



TEXAS AMATEUR ATHLETIC FEDERATION

Futsal (Youth)

STATE COMMISSIONER:
Alex Lopez – alopez@sjtx.us

T.A.A.F., 407 N. Water St. Burnet, TX 78611
512 863-9400 Website: www.taaf.com
Email: mark@taaf.com or ginger@taaf.com

A non-profit organization established in 1925, incorporated and dedicated to develop and perpetuate interest in amateur sports and to further the spirit of sportsmanship in Texas.

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PLEASE READ ALL RULES –THERE ARE IMPORTANT ARTICLES PERTAINING TO AGE DETERMINATION DATES, REGISTRATION DEADLINE DATES AND FEES.

ARTICLE 12 FUTSAL

12.1 GENERAL: All Futsal tournaments will be played in strict accordance with the rules and regulations of the United States Youth Futsal:

.01 A Region will not be limited in the number of entries. A team is not required to play in a regional tournament to be eligible for the State Tournament.

.02 The State Commissioner has the discretion to place a team in the draw.

.03 ENTRY FEE:

- a) No entry will be accepted or be placed in the draw without attached fees or payment guarantee from the member city's T.A.A.F. representative. Failure to pay these fees may result in the T.A.A.F. participant being suspended until fees are paid
- b) These fees are to be used by the city conducting each tournament to help defray expenses of the tournament.

12.2 AGE GROUPS:

8U Girls – Division	8U Boys – Division
10U Girls – Division	10U Boys – Division
12U Girls – Division	12U Boys -- Division
14U Girls – Division	14U Boys -- Division
High School Division -- Girls	High School Division -- Boys

**Age groups will be determined by the player's birth year.*

12.3 PLAYING RULES:

- a.) Game Length: The 8U, 10U and 12U divisions will play two (2) sixteen (16) minute halves. The 14U and High School divisions will play two (2) eighteen (18) minute halves. All age divisions are to play with a running clock. The last two minutes of the second half rule no longer exists. If the game is tied at the end of the game, it will remain as a tie. The game officials may use their discretion to stop the clock for injury, ball retrieval, etc.
- b.) Time-Outs: One 30 second time out per team per half.
- c.) Half Time: A two (2) minute half time will be observed for all age divisions.
- d.) Forfeits: A forfeit game will be scored as 7-0 in favor of the team that does not forfeit.
- e.) The commissioner reserves the right to make the final decision on all interpretations and application of the Youth Futsal Rules.
- f.) Uniforms All players must wear athletic shorts, soccer socks, shin guards and flat rubber sole shoes. Goalies will be allowed to wear goalie pants.
- g.) Equipment/Apparel Equipment/apparel that are made of hard plastic, metal, or in the opinion of the referee are considered dangerous or inappropriate will NOT be permitted.
- h.) Substitutions All substitutions are on the fly. A player may only enter a game after the player they are replacing has left the field. Failure to do so results in a caution and an indirect free kick is taken from where the ball was situated when the game was stopped to caution the player.

12.4 Ball Out of Play:

Kick-in:

- a.) The team kicking in has 4 seconds to get the ball back in play or it becomes opponent's kick in.
- b.) Defense must give 5 feet distance.
- c.) Players taking kick-in cannot step into the field while kicking ball back into play. For all sideline kicks the ball and the player have to be on the line or behind the line.
- d.) Goals cannot be scored from kick-ins.
- e.) If the ball hits the ceiling, a kick in is taken at the closest point on the nearest touchline, running parallel to the goal line.

12.5 Goal Clearance

- a.) The goalie must throw the ball within 4 seconds of retrieving it and put it back into play by throwing it. This is up to the referee's discretion as to when the count starts.
- b.) The throw must leave the penalty area.
- c.) Opposing team must stay out of penalty area during a goal clearance.
- d.) If opposing players touches ball before it leaves penalty area, GK retakes the throw.

12.6 Corner Kick

Kick is taken at the point where goal line and touch line meet (at corner). Defense must give 5 feet distance

12.7 Fouls and Misconduct

- a.) Indirect Kick Fouls: An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team for the following offenses:
- b.) The GK touches or controls the ball with his hands after he has received it directly from a kick-in taken by a teammate.
- c.) The GK touches or controls the ball with his hands or feet, on any part of the playing court, for more than four seconds, except when he touches or controls the ball on the opponent's half of the playing court.
- d.) Playing in a dangerous manner.
- e.) A player deliberately impedes the progress of an opponent when the ball is not being played.
- f.) A player prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball from his hands.
- g.) A player commits any other offense, not previously mentioned above for which play is stopped to caution or dismiss a player.

