



IPSWICH FUTSAL PREMIER LEAGUE BY- LAWS & REGULATIONS

Effective September 1 2023

Preamble

The Ipswich Futsal Premier League is the premier social futsal competition in the Ipswich region. Ipswich Futsal and the Ipswich Futsal Premier League operate under the governance of Football Queensland, Football Australia and FIFA. The Football Australia Code of Conduct is applicable to all members, in conjunction with relevant Ipswich Futsal Premier League by-laws and regulations. All matches are played under the latest applicable FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game, in conjunction with relevant Ipswich Futsal Premier League by-laws and regulations.

These by-laws apply specifically to the Ipswich Futsal Premier League competition and override the standard competition by-laws in their entirety.

Sanctioned by the Ipswich Futsal Committee July 11 2023
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Definitions

Fill-in: A player who plays for a team they are not nominated to.

Forfeit: A 6-0 loss for the team which either did not turn up or got disqualified for a breach of rules.

Fully financial: A player or team who has paid all their owed fees.

IFPL: Ipswich Futsal Premier League

Nominated player: A player nominated to a team. Listed on their team nomination form, and/or subsequently on their team's match sheets.

Registered player: A player who has registered on Squadi.

Semi-final: Any finals match prior to the grand final.

Social Competitions Director: The position appointed to oversee the day-to-day functions of Ipswich Futsal's social competitions and enforce their by-laws. The Social Competitions Director shall be appointed by the executive committee on an annual basis. The executive committee has the authority to override any decisions made by the Social Competitions Director.

Trialist: A player who has not yet played a game in the current registration period at Ipswich Futsal.

0. Preface

- 1) These by-laws apply specifically to the Ipswich Futsal Premier League, and only the Ipswich Futsal Premier League.
- 2) The standard by-laws (“Ipswich Futsal Competitions By-Laws & Regulations”) do not apply to the Ipswich Futsal Premier League.

1. Player & Team Eligibility

1.1 Player Registration

- 1) Pursuant to Football Australia rules and regulations, all players who take the court must be registered on Squadi, and either
 - a) Fully financial; or
 - b) On an agreed upon payment plan.
- 2) Any player who has not yet played a match in any Ipswich Futsal competition during the current registration period may play their first game as a trialist. A trialist does not need to be compliant with (1). After the trialist’s first game, they must be compliant with (1).
- 3) An exception to (1) may be granted by the Social Competitions Director when
 - a) A player can demonstrate that they have attempted to register but have encountered technical difficulties.
 - i. Players may demonstrate technical difficulties by emailing info@ipswichfutsal.com.au with relevant evidence of technical difficulties (such as screenshots); or
 - ii. By showing Ipswich Futsal staff relevant evidence of technical difficulties.
 - b) A player has a lack of access to technology required to successfully complete their Squadi registration. In this circumstance, the player should seek assistance from Ipswich Futsal staff to register.
 - c) A request for an exception to (1) does not need to be in writing.
- 4) If a player is found to be in breach of (1), their team will incur an automatic forfeit.
- 5) The Social Competitions Director may eject players or teams who repeatedly breach (1) from the current season’s social competitions.

1.2 Team Nominations

- 1) All teams must complete the [team nomination form](#) on the Ipswich Futsal website before taking the court. Only teams who submit their team nomination will be included in the draw.
- 2) In the event of demonstrated technical difficulties, a team manager may instead submit their team nomination via manually written email to info@ipswichfutsal.com.au.
- 3) If a team nomination lists less than five players, it will be considered invalid.
- 4) The following team details must be provided for a team nomination to be considered valid:
 - a) Team name
 - b) Team shirt colour
 - c) Designated team manager’s name
 - d) Team manager’s email address

- e) Team manager's phone number.
 - f) Each player's first name and surname.
 - g) Any other details not mentioned from (a) to (f) are considered optional.
- 5) Players may be added to a team nomination over the course of the season either by:
 - a) Emailing the nominated player's name (and optionally, their Squadi ID) to info@ipswichfutsal.com.au or registrar@ipswichfutsal.com.au.
 - b) Giving the player's name (and optionally, their Squadi ID) to Ipswich Futsal canteen staff.
 - 6) Players may only be nominated to one IFPL team.
 - 7) Players nominated to a team in a lower division can also be nominated to an IFPL team
 - 8) All nominated players will be printed on their team's match sheet.

