compliant with the FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game and the FQ Futsal regulations
- p) Emergency information, including the nearest hospital and emergency contact details should be on display in a prominent place for easy access to all participants and spectators.
- q) Electronic Scoreboards
  - i. Venues are permitted to use an electronic scoreboard to keep track of normal playing time, the score and fouls for each of the matches played under the Competition, however if they are used the following conditions apply:
  - ii. They must be kept up to date with accurate information.
  - iii. An Assistant Referee must be present to operate the Electronic Scoreboards.
  - iv. If a timer is used, the clock must be stopped with a 1-minute remaining in each half. This allows Match Officials to end the match in accordance with the FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game. The match does not finish until the Match Official signals end of game using a whistle.

## 5.13. Extreme Weather Events

### 5.13.1. Adverse Weather - Heat

- a) The Match official and/or Football Queensland delegate should refer to the [FQ Heat Policy](#) to determine one of the following;
  - i. To play the match under standard conditions.
  - ii. To play the match with provision for drinks break; or
  - iii. To delay or postpone the match.
- b) The decision to incorporate these provisions should be based primarily on the assessment of the potential medical risk of playing in the heat to both the players and match officials, while also considering the increased temperatures that are present when playing on synthetic pitches.
- c) Any decision to play a match under altered match conditions can only be made with reference to these published Competition Rules and the Match Day procedures.

### 5.13.2. Delayed, Suspended, Abandoned Postponed & Cancelled Matches

- a) If no decision is made as per the processes outlined in sections 5.13 and one or both Teams and the match officials have arrived at the venue, the Match official will inspect the field of play and decide whether play can take place:
  - i. At all; or
  - ii. Providing weather conditions improve.
- b) The following alternatives apply to matches in relation to severe adverse weather conditions and/or major injury issues.
- c) **Suspended** – a fixture may be suspended but not for an unreasonable length of time.
  - i. Once a match has commenced, the Match official has sole responsibility to determine if the match should be suspended or abandoned. The Match official has the discretion to confer with the key match day stakeholders prior to the decision being taken.
  - ii. The decision to suspend a match will be made at the match venue by the Match official.

- d) **Abandoned** – a fixture may be abandoned post commencement with the result to be determined based on the following:
- i. In the event of a match being abandoned at half-time or during the second (2nd) half of the match due to adverse weather or any cause over which neither Club nor Match official has control, the match result at the time of abandonment will be declared the result.
  - ii. In the event of a match being abandoned before half-time due to weather conditions or any cause over which neither the Club or Match official has control, the match will be declared a postponed match and rescheduled in accordance with section 5.14.
  - iii. Any Club who is found to be responsible, either directly or indirectly, for the abandonment of a fixture may be subject to further penalties. In the case of loss of points, the opposing team will be deemed to have won the match by a score of six (6) goals to nil (0), or the actual goal difference, whichever is greater.
  - iv. Clubs may submit a request to Football Queensland for an abandoned match to be replayed but must do so within five (5) days of the match being abandoned. Football Queensland will consider the following regarding any request for a replay:
    - Reasons why the match was abandoned
    - The time of abandonment.
    - Result of the match at the time of abandonment.
    - The impact of the final league standings.
    - Factors that may affect the opportunity for scheduling the match to be replayed.
  - v. The decision of Football Queensland on whether to grant a replay will be final and this shall not be subject to appeal. Any replayed match will be played in full.
  - vi. Any yellow card issued during an abandoned match will be upheld if that match is not replayed or expunged if that match is replayed. A direct red card issued during an abandoned match will be upheld regardless of whether the match is replayed or not.
- e) **Postponed** – a fixture may be postponed and rescheduled in accordance with Section 5.14.
- f) **Cancelled** – a fixture may be cancelled in accordance with Section 5.17.

## 5.14. Rescheduling Matches

- a) Rescheduling of Matches or Fixtures affected by hot weather or unavailability will be arranged by FQ in conjunction with the relevant teams.
- b) Matches or Fixtures are to be rescheduled within the day of postponement, and subject to venue availability.
- c) If a Club refuses to play a rescheduled match as per these competition rules, the match may be declared a forfeit and awarded to the opposition Club as a win with a 3-0 score line.
- d) Football Queensland reserve the right where appropriate to determine a match as a draw 3-3 where any given match cannot be rescheduled.
- e) Football Queensland reserves the right to make the final decision regarding the rescheduling of all fixtures.

## 5.15. Alterations to Fixtures

### 5.15.1. Requests to Amend/Postpone/Reschedule

- a) Clubs seeking to amend or postpone matches must come to an agreement with one another and submit their request along with details of the rescheduled match details.

