

FUTSAL

PITCH SIZE GUIDANCE



FOR ALL

OVERVIEW

There are many factors which must be considered when choosing the appropriate size futsal pitch for all players, none more so than for young players.

These specific factors will be different to any of those for conventional football (inc mini-soccer) principles due to the variances in the **FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game** governing the format. A specific approach to football should not be a guiding influence over futsal.

Over the last decade The FA has issued various guidance on futsal pitch sizing and this (2019) advisory updates and supersedes the foregoing.

England boasts over 4,000 sports halls* and many more that are smaller in size. These exist across an array of facilities including schools, local leisure centres, other education sites or private provision.

The recent launch of **The FA Fast Forward with Futsal Strategy** specifically focuses its objectives across the 5-11 age range for boys and girls.

Whilst there is also a focus on youth and adult participation in the Strategy, the appropriateness of full size futsal pitches (40 x 20m) for younger players is questionable and the limitations in pitches with an inappropriate run-off presents a hurdle to growth.

Over the past decade, Sport England and Education Funding Agency have directed and built guidance on a new range of facilities which can offer futsal opportunities for young players.

Player safety must be at the heart of any futsal offering and The FA, facility providers, club officers and officials have an important role to play in ensuring a safe environment for play.

A review of the guidance on pitch size and run-off dimensions specifically for futsal at International, National Competition, youth and recreational levels has been undertaken whilst considering expert guidance on futsal development.

This approach is key to ensuring that The FA National Game Strategy 2018 – 2022 which defines futsal as a development objective can be implemented without substantial limitation.



*4 badminton court size or above (Sport England research data)

AGE APPROPRIATE SIZE FUTSAL PITCHES

When considering the appropriate size futsal pitch for young players we must consider, but not be limited by;

Availability of, and access to facilities;

Safe run-off space;

FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game;

Adapted FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game – for grassroots and youth futsal only;

Age specific benefits offered by the format;

Safety of players;

The ball, size and construct;

Number of players in futsal;

Number of referees.

Therefore when considering the size of the pitch for the age, maturation and level of the player, reducing the pitch size has several impacts as a game constraint that will have a huge impact upon play and development outcomes.



AGE APPROPRIATE SIZE FUTSAL PITCHES

The factors being influenced must also be considered in any Youth Futsal Laws of the Game adaptation to ensure that the principles of the format are maintained, such as but not limited to:

Increased player contact with the ball versus football (mini-soccer / conventional 5-a-side)

Increased shooting opportunities as in all formats of futsal

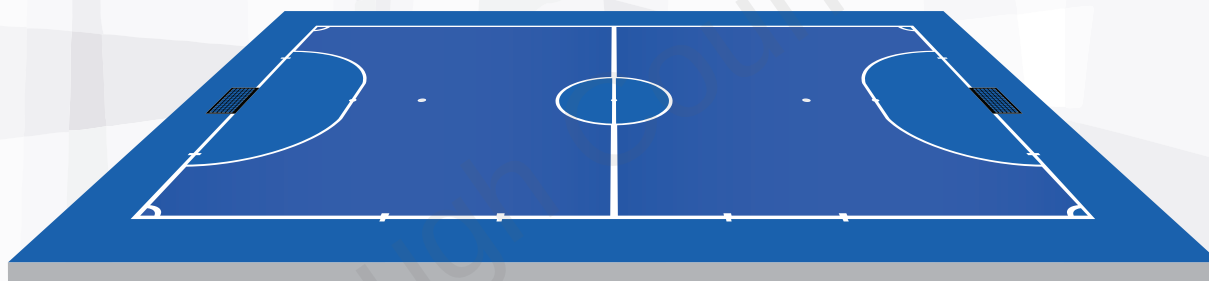
Ability to run with the ball and/or dribble

Reducing player momentum by shorter pitch dimensions

Maintain the ball in play (ball type, player numbers, line markings and pitch size)

A young player's aerobic capability and development

For our Futsal Strategy to be successful, enabling schools and other community to have accessibility to facilities for futsal use, is seen as vital. The following guidance should be considered as updated and issued to facilitate our objective to grow the game.