NOTE: The indirect free kick is taken from the place where the infringement occurred, unless this was in the penalty area, in which case the indirect free kick is taken from the penalty area line at the place closest to where the infringement occurred. 10 feet of distance from kicker to set up wall, and ball is in play after it has been touched. If the kicking team takes more time than 4 seconds to take the kick, it becomes the opposition's indirect kick.

12.8 Direct Kick Fouls:

- a.) Kicking or attempting to kick an opponent
- b.) Tripping or attempting to trip an opponent
- c.) Strikes or attempts to strike an opponent
- d.) Pushing an opponent
- e.) Holding an opponent
- f.) Spits at an opponent
- g.) Slide tackles with exceptions above
- h.) Handles the ball deliberately (except for the goalkeeper in his own penalty area)

12.9 6th Accumulated Foul:

- a.) Upon a team's 6th accumulated foul in each half, the defending team cannot build a wall to block the kick.
- b.) If the 6th accumulated foul occurs in the offensive half then it will result in a penalty kick from the 6 yard mark (free throw line). If the 6th accumulated foul occurs in the defensive half, then it will result in a penalty kick from the 8 yard mark (top of the 3 point line)
- c.) The player taking the kick must be clearly identified.

12.9 Slide Tackling:

- a.) Slide tackling is a major foul in Futsal.
- b.) To ensure safe play, slide tackles at/towards an opponent are prohibited.
- c.) It is not allowed in any situation where there is contact between players or where referees believe that contact could have resulted.

12.10 Exceptions:

- a.) The GK is allowed to slide with hands first in an attempt to clear or save the ball, if in referees' judgment, his slide is an attempt only to make contact with the ball and not the opponent
- b.) If GK slide is reckless (a foot in air, a hook, rolling tackle) it is a foul and possibly a cardable offense.

ARTICLE 2 GENERAL PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

No player shall be eligible to play in any T.A.A.F. sport unless the player meets all of the following rules:

- 2.1 Must be an amateur in said sport and shall receive no pay to play for any team. An amateur is defined as “one who engages in sport for pleasure and for the physical, mental or social benefits, which he or she derives from that sport and to whom the sport is nothing more than an avocation.”
- 2.2 Any player who has played professional sports shall be ineligible to participate in that sport for one (1) year after his last day as a member of a professional team. This rule shall not conflict with the AABC rules in baseball.

Note: The protesting individual(s) bear the entire burden of proof regarding a player's participation as a member of a professional team. The T.A.A.F. state commissioner has the final authority to accept or reject the protesting individual(s) proof.

- 2.3 Meets all team qualifications in MOP Article 4.
- 2.4 Does not play under an assumed name.
- 2.5 In order to compete in any T.A.A.F. play, a foreign player must reside in the state of Texas continuously for a minimum period of one (1) year prior to being eligible to play.

Exception: Men's and women's fast pitch foreign softball players' eligibility will be determined by the national governing body of softball. To be eligible to participate in T.A.A.F. softball, a copy of any document required to be on file by the NGB for softball must also be filed with the T.A.A.F. state office. The same filing deadline applies for the NGB and T.A.A.F.

- 2.6 An adult player may play on more than one team within a region, but must choose one team as his/her own prior to T.A.A.F. championship play.
 - .01 No player may be on more than one roster, in a T.A.A.F. division, during T.A.A.F. championship play (region and state tournaments).
 - .02 A player must be on the sports roster by the deadline state in the participant guide.
- 2.7 A player forced to transfer from one region to another by his employer may participate in the new region providing the player has been employed by the firm for at least one (1) full year prior to the transfer and the player remains employed by the same firm.
- 2.8 Individual sport participants must reside in the state of Texas.
- 2.9 The team or individual attempting to qualify for state competition must attempt to qualify through the regional qualifier of the region in which they are registered. No participant in an individual sport or a team in team sports may attempt to qualify through more than one city, region or affiliate. Should any team or individual be discovered in violation of this rule, he/she/they shall be disqualified from that sport for that year.
- 2.10 Any region competition must take place within the established boundaries of the assigned region. If it becomes necessary to host a region competition outside of the designated boundary, prior written consent is required by the region in which the event is being held.
- 2.11 Player identification:

