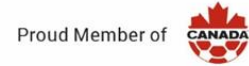




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INFORMATION BULLETIN

Bulletin #: I2024-49
Date: November 27, 2024
To: Ontario Soccer; District Membership and Associate Members
CC: Ontario Soccer; Board of Directors, Staff
From: Matt Ferreira, Director, Development
Subject: Ontario Soccer Grassroots Futsal Festivals

Ontario Soccer is excited to announce the 2025 Grassroots Futsal Festivals, a series of fun and developmentally focused events designed for grassroots players (U7 to U13) to experience futsal in a supportive environment.

The sport of Futsal is a key priority for Ontario Soccer, as identified in its [2022-2026 Strategic Plan](#), with the overarching aim to grow and develop the sport through programs, services and new initiatives.

Futsal is the official FIFA and UEFA version of indoor 5-a-side soccer and the only internationally recognized small-sided game. There are proven benefits to playing futsal for the overall skill development of young players, with particular emphasis on their physical literacy as well as fundamental technical skills such as dribbling, passing and ball control. Futsal is played on a court surface, as opposed to traditional soccer that is played on grass and/or artificial turf.

These festivals are part of a broader pilot initiative delivered by Ontario Soccer to review various match formats dependent on the age-stage of development. Teams will participate in one modified match format and one senior regulation futsal match during the one-day festival. They will be analyzed to develop Grassroots Standards for Futsal for implementation province-wide in the 2025-2026 Indoor Season.


The coaches of the teams that register for these events shall also have priority access to the upcoming Futsal Coaching Certificate and Diploma courses (January – March 2025).

Ontario Soccer will host festivals at Cardinal Carter Academy in Aurora, Ontario, with four (4) festivals dedicated to female teams and four (4) to male teams.



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The details of each age group are as follows:

Age Division	Year Born	Team Registration Size	Date
Under 7	2018	Ten (10) players per team	Sunday, January 26, 2025
Under 9	2016	Ten (10) players per team	Sunday, February 2, 2025
Under 11	2014	Fourteen (14) players per team	Sunday, February 9, 2025
Under 13	2012	Fourteen (14) players per team	Sunday, February 23, 2025

Match format adaptations:

	Match Format	Sideline Restarts	Field Size	Ball Size	Maximum Goal Size	Maximum Match Duration	Match Day Roster
Fundamentals (U7-U9)	3v3 (no GK)	Dribble/ Pass In	Width: 12m Length: 20m	3	Pop-up	2 x 10 minute halves	5
Learn to Train (U10-U13)	4v4 (with GK)	Standard Kick-In	Width: 16m Length: 25m	3	1m x 1.5m	2 x 15 minute halves	7
Regulation Futsal	5v5 (with GK)	Standard Kick-In	Width: 20-30m Length: 25-42m	4	2m x 3m	2 x 20 minute halves	14

Register Your Team

We encourage all Member Clubs to register teams for these festivals to give their players a chance to experience the fast-paced and rewarding format of futsal. This is a fantastic opportunity to foster player development and create lasting memories on the futsal court!

Please note: If there are potential scheduling conflicts due to participation in other competitions, please share those details in the registration form. Efforts to accommodate club's and their teams will be made while understanding that Clubs may use the Open Roster mechanism. For integrity of the analysis, players that attend in the morning must also attend the afternoon matches.

Registration cost (per team): \$175.00

Registration deadline for all age groups: January 10, 2025, at 11:59 p.m.

To register, please visit: <https://ontariosoccer.sportngin.com/register/form/845969067>

Further information regarding festival rules and the competition schedule will be shared closer to the registration deadline.

For any questions regarding the festivals, please contact [Cameron Oliver](#), Coordinator, Player Development.


How do I stay connected to Ontario Soccer?



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