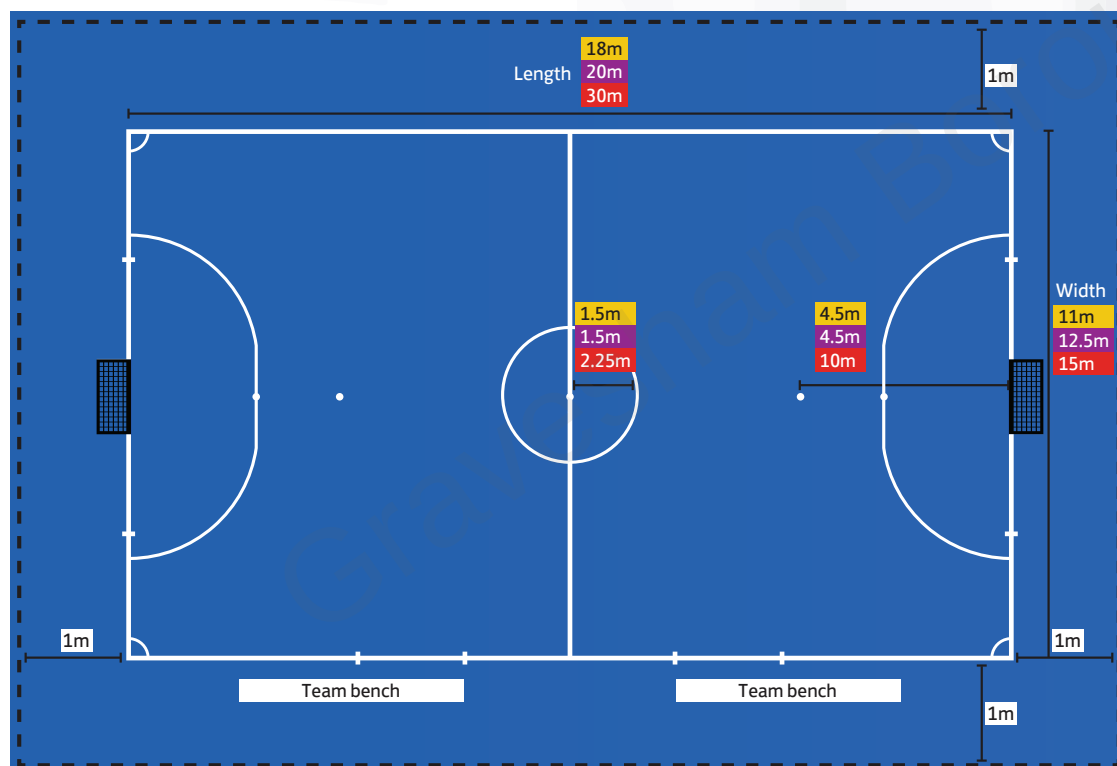


FUTSAL PITCH GUIDANCE

Community usage

	Length (max) m	Width (max) m	Run off (min) m	Centre Circle (min rad) m	2nd (10m) Penalty (min) m
u9	18.00	11.00	1.00	1.50	4.50
u11	20.00	12.50	1.00	1.50	4.50
12 - 16	30.00	15.00	1.00	2.25	10.00

Note: applies to all Local Qualifying Competition (LQC) rounds of The FA Youth Futsal Cup