- b) If Clubs are unable to provide rescheduled match details, Football Queensland will determine the details for the rescheduled match, which will be final.
- c) Deferred matches not rescheduled and played for any reason before the final round of the regular season will result in the match being cancelled and the result recorded as a nil all draw (0 – 0).

## **5.16. Forfeited Fixtures**

- a) Football Queensland retains the right to make the final decision regarding forfeited fixtures.
- b) Any team that wishes to forfeit a match prior to the scheduled day and time must notify Football Queensland through Squadi. Football Queensland will then notify the opposition team and match officials.
- c) Teams will be deemed to have forfeited a match when:
  - i. They fail to fulfil an engagement to play a match on the appointed date, time or venue.
  - ii. The venue is not ready for the scheduled fixture and minimum standards adhered to, within 30 minutes of the kick-off time, at the discretion of the match official.
  - iii. They field less than three (3) of their registered players at the start of any match.
  - iv. At any point during the match, they cannot field at least three (3) of their registered players; or
  - v. An Ineligible Player as defined in the Rules of Competition participates in the match.
- d) In the event of any Team forfeiting its match, the following procedure will take effect.
  - i. Full points allocated for the match will be forfeited to the opponent Team and the goals recorded as 6 goals by the Team receiving the points and 0 by the Team who has infringed the regulation, unless the goal difference for the Team receiving the forfeit is greater than 6, in which case they will receive the number of goals scored for in the match, with the forfeiting Team receiving nil. Any Club who elects to forfeit a fixture will also be liable for a forfeit fine as per the 2024 Fines and Penalties document.
  - ii. Clubs forfeiting on the day of scheduled matches will pay all appropriate match officials fees, irrespective of whether the match officials were in attendance and may be required to pay compensation to the opposing Club. Compensation will be determined by Football Queensland.
  - iii. On a third forfeit, the Club involved will be required to Show Cause as to why they should not be expelled from the Competition.
- e) Should a Team forfeit its last scheduled Regular Season match without prior written advice from Football Queensland permitting the match to be rescheduled, the Club that causes the forfeit will be ineligible to win the Premiership.
- f) If a match is forfeited after the scheduled kick-off, the Squadi Team Sheet will be endorsed accordingly by the match official.
- g) A team deemed to have forfeited may submit a request to review the forfeit if they believe the forfeit was caused by extraordinary circumstances. The request must be submitted by Club Management in writing (or Squadi incident report) to Football Queensland within the same day of the forfeit. Football Queensland will review the request and deliver a determination. Football Queensland's decision regarding the forfeit shall be in its absolute discretion and shall be final and not subject to appeal.
- h) Any yellow or red cards issued to either team during a match that has been overturned and a forfeit declared will stand. If the match result is changed as per section 5.16.d any goal scorers for the team receiving the forfeit will remain, and any goal scorers will be removed for the team responsible for the forfeit.

- i) If it is established that both Clubs competing in any Football Queensland competition match are deemed to have forfeited, the Clubs will be fined as per the 2024 Fines and Penalties document, and the following will apply:
  - i. The match will be deemed as a NO RESULT, whereby, no points will be awarded.
  - ii. Football Queensland may suspend, expel or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending Clubs or players.
  - iii. If a Finals Series match or Cup match is declared a “No Result”, Football Queensland may determine that the match be replayed.

### **5.17. Decision to Cancel**

- a) The decision to cancel and not reschedule a Regular Season match will be made by Football Queensland in its sole and absolute discretion.
- b) A cancelled Regular Season match that is not rescheduled will be recorded as a nil-all draw with both Clubs awarded one (1) point.

### **5.18. Match Officials**

- a) All match Officials (including Club Referees) must be registered in Squadi before being able to officiate matches.
- b) Football Queensland Match Officials must wear their uniform. This includes the Teal Shirt for First Year Referees and a pink arm band for Match Officials deemed as a minor (Under the age of 18).
- c) Football Queensland match official appointments will be published weekly on the Football Queensland Match Day Appointments Webpage. Football Queensland appointed match officials will display as FQ Referee next to each match. If the Referee 1/Referee 2/TK field next to the match is blank no FQ Match Official has been appointed in that position and clubs will need to appoint Club Match Officials.
- d) Football Queensland Match Officials may wear Body Worn Video Cameras and may record incidents. This footage may be used in the FQ judiciary proceedings.

#### **5.18.1. Match Officials Fees**

- a) All match officials' fees are included in the team fee paid in full prior to the commencement of the event.

