Futsal rules

The Ball

Given that Futsal is played on a smaller field and emphasizes skills and passing, the game is played with a smaller ball that has 30% less bounce than a standard soccer ball.

Offside Rule

There is no offside rule in Futsal.

Rotating Substitutions

Up to 12 players can be used in a match and there is no limit on how long a player must stay on the field, nor is a stoppage required for player substitutions which are permitted during play. Players substituting must enter and leave the field via the marked substitution zone in front of the team benches.

Kick-ins

In order to re-start the game after the ball has gone out of play, the ball is kicked back into play from the touchline and from corners. The play must be placed stationary on the touchline and the feet of the player taking the kick-in must not cross the line.

The 4 Second Rule

For kick-ins, free kicks and goal clearances and corner kicks, the player in possession of the ball has 4 seconds to restart play which the referee will count with fingers in the air. If play is not restarted within four seconds an indirect free kick will be awarded to the opposing team. The goalkeeper is not allowed to control the ball for more than 4 seconds in his/her own half.

The 5 Meter Rule

Players are required to keep 5 meters from the player in possession of the ball on free kicks, corners, goal clearances, kick-ins and penalties.

Goalkeepers

Goalkeepers are allowed to come out of the penalty area and players are allowed to go into the penalty area. A goal clearance must be thrown (and not kicked) and the goalkeeper cannot touch the ball again until it has crossed midfield or a member of the opposing team has touched the ball.