

**THE ST. JAMES CENTER FOR SOCCER EXCELLENCE**  
**2021 INTERNATIONAL FUTSAL CUP OF CHAMPIONS TOURNAMENT RULES**  
**Current as of 4/30/21**

The St. James Center for Soccer Excellence offers Futsal in accordance with an abbreviated version of FIFA's Futsal Laws of the Game to make them more appropriate and relevant to the 2021 INTERNATIONAL FUTSAL CUP OF CHAMPIONS TOURNAMENT.

These adapted playing rules are only applicable in the St. James Center for Soccer Excellence's Futsal leagues and tournaments. It is important for players and teams to note that in other Futsal competitions they will be expected to play to the full FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game. To read FIFA's Futsal Laws of the Game, visit [www.FIFA.com](http://www.FIFA.com)

General Rules

1. These are adapted playing rules specific for The St. James 2021 INTERNATIONAL FUTSAL CUP OF CHAMPIONS TOURNAMENT. Any situation not covered within these rules will automatically revert to FIFA's Futsal Laws of the Game.
2. All players, including goalkeepers, must wear shin guards when on the court.
3. A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself or another player, including any kind of jewelry. Jewelry must be removed before the referee will commence the match.
4. Players must wear appropriate flat-soled, non-marking footwear.
5. Teams are required to have matching uniforms. A "uniform" is defined by use of a numbered jersey issued by the team's coach or manager to each rostered player on registered teams in the League prior to the start of the season. Each player is required to wear this jersey to play in all matches.
6. Each team must accurately complete a team list that conforms with the team roster submitted during registration prior to each match.
7. Five players may be on the court for each team at any one time unless players have been dismissed from the court by the referee.
8. A team roster may consist of up to 12 players for each game.
9. Substitutions can be made at any time during the game, and the number of substitutions is unlimited. A player that has been substituted may return to the court as a substitute for another player.
10. The player being substituted must leave the court via the substitution zone, which is the area in front of their team bench. The substitute can only enter the court once the player being replaced has left, and they must enter the court via the substitution zone.
11. Up to a maximum of three team officials (non-players) may sit in the technical area during a match.
12. A match may not start if a team has less than 3 players, and a match will be abandoned if a team has less than three players on the court.

### Field of Play

Teams shall occupy the same touchlines (sidelines). Parents/fans must occupy the seating area behind the field of play which is located on the north end of the Court House. Non-team members and personnel are prohibited from entering the field of play and/or allowed to occupy/sit in the area behind either goal line. All players and coaches must maintain at least a one (5) foot setback from each touchline during game play. Subject to the setback requirement, coaches may freely move along their respective touchline inside the technical area. The home team shall have the choice of preferred touchlines.

### Duration of Play & Timeouts

1. Matches will be divided between two equal periods of 20 minutes at the discretion of the referee and/or The St. James Director of Soccer.
2. Games will play to a running clock, which means that the clock will not be stopped when the ball goes out of play or there is a stoppage in the game.
3. At half-time the interval should not exceed 3 minutes, and it is at the referee's discretion to allow less time for the half-time interval.
4. Timeouts are permitted and shall be no more than one minute in length. Each team is afforded one timeout per half – two total for the game.

### Technical Rules

1. To restart the game after a ball has gone out of play the ball is kicked back into play from the touchline and from corners.
2. For kick-ins, free kicks, goal clearances and corner kicks the player in possession of the ball has 4 seconds to restart play which the referee will count with their fingers in the air.
3. For a kick-in, the player must have one foot on the touch line or behind it and the ball must be stationary.
4. A goal may not be scored directly from a kick-in.
5. From corners, kick-ins and free-kicks opponents must be a distance of at least 5 meters (15 feet) from the ball.
6. Goalkeepers can come out of the penalty area and players can go into the penalty area.
7. The goalkeeper is not allowed to control the ball with either hands or feet for more than 4 seconds in their own half.
8. A goal clearance must be thrown out and the goalkeeper cannot touch the ball again unless a member of the opposition has touched the ball or if the goalkeeper receives the ball in the opponents' half.
9. There is no offside in Futsal.

### Fouls & Misconduct

1. A team may concede five fouls (direct free kicks) in each half of the game. On the sixth and any subsequent fouls that the team commits a direct free kick will be awarded to the opposition from the 10m penalty mark. The defending team may not place any players other than the goalkeeper to stop the shot.
2. If a player is sent off then the team to which the player belongs must remain with 4 players until either two minutes have passed, or the opposition have scored a goal. **The player that has been sent-off is not able to play in the remainder of the match and will also sit out the next match.**

## The Referee

There will only be one referee per match, who will officiate the game and keep the time.

1. The decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with play are final.
2. The referee will enforce the Laws of the Game.

## Team Rosters

1. The St. James 2021 INTERNATIONAL FUTSAL CUP OF CHAMPIONS TOURNAMENT is played with 4 field players and goalkeeper. Thus, team roster sizes should be no less than (5) players and no more than (12) during and throughout the duration of the tournament.
2. Only registered and rostered players are allowed to play on a given team.
3. Team rosters must be submitted via email to [Douglas Homer, Director of Soccer](#), NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 2021. Athletes and coaches listed on the team roster will be photographed for roster verification purposes by TSJ officials upon arrival to the complex on match day one. All listed athletes and coaches must present proof of identity in the form of a government-issued ID. Additions and/or changes will NOT be permitted once the roster has been submitted electronically. Only rostered players can play in seeded play that could result in a team advancing to the championship game and championship games.

## Standings

Teams will receive 3 points for a win, 1 point for a tie, and 0 points for a loss. Each team will play the other teams within the division. The top two teams in each division will advance to the divisional final. There will be a consolation division with teams who finish third and fourth in each division to play semi-finals and a final. Any tie breakers shall be determined in the following order:

- Total number of goals scored;
- The team who has conceded the fewest goals; and
- Three player penalty kick shootouts. Additional kicks if needed.

## Awards

All participants will receive a certificate of participation.

The Center for Soccer Excellence at The St James is thrilled to host the 2021 INTERNATIONAL FUTSAL CUP OF CHAMPIONS TOURNAMENT on Sunday, June 27, 2021. Integrity, honor, and excellence are all trademarks that we are committed to upholding here at The St. James. We look forward to working in concert with you and in the spirit of the beautiful game.

Sincerely,

Douglas Homer

Director of Soccer

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