1.3 Team Fees

- 1) The team entry fee & deposit is indicated in Appendix B.
- 2) All teams must pay their deposit in full before they can play any games in the IFPL.
- 3) All teams must pay the remainder of their team entry fee at least three weeks prior to the semi finals.
 - a. Teams that are not fully financial by this date will forfeit all games that follow, until they become fully financial.

1.4 Match Sheet Requirements

- 1) Each team must identify all players taking the court on their match sheet, along with their shirt number
- 2) If less than three nominated players are listed as playing on their match sheet, or the team fields less than three nominated players, the team will incur a forfeit.
- 3) If less than three nominated players from both teams are listed as playing on their match sheet, or if both teams field less than three nominated players, the result will not be recorded and both teams will have six goals added to their goals against.
- 4) If a player deliberately impersonates a different player on the match sheet, their team will incur a forfeit. Repeated violations may result in further disciplinary action.

1.5 Fill-Ins

- 1) A team may acquire any eligible fill-ins when they have less than six nominated players available to play a regular season game.
- 2) A team must not play with more than six players when they have fill-ins playing for them.
- 3) A team may not acquire any fill-ins for finals matches unless given written approval in the event of exceptional circumstances. Ipswich Futsal reserves the right to decline any proposed fill ins based on the following:
 - a) Registration status
 - b) Financial status
 - c) Skill level
 - d) Or anything else that is deemed relevant
- 4) Players nominated to an IFPL team must not fill in for any other IFPL team. Players in any other senior division may fill in for an IFPL team.
- 5) Players who fill in for a team in at least one third (rounded up) of total league fixtures will automatically become a nominated player for that team. All additional rules

which apply to nominated players in the IFPL and other social competitions (if applicable) will apply to the player.

- 6) A record of fill ins will be kept throughout the season.
- 7) Any team found to have played a game with ineligible fill-ins will incur a forfeit.
- 8) In line with Subsection 1.1 (2), fill-ins who have not played a game at Ipswich Futsal in the current registration period and are not registered on Squadi may play one game as a trialist.

1.6 Age Groups

- 1) An underage player may apply for an exemption to play in the IFPL. The application must be submitted in writing to info@ipswichfutsal.com.au. The exemption may be decided by the Social Competitions Director based on any combination of the following:
 - a) Skill level
 - b) Physical fitness
 - c) Disability
 - d) Any other factors deemed relevant

1.7 Gender

- 1) The IFPL is an open gender competition, meaning there are no restrictions on the gender of players which take part.

1.8 Finals Eligibility

- 1) All players who partake in a finals match must
 - a. Be registered on Squadi
 - b. Be fully financial
 - c. Be a nominated player for their team
 - d. Have played at least one third (rounded up) of their nominated team's matches prior to finals
- 2) All teams who partake in finals must be fully financial.
- 3) Team managers may apply for a player to be exempt from (1c) or (1d) for a given finals match if and only if they have less than 5 nominated players available to play. All applications must be submitted in writing to info@ipswichfutsal.com.au, and must include the names of all players an exemption is being requested for.
- 4) Any breach of (1) will result in the offending team automatically forfeiting their match and the opposing team advancing to the next round of finals.
- 5) If both teams in a semi-final breach (1), neither team will advance to the next round, and the replacement team will be determined in the following order
 - a. The highest ranked team (by league standings) not in breach of (1) eliminated in the current round of finals
 - b. If no such team from (a) exists, the highest ranked team who did not qualify for finals will advance to the next round.

2. Competition Structure

2.1 Match Rules

- 1) All IFPL matches will be played under applicable FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game, with the following exceptions:
 - a. There will be no timekeeper, and the match clock will not be paused for any stoppages in play.
 - b. A match lasts for two equal 20 minute periods with a 3 minute half time interval (plus extra time for finals matches if required).
 - c. Players may only substitute on and off the court from behind the yellow line in their own half.
 - i. Incorrect substitution may result in a warning, or an indirect free kick against the offending team, at a match official's discretion
 - ii. Repeated and deliberate incorrect substitutions may result in a yellow card against the offending player(s).
 - d. Referees have the option to sin bin players for dissent, as outlined in Subsection 5.3 (5).
- 2) Pursuant to (1), teams are to swap benches at half time, and substitute through their designated substitution zone.