#### **5.18.2. Non-Attendance or Unavailability of Match Official**

- a) Should the appointed match official fail to honour their appointment, then the next most senior match official will be appointed to take charge of the fixture; provided they are qualified to officiate the match. In the event of an appointed Match official failing to honour their appointment, please submit a Squadi incident report to advise FQ.
- b) In the event the appointed Match official is late on arrival, then the replacement match official will take charge of the fixture until the appointed Match official is ready to take over. In circumstances where only one Match official has been appointed, the Home Team is requested to provide a Club Assistant to assist the Match official. If necessary, the Away Club may be asked to provide an Assistant. Please note, the game should not start without 1 Match officials, however this decision will be at the match official's discretion.

### **5.19. Liquids During Play**

- a) Liquids may only be consumed off the field of play.
- b) Drinks must be contained in plastic bottles and handed to the Players on the sidelines. Glass bottles and containers are not allowed in the venues.
- c) It is forbidden to throw bottles or other receptacles on to the field of play.



## 6. TROPHIES, MEDALS AND AWARDS

- a) Football Queensland reserves the right to alter or cancel any and all awards in exceptional circumstances. Should it be determined at any point in time in the opinion of Football Queensland that the conduct or behaviour (including such matters as criminal convictions) of an award winner is such that it is not in the interests of Football Queensland or the sport of Football to allow that person to retain the status of being an award winner, Football Queensland in its discretion may withdraw the award.
- b) Football Queensland will present the following medals and trophies at the conclusion of the 2024 Event for all competitions:
  - i. At the conclusion of all Grand Finals the following will be presented:
    - Grand Final Winners Trophy
    - Grand Final Winners Medals (x10)
    - Grand Final Runners Up Medals (x10)
    - Grand Final Match Officials - 1 Medal per match official appointed to the Grand Final (excluding the Match official Assessor).

## **7. PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM RULES – FOOTBALL QUEENSLAND**

This section does not apply to State Titles Competitions.

## 8. DEFINITIONS

**Abandoned Match** – A Competition Fixture which has failed to commence for any reason or has commenced but has been stopped by the Match Official prior to its conclusion.

**Age Group** – The cohort of players defined by the year(s) they were born.

**Away Club/Team** – The Club/Team not playing the match at its home ground and/or appearing second on the fixture list in the event a match is conducted at a neutral venue.

**Been Listed** – Refers to a player appearing on a Squadi Team Sheet.

**Cancelled Match** – A match that has been deferred, postponed, abandoned, or suspended and is unable to be rescheduled before season end.

**Club Assistant** – An Assistant Referee provided by a Club for the fixture.

**Club Official** – Any person involved with the administration, management, or organisation of a Club (whether paid or unpaid), including employees, contractors, directors, representatives, and volunteers. All Key Personnel are Club Officials.

**Club Referee** – A referee allocated to a match by a Club when an FQ Referee is not appointed who has the same authority and responsibility as an FQ appointed referee.

**Clubs** – A body or incorporated association that has been accepted for affiliation and admittance into Football Queensland's competitions.

**Coach** – Any person who is registered as a coach in Football Queensland's registration system, Squadi, and is tasked with directing a football team training and match performance.

**Competitions** – Any or all football divisions, age groups or matches administered by Football Queensland.

**Competition Administrator** – The staff members of the Football Queensland Competitions Department.

**Competition Fixture** – Any match that is scheduled and administered by Football Queensland.

**Cup Match** – Any knock-out cup match, organised and/or administered by Football Queensland or FA before, after or in conjunction with a Regular Season and includes but is not limited to the Queensland Cups.

**Declared Weekend** – A weekend that is declared unplayable, due to extreme weather conditions.

**Division** – A particular grade or level of competition within Football Queensland.

**FA (Football Australia)** – Australia's governing football body.

**Facilities Lighting Standards** – refers to the Football Queensland Facilities Lighting Standards Policy as available through Football Queensland and adhering to the Australian Sports Lighting Standards.

**Field of Play (FOP)** – An enclosed pitch with the entire area within temporary or permanent perimeter fencing; or an open pitch with the entire area within three (3) metres of the boundary line of a futsal pitch.

**FIFA (Federation Internationale de Football Association)** – The world governing body of Football.

**Final** – A competitive match played to determine the winner of a Finals Series or Cup competition administered by Football Queensland.

**Finals Series** – A set of competitive fixtures played separate to the Regular Season to determine the winner of the Championship as administered by Football Queensland.

**Fixture** – Any match played in a Football Queensland Competition, Cup, other event or tournament under Football Queensland's administration.

