

Rules of Groundhog Goal Rush 4v4 Friendlies

Overview - Fun & The Kids' Game

This is a kid-centered event

This indoor 4v4 tournament festival is for the enjoyment of the youth players, and to give them an opportunity through friendly competition to demonstrate & polish the soccer skills they've worked hard to build.

- Players are not competing for the typical \$2 medal or trophy.
- This is not a sanctioned or GotSoccer tournament with impact on team rankings and progress to tier promotion, etc.
- There are no college or national team scouts.

The winners of each division will get recognized with their photo on the event webpage, as the reigning champions.

This 4v4 event truly is for the love of the game, and excellent skill practice.

We expect to see some good-spirited competition, awesome soccer skills, kids performing their best and having fun playing the game they love, with friends.

In that light, we're attempting to have adults lie low and let the kids enjoy themselves.

Kids will be calling their own games, rather than a paid referee. A field monitor will be present to help resolve any disputation or safety issues.

Rules of Play

Equipment & Uniforms

- A size 4 Futsal ball will be used for all age divisions
- Teams must wear the same colored jersey or t-shirt, or use pennies.
In the event of conflicting jersey colors, it is the responsibility of the home team to switch colors.
The first team listed on each game shall be considered the home team.
- Shin guards are required
- Indoor soccer shoes or athletic sneakers should be worn.

Game Setup

- A coin toss (or paper-rock-scissors) is used to determine who has the first kick off. The other team gets to pick which goal they will defend.

- Players call their own game (out of bounds, hand balls, etc.), and keep it moving quickly without the need for adult/referee interference. The field monitor will help resolve any disagreements on calls, and otherwise only get involved as needed for safety and to clarify any rules.
- Games are 4v4 with no goal keeper.
- U15 division is coed and each team must have a girl player on the field at all times. If no girl player is available, the team must play down 1 player (3v4).
- The game begins with a standard kick off at center field.

Coaching

- 1-2 coaches or responsible adults are permitted in the team area, however minimal coaching is recommended, as this is a player-driven event.
- The primary function of the coach is to help younger players with substitutions.

Substitutions

- Substitutions are unlimited & can happen at any time and do not require a ball out of play.
- Substitutions must come off the field and go onto the field at the half-field mark.
- Substitutes must wait to go on the court until the leaving player is completely off the court.

Duration of match

- Match durations will be posted with the game schedule.
- There are no time-outs, and no "extra time".

Scoring Goals

- A goal cannot be scored from your team's half of the field, your team must cross half field in order to score.
- "Own goals" count as a goal in the same way as outdoor soccer.
- A goal cannot be scored from kick off.
- All free kicks are indirect.

The Box Rule

- The small box that is in front of each goal is considered the NO MAN ZONE.
- A defender cannot touch the ball if it is in the box or it will result in an automatic goal for the opposing team.

- On offense the same rule applies. A player cannot touch the ball in the box. Doing so will result in a goal kick for the defending team.
(Any goal scored from within the box is disallowed).
- If the ball rolls into the box and stops without crossing the goal line, play will be stopped and a goal kick will be given to the defending team (regardless of who touched it last).
- A player is allowed to stand **in** the box at anytime and there is no penalty as a result, only the rules stated above that involve the ball. Generally speaking, players should not to go in the box at anytime.

Ball In & Out of Play

- Out of bounds results in kick-ins (not throw ins).
To perform a kick-in, place the ball on the touch line where it went out of bounds & kick it in.
(the ball should be still & not moving or bouncing, when kicked in)
- Corner kicks exist in the same way as regular outdoor soccer
- Goal kicks shall be taken as per standard outdoor soccer with the requirement that all players must be a minimum 5 yards (15') from the person kicking the ball in. (approximation is acceptable for fields without a 3-point line)
(Basketball rims & backboards are considered out of bounds.)
- 5-yard rule on all kick-ins, free kicks & corner kicks (applies to opponents only).

Offside

- There is no offside rule. Players are free to be in any position in the court at all times, except as defined by other rules.

Fouls & Offenses

Generally speaking, this friendly 4v4 event should not elicit unsportsmanlike or overly aggressive, dangerous behavior. In the event of unsportsmanlike or unsafe behavior, the field monitor will either give a warning, or if the offense is severe or persistent or severe, will eject the player from the game.

- No slide tackles in indoor soccer. This is considered unsafe and is not permitted.
- Foul and abusive language is not permitted and shall be cause for removal from the festival.
- No refund will be provided to any player removed from the event for unsafe or unsportsmanlike behavior.