2.2 Normal Season

- 1) A normal season will consist of at least enough games so that all teams at the beginning of the season will verse each other at least once.
- 2) Points will be allocated in each match based on the following
 - a. Win: 3 points
 - b. Draw: 1 point
 - c. Loss: 0 points
 - d. Bye: 0 points
- 3) Teams throughout the normal season (except for the final round) will be ranked by (in order):
 - a. Highest number of points
 - b. Highest goal difference
 - c. Highest goals for
 - d. Lowest goals against
 - e. Alphabetical order of team names
- 4) At the conclusion of the normal season, team rankings will be determined by
 - a. Highest number of points
 - b. Highest goal difference
 - c. Highest goals for
 - d. Lowest goals against
 - e. Lowest red cards
 - f. Lowest yellow cards
 - g. Random selection

2.3 Finals Matches

- 1) Teams and players are subject to eligibility conditions for finals matches, as set out in Subsection 1.7.

- 2) Finals matches will be conducted under the FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game and Ipswich Futsal rules, as set out in Subsection 2.1.
- 3) The finals series format will be 1v4, 2v3 in the first week, then the winners will play in the grand final in the following week.

2.4 Matches Forfeited, Cancelled, Abandoned or Suspended

- 1) During the normal season, if a match is forfeited, the result will be a 6-0 loss against the forfeiting team.
- 2) The Social Competitions Director, the Ipswich Futsal Committee, or canteen staff, may cancel a match when for whatever reason it becomes unplayable. For example, a match may be cancelled if the playing surface becomes unsafe.
- 3) The referee may choose to abandon or suspend a game at their discretion, but usually for reasons in line with the FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game.
- 4) If at least two thirds of an abandoned or suspended match has been played, and the abandonment/suspension is not caused by the misconduct of one of the teams, the scoreline at the time of abandonment/suspension will stand.
- 5) If less than two thirds of an abandoned or suspended match has been played, and the abandonment/suspension is not caused by the misconduct of one of the teams, the Social Competitions Director may choose to either:
 - a. Replay the match at a later date,
 - b. Remove the match from the season's fixtures,
 - c. Record the result as the scoreline at the time of abandonment/suspension, or
 - d. Take any other action deemed appropriate for the situation.
- 6) Bylaws pertaining to fees and penalties for matches forfeited, cancelled, abandoned or suspended are stipulated in Subsection 4.2.

3. Clothing & Equipment

3.1 Team Uniform

- 1) Every team must have a designated strip where all outfield players on the team are to wear numbered shirts of identical design and colour.
- 2) The goalkeeper on each team must wear a numbered shirt which can be distinguished from the shirts of all other players by a match official.
- 3) Teams may use an alternate colour when they verse a team with the same shirt colour.
- 4) In a match where a match official determines two team's shirt colours clash, a match official may ask a team of their choice to wear bibs provided by Ipswich Futsal.
- 5) Teams may have custom strips, so long as all content (including sponsorships) on each strip is deemed appropriate by Ipswich Futsal. For example, a strip may be considered inappropriate if it contains offensive language.

3.2 Player Clothing & Equipment

- 1) At all times, every player must wear shinpads while playing.
- 2) Shinpads are to be made of a suitable material (e.g. rubber, plastic, polyurethane) and must afford a reasonable degree of protection.
- 3) At all times, every player must wear shoes which are
 - a. Closed in; and
 - b. Non-marking (that is, they do not have studs and do not leave streaks or other marks on the floor).

- 4) Players may not wear any watches, bracelets or other jewellery while playing, unless they have an exemption from the Social Competitions Director.
- 5) A match official may force a player to substitute off the court until they are in compliance with (1), (2), (3) and (4).