- .01 A player must be prepared, at all times, to provide proof of identification. A driver's license or comparable identification, which includes a current photograph and signature, is acceptable.
- .02 A player must be prepared, at all times, to provide proof of age when participating in T.A.A.F. sports categorized by age classifications or divisions. A driver's license or copy of a birth certificate from the Bureau of Vital Statistics is acceptable.
- .03 A player failing to provide appropriate proof of age or identifications, when requested by a meet director, tournament director or state commissioner, may be declared ineligible and the team/player subject to disqualification.
- 2.12 All teams must wear like colored, non-duplicated numbered jerseys for regional and state tournaments.
- 2.13 All participants in adult team sports must have attained the age of sixteen (16) prior to the registration date for teams in that sport, unless specific sport regulations provide otherwise.
- 2.14 Age determination for youth sports

Sport	Age Determining Date
Basketball (Boy's & Girl's Winter)	September 1 of current school year
Basketball (Boy's & Girl's Summer)	September 1 of current calendar year
Boxing	Based on age as of the Games of Texas
Cheerleading	September 1 of current year
Flag Football – youth	September 1 of current year
Golf – youth	September 1 of current year
Gymnastics	January 1 of the year of competition
Inline Hockey	September 1 of current year
Kickball – Youth	September 1 of the current school year
Softball – Youth	December 31 of current year
Swimming – Summer	June 1 of current year
Swimming – Winter	Age as of the Winter Games of Texas swim meet
Tennis	Age as of Games of Texas dates
Track and Field	Based on year the athlete was born
Volleyball – Youth	September 1 of current school year

ARTICLE 4 TEAM SPORT REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Team Sports

.01 Deadline for T.A.A.F. Registration:

Sport	Deadline
Basketball - Adult	One Business Day after the State Tournament Entry Deadline
Basketball - Winter - Youth/High School	January 15
Flag Football - 8 on 8	November 1
Flag Football - 4 on 4	March 1
Flag Football - Youth	November 1
Hockey - In-line	Register at State Tournament
Kickball	Register at State Tournament
Soccer	Register at State Tournament
Softball - Spring/Summer - Adult/Youth	June 1
Softball - Fall	Register at State Tournament

Volleyball - Adult	Register at State Tournament
Volleyball - Sand	Register at State Tournament
Volleyball - Youth	April 15

4.2 Team Fees:

- .01 Member Cities and Affiliate Members will pay the following registration fees to T.A.A.F.:
- All Sport Fee: \$15 per team if all teams within that given sport are registered. (Example: Youth Basketball, Adult Flag Football.)
 - Unattached Sports Team Fee: \$25 per team if not all teams within a given sport are registered, those teams are considered unattached and will not be eligible for the lowest level of play in that sport if multiple levels of play are offered.

*Region registration fees may be added to the state team registration fees up to \$2.00 per team

- .02 REGION MEMBERSHIP FEES:
- Regions that charge a fee in excess of the state fee may not exceed that fee by more than \$2.00 / team.
 - Regional membership fees may not exceed \$25.00
 - Any fee proposal exceeding the above limits must be approved by the executive board.
 - Any region charging a regional fee must provide the T.A.A.F. State Office proof that they have a federal tax identification number by January 2nd of the current year.
 - Regional fee schedule must be submitted to the T.A.A.F. State Office seven (7) days prior to the January 2005 board meeting and at the annual meeting in 2006 and thereafter.
- .03 Insurance may be purchased for an additional fee. Contact the T.A.A.F. state office for fees and enrollment information.
- .04 A late fee of five dollars (\$5.00) per team may be charged to any registration after the deadline date.

4.3 Unattached Teams (adult and youth sports only):

The fee for an unattached team are fifty (\$50) per year. This fee allows the unattached team to participate in the highest division of adult and youth team sports

- .01 Teams playing in a T.A.A.F. league cannot register as an unattached team.

4.4 Registration Requirements

- .01 Member Cities/Affiliate Members/Unattached Teams must furnish the following to the T.A.A.F. State Office by the registration deadline date:

- One (1) copy of the league registration form, including division codes
- One (1) copy of the team registration form
- All registration fees

- An .02 Team registrations must be certified by the city where they compete, if a Member City. Affiliate Member will mail their registrations directly to the T.A.A.F. State Office.

4.5 Team Roster Requirements

- .01 complete To advance in T.A.A.F. championship play, each team will be required to submit a team roster as follows:
- It must be written or typed on an approved T.A.A.F. team roster form. Exception: Softball rosters may be submitted on the official roster from the national organizations whose rules are governing the state tournament (i.e. ASA, USSSA)
 - Each individual listed on the roster must sign it in ink.
- .02 Member Cities and Affiliate Members are required to submit team rosters for those teams advancing to championship play.
- .03 minimum of roster. It is recommended that all youth teams advancing to a state tournament have a one (1) T.A.A.F. approved national certified coach, to be listed on the team roster.

