**Futsal Laws of the Game**

Futsal is played between two teams each with five players. Unlimited substitutions are permitted. Unlike some other forms of indoor football (soccer), the game is played on a hard court surface delimited by lines; walls or boards are not used. Futsal is also played with a smaller ball with less bounce than a regular ball. The rules create an emphasis on improvisation, creativity and technique as well as ball control and passing in small spaces.

Futsal started in Montevideo, Uruguay, in 1930, when Juan Carlos Ceriani created a version of football (soccer) for competition in YMCA gyms. In Brazil, this version developed on the streets of São Paulo, and, eventually, a rule book was published. The sport began to spread across South America, and its popularity ensured that a governing body was formed under the name of FIFUSA (Federación Internacional de Fútbol de Salón) in 1971.

**Differences between Futsal & Soccer**

Futsal goalkeepers may not receive the ball directly from teammates, even to their feet, after having possessed or controlled the ball.

Instead of goal kicks, there are goal clearances (the ball is thrown into play).

Instead of throw-ins, there are kick-ins (the ball is kicked into play).

There are flying substitutions. Free substitutions are made "on the fly".  Player can only enter or leave the game in the substitution areas marked by their respective benches, and 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.

The ball is a limited bounce ball, not a soccer ball.