4. Fees & Penalties

4.1 Fees & Penalties

- 1) The registration fee and team entry fee are set by the Ipswich Futsal Committee before the beginning of each season.
- 2) Any financial penalties (if applicable) are set by the Ipswich Futsal Committee before the beginning of each season.
- 3) All fees and penalties for the current season are available in Appendix B.
- 4) All matters regarding fees and penalties by default shall be overseen by the Social Competitions Director.

4.2 Matches Forfeited, Abandoned or Suspended

- 1) If a team's misconduct is deemed to be the cause of an abandoned or suspended match, the Social Competitions Director may choose to penalise the offending team(s) within the current penalties framework.
- 2) If a pattern of repeated forfeits emerges from a team, they will be given a formal warning. If such a pattern of forfeits continue, the team may be disqualified from the competition.

5. Discipline & Misconduct

5.1 Responsibility for Disciplinary Matters

- 1) All disciplinary matters by default shall be carried out by the Social Competitions Director or their delegate.
 - a. The Social Competitions Director, at their discretion, may appoint a delegate to oversee any number of disciplinary matters.
- 2) For all disciplinary matters where the penalty is more severe than a 5-match suspension, the Ipswich Futsal Committee may choose to deliberate on the matter in place of the Social Competitions Director or their delegate.
- 3) All appeals will first be heard by the Social Competitions Director or their delegate. Further appeals may be heard by the Ipswich Futsal Committee at their discretion.

5.2 Laws of the Game

All players and match officials shall abide by all applicable parts of the FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game, which shall form the basis for Ipswich Futsal's disciplinary code.

5.3 Yellow Card Offences

- 1) Any player shown a yellow card by a match official is assumed to have committed the offence.
- 2) The shirt number of the offending player will be recorded by a match official. The yellow card will then be recorded in a list maintained by Ipswich Futsal.
- 3) The accumulation of yellow cards across all Ipswich Futsal competitions during the season will incur the following penalties:

- a. Any player who receives four yellow cards in any one season will incur a one match suspension.
 - b. Any player who receives six yellow cards in any one season will incur a two match suspension.
 - c. Any player who receives eight yellow cards in any one season will incur a three match suspension and may be called to show cause why they should be allowed to continue playing in the current registration period.
 - d. For every second yellow card beyond eight yellow cards (i.e. ten, twelve and so on), the player will incur a three match suspension and may be called to show cause why they should be allowed to continue playing in the current registration period.
- 4) If a player receives two yellow cards in a match, it is treated as a red card and the two yellow cards will not count towards the player's accumulated yellow cards for the season.
- 5) A sin bin is when a player commits a yellow card offence and is also punished by not being allowed to participate in the game for two minutes.
- a. A match official will indicate a sin bin by showing a yellow card and pointing to the offending player's bench.
 - b. Once the sin bin period has been completed, the player may return to the match with the permission of the match officials.
 - c. A sin binned player may be substituted during the sin bin period.
 - d. If a sin bin period has not been completed by the end of a half, the remainder is served from the start of the next half.
 - e. The sin bin does not carry over to the player's next game, regardless of whether it's been completed or not.
 - f. A sin bin may only be given for dissent towards match officials.
 - g. A player cannot be sin binned twice in one game. The second sin binnable offence will be a second yellow card offence, which results in a red card under (4).

5.4 Red Card Offences

- 1) A player shown a red card cannot return to the field of play or their team's bench.
- 2) The shirt number of the offending player will be recorded by a match official. The yellow card will then be recorded in a list maintained by Ipswich Futsal.
- 3) A red carded player cannot be replaced by a substitute until 2 minutes has passed or the opposing team scores inside 2 minutes of the red card.
- 4) A player shown a red card will be automatically suspended for one match.
- 5) Suspensions shall apply across all Ipswich Futsal competitions from the time of the red card until the suspension has been served in the competition which it was incurred.
- 6) The length of suspension for a red card is at the Social Competitions Director's discretion, so long as it's within the minimum and maximum lengths stipulated in the Table of Offences (Appendix A).

5.5 Retroactive Player Suspension

- 1) Suspensions shall apply across all Ipswich Futsal competitions from the time of suspension until the suspension has been served in the competition which it was incurred.
- 2) The length of suspension is at the Social Competitions Director's discretion, so long as it's within the minimum and maximum lengths stipulated in the Table of Offences (Appendix A).
- 3) The Social Competitions Director may choose to retroactively suspend a player if they determine there is probable cause the player, during a game, committed an offence contained in the Table of Offences (Appendix A) but was not punished for it by the match officials.