**Fixture Suspensions** – An imposed number of match(es) where a participant is disallowed from participating because of disciplinary action. **Forfeit** – The failure of a team to participate in a Competition Fixture.

**FQ (Football Queensland)** – Queensland's governing football body.

**FQ By-Law 9** – The current Football Queensland Grievance, Discipline and Tribunal By-Law (which may be amended as appropriate).

**Goal Difference** – The difference between goals scored by a team (goals for) and goals scored against a team (goals against) in a match or season.

**Graded** – The allocation of a player or team to a division or age group specified by Football Queensland.

**Has Started** – Refers to a player who commenced a match as part of the starting 11 under the Substitution rule.

**Highest Placed Team** – The team which finished in the higher position on the competition ladder after the fixture season.

**Home Club** – The Club playing the fixture or match at its home ground and/or appearing first on the fixture list in the event a match is conducted at a neutral venue.

**Host Club** – A Club which hosts one or more Competition Fixtures or Finals at its home venue, whether that Club participates in one of those Competition Fixtures or Finals Series matches or not.

**IFAB** – International Football Association Board, its successor or assignee.

**Laws of the Game (LOTG)** – The official laws of the game of football and futsal as promulgated by IFAB and FIFA.

**League** – Specific competition conducted and declared by Football Queensland.

**Lowest Placed Team** – The team which finished in last position on the competition ladder after the fixture season.

**Match** – See fixture.

**Match Official** – A referee, assistant referee, fourth official, match day coach, Club referee, match commissioner or any other person appointed by FA/Football Queensland/Club who assumes responsibility of a match and the participants safety in connection with a match.

**Match Day Coaches** – Referee instructor who supports and assists with the development of referees on game day.

**No Result** – Recording a '0-0' score line in a Competition Fixture with no points or goals awarded to either Team. A 'No Result' is recorded as a Competition Fixture played.

**Participant(s)** – One that takes part in a football match including, but not limited to: players, coaches, Club officials and Club supporters (spectators).

**Penalty Shoot-Out** – The alternate taking of penalty kicks from a penalty spot to determine a winner in accordance with FIFA regulations where a match requires a result.

**Playing Facilities Standards** – The minimum standards a Club must adhere to, to be eligible to host fixtures, in accordance with the Football Queensland Facility Guides and Licencing Agreements.

**Postponed** – A Competition Fixture which has not commenced as scheduled and is to be rescheduled.

**Regional** – Footballing activities conducted in regions of Queensland other than the metropolitan Brisbane region. Regions include South Coast, Darling Downs, Sunshine Coast, Wide Bay, Central Coast, Whitsunday Coast, Northern and Far North & Gulf.

**Registered** – A player, team official, Club official, match day coaches, Club referee or Referee who is registered in accordance with the applicable Football Queensland Registration Regulations, and/or FA National Registration Regulations, including without limitation seeking an International Transfer Certificate (ITC) where applicable.

**Regular Season** – The duration of the season, not including Finals Series.

**Replica Strip** – An imitation shirt/shorts/attire of another Club or team, be it professional or amateur (e.g. Brisbane Roar Replica jersey).

**Rules of Competition (RoC)** – Referring to this document and all associated stipulations, policies, and statutes referred to and herewith.

**Sanctioned Match** – Any match(es) Football Queensland approves to be played in accordance with the Football Queensland Sanctioning Policy. This includes matches to which Football Queensland does not appoint Match Officials.

**Squadi** – Football Queensland's National Registration & Competition Management system.

**Team** - A football team entered by a Club in a League/Competition administered by Football Queensland.

**Team Official** – A coach, assistant coach, manager, physio/medical staff or other Club registered participants who is listed on a Squadi Team Sheet and is allowed in the technical area during a match.

**Unregistered** – A player or Club official who is not registered in Squadi.

**Venue Managers** – The business/person of football facilities not directly leased, owned or managed by a Club.

## **9. INTERPRETATIONS, DISPUTES & APPLICATIONS FOR VARIANCES**

- a) Football Queensland reserves the right to rule on any interpretation of these rules if any dispute arises. Clubs are advised to seek clarification from Football Queensland if in any doubt as to the meaning of these rules. Applications for variances to these rules must be lodged by the club Secretary to the Manager – Advanced Competitions with all supporting documentation. Football Queensland reserves the right to change or amend these rules at its absolute discretion.
- b) A request for a review of a decision in relation to a breach of the Competition Rules will not be considered unless the club seeking the review provides significant new or additional evidence. Football Queensland in those circumstances will review the decision and allow the clubs to provide a submission (written or oral). The decision on the review by Football Queensland will be final and not subject to appeal.