4.6 Returning Teams

- .01 All T.A.A.F. team champions (except youth basketball) shall be eligible to return to the state tournament as defending champions, provided they have not been reclassified and have the following minimum returning players:

SOFTBALL SLOW PITCH	10 PLAYERS
SOFTBALL FAST PITCH	9 PLAYERS
FLAG FOOTBALL	6 PLAYERS
BASKETBALL	4 PLAYERS
VOLLEYBALL	4 PLAYERS

4.7 Region/State Tournament Participation

- .01 Sport Penalty
- Gymnastics only: Failure to register a gymnast with T.A.A.F. prior to competition will result in a fine of \$100 assessed to the gym for each unregistered gymnast
 - Gymnastics only: Failure to have a gymnast ranked by the January 1 deadline will result in a late fee of \$25.
- .02 In order to be eligible to compete for state honors, each team must have:
- Registered with T.A.A.F. by the deadline date.
 - Fulfilled all roster requirements as specified by the Member City, or, if an Affiliate or Unattached Team, by the Regional Director.
- .03 To enter a regional tournament, the local T.A.A.F. Member City representative must certify the roster. The roster must be submitted to the regional tournament director (adult men's basketball and flag football only) prior to the deadline established by the region.
- .04 To enter a state tournament, the regional director must certify the roster, including if from another organization (i.e. ASA, USSSA). Note: this is NOT the regional tournament director. The roster must be submitted to the state tournament director prior to the state deadline.
- Affiliate and Unattached teams need to check with the T.A.A.F. state office for their requirements.

- .05 Each Member City will have the right to advance any team that has registered with T.A.A.F. in all team sports except the following sports/classifications:
- a. Men's 8 on 8 Flag Football
 - b. Youth Flag Football
 - c. Winter Youth Basketball
- .06 The state tournament director may or may not limit the number of teams that are accepted in the state tournament. The state tournament director must accept a minimum of 20 teams in each division of youth and adult basketball and youth or adult volleyball. The state tournament director must accept a minimum of 32 teams in each division of adult or youth flag football and adult or youth softball.
- a. In the Men's and Youth Flag Football State Tournaments and Girls Fast Pitch Softball Tournaments each Member City member will have the right to advance one (1) T.A.A.F. registered team to participate in the T.A.A.F. State Championship Tournament. The state tournament host city will have the authority to accept additional teams, if team registrations for the state tournament from the "automatic berths" do not fill the tournament.
 - b. The teams in the Winter Youth State Basketball Tournament must qualify through regional tournament. The Winter Boys and Girls State Basketball Commissioners will set the number of teams that qualify for the Winter Youth State Basketball Tournament. The State Commissioners and State Tournament Directors will determine the total number of teams accepted in the Boys and Girls Winter State Basketball Tournaments.
- .07 In a regional or state T.A.A.F. tournament, any team that fails to show up may be suspended from T.A.A.F. play for one year unless the team notifies their regional director and the state tournament director of their intent to be a no show. This notification must be made prior to the start of the tournament. This rule applies to every participant; all team members and all coaches, on the official team roster.
- .05 Each Member City will have the right to advance any team that has registered with T.A.A.F. in all team sports except the following sports/classifications:
- a. Men's 8 on 8 Flag Football
 - b. Youth Flag Football
 - c. Winter Youth Basketball
- .06 The state tournament director may or may not limit the number of teams that are accepted in the state tournament. The state tournament director must accept a minimum of 20 teams in each division of youth and adult basketball and youth or adult volleyball. The state tournament director must accept a minimum of 32 teams in each division of adult or youth flag football and adult or youth softball.
- a. In the Men's and Youth Flag Football State Tournaments and Girls Fast Pitch Softball Tournaments each Member City member will have the right to advance one (1) T.A.A.F. registered team to participate in the T.A.A.F. State Championship Tournament. The state tournament host city will have the authority to accept additional teams, if team registrations for the state tournament from the "automatic berths" do not fill the tournament.
 - b. The teams in the Winter Youth State Basketball Tournament must qualify through regional tournament. The Winter Boys and Girls State Basketball Commissioners will set the number of teams that qualify for the Winter Youth State Basketball Tournament. The State Commissioners and State Tournament Directors will determine the total number of teams accepted in the Boys and Girls Winter State Basketball Tournaments.

- .07 In a regional or state T.A.A.F. tournament, any team that fails to show up may be suspended from T.A.A.F. play for one year unless the team notifies their regional director and the state tournament director of their intent to be a no show. This notification must be made prior to the start of the tournament. This rule applies to every participant; all team members and all coaches, on the official team roster.