5.6 Offences by Non-Players

- 1) A non-player is any person not playing in a match at the time of the offence.
- 2) The Social Competitions Director may choose to carry out disciplinary action against a non-player who has breached the Ipswich Futsal Social Competition by-laws or any other applicable statutes, such as the Football Australia Code of Conduct.
- 3) The type and severity of disciplinary action is at the discretion of the Social Competitions Director.

5.7 Appeals Process

- 1) Yellow cards, sin bins and suspensions resulting from yellow card accumulation cannot be appealed under any circumstances. Any other form of discipline such as red cards or suspensions may be appealed.
- 2) All appeals must be submitted in writing to info@ipswichfutsal.com.au.
- 3) The appeal will first be heard by the Social Competitions Director, or their delegate, for a fee as stipulated in Appendix B.
- 4) If the Social Competitions Director or their delegate denies an appeal, a request for further appeal can be made to the Ipswich Futsal Committee, who will choose whether to hear the appeal, for a fee as stipulated in Appendix B
- 5) If the appeal is denied, the deciding party may uphold the current suspension or increase its length. Appeal fees will not be refunded.
- 6) If the appeal is approved, the red card may be overturned or the length of suspension may be reduced. The reduction of suspension from an approved appeal will be at the discretion of the deciding party. For instance, if a player appeals to rescind a red card with a two match suspension, the deciding party may choose to uphold the red card but reduce the suspension to one match. Any appeal fees will be refunded.

Appendix A: Table of Offences

Explanatory Notes

- 1) Table 1 contains suspension guidelines for offences committed by players against anyone except match officials
- 2) Table 2 contains suspension guidelines for offences committed by anyone against match officials
- 3) The minimum suspension lengths in Tables 1 and 2 are inclusive of the 1 week red card automatic suspension.

Table 1: Offences by Players

Send off code	Offence	Suspension	
		Minimum	Maximum
R1	Serious Foul Play	1 match	2 years
R2	Violent conduct	1 match	2 years
R3	Intentionally spitting without injury	2 matches	2 years
R3 (expanded)	Spitting at an opponent or any other person (other than a match official)	8 matches	2 years
R4	Denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goal-keeper within his own penalty area)	1 match	1 match
R5	Denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick	1 match	1 match
R6	Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures	1 match	2 years
R7	Receive a second yellow card in the same match	1 match	1 match
Z0	Any other offence committed by a player which does not fall into any other category	1 match	Life

Table 2: Offences Against Match Officials

Offence number	Offence	Suspension	
		Minimum	Maximum
1 (R6 for players)	Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures	2 matches	2 years
2 (R6 for players)	Indecent gestures	8 matches	2 years
3 (R6 for players)	Incitement to violence, or repeated use of offensive, insulting or abusive words or gestures	10 matches	Life
4 (R6 for players)	Use of discriminatory, homophobic, racist, religious, ethnic or sexist language and/or gestures	10 matches	Life

5 (R6 for players)	Threatening or intimidating language or conduct towards a match official	11 matches	Life
6 (R6 for players)	Threat of physical violence toward a match official or their family or property	1 year	Life
7 (R2 for players)	Tripping a match official	1 year	Life
8 (R2 for players)	Pushing a match official	1 year	Life
9 (R2 for players)	Striking a match official with a ball or other object	2 years	Life
10 (R2 for players)	Punching, kicking, elbowing or striking a match official	2 years	Life
11 (R3 for players)	Spitting at or on a match official	2 years	Life
12 (Z0 for players)	Any other offence committed against a match official which does not fall into any other category	2 matches	Life

Appendix B: Current Fees and Penalties

Table 3: Current Fees for Teams and Players

Fee type	Fee amount
Player registration fee	\$90
Team deposit	\$500
Total team entry fee (including deposit)	\$1750
Red card/suspension appeal fee	\$50

Table 4: Current Penalties for Teams and Players

Offence	Penalty
Intentional or negligent property damage	The full amount of repair