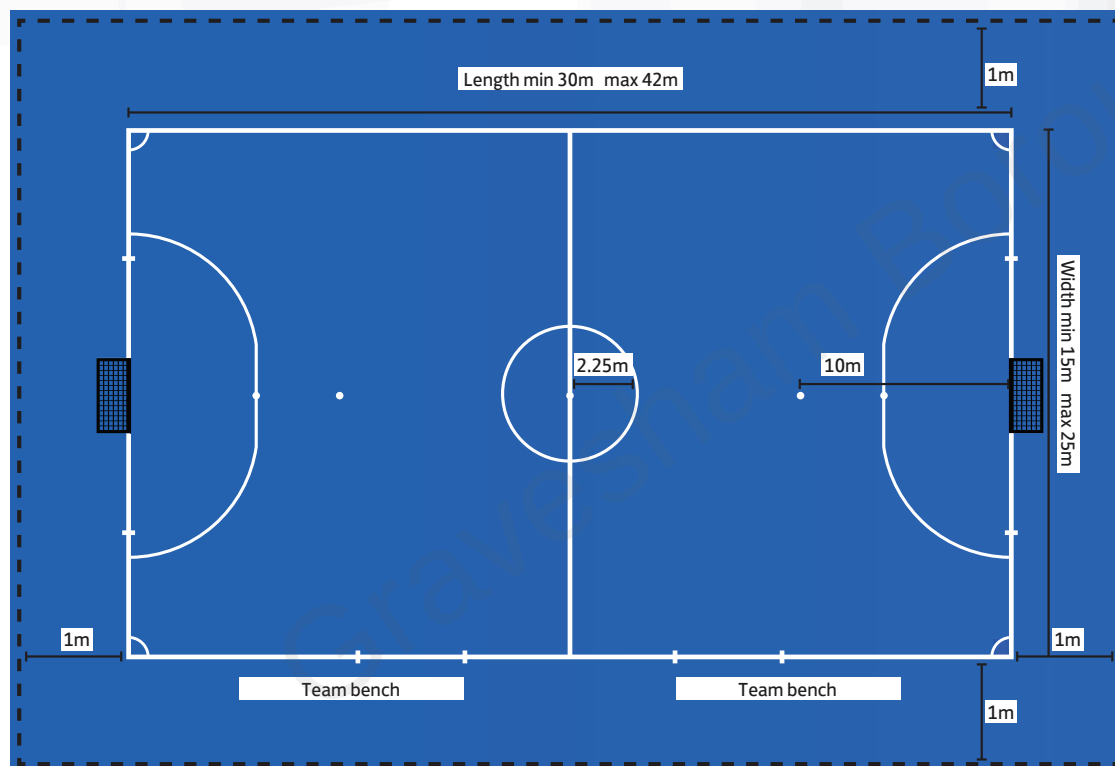
- under 9s
- under 11s
- 12 - 16s

FUTSAL PITCH GUIDANCE

Club usage

	Length (min-max) m	Width (min-max) m	Run off (min) m	Centre Circle (min rad) m	2nd (10m) Penalty (min) m
16+	30 - 42	15 - 25	1.00	2.25	10.00

Note: applies to all Local Qualifying Competition (LQC) rounds of The FA Futsal Cup



FUTSAL PITCH GUIDANCE

Premier usage

	Length (min) m	Width (min) m	Run off (min) m	Centre Circle (min rad) m	2nd (10m) Penalty (min) m
FA Futsal Cup regional rounds	30.00	15.00	1.00	3.00	10.00
FA Futsal Cup Semi-finals/ final events	38.00	18.00	2.00	3.00	10.00
National Futsal League	30.00	15.00	1.00	3.00	10.00
National Futsal League - Tier 1	38.00	18.00	2.00	3.00	10.00
International	38.00	20.00	3.00	3.00	10.00

1. Side and end walls or rebound boards are not used in Futsal and a runoff is a requirement. Run-off dimensions stated in the table are absolute minimums. Where the run-offs are stated as 1.0m it should be noted that whilst this is permissible, 2.0m is preferred and should be accommodated where feasible at the facility.
2. Additional space is required for benching/tables/officials/team bench.
3. It is imperative that facility providers, event organisers and participating teams conduct a safety risk assessment of the pitch dimension applied and its run-offs which should be recorded within the competition log and operational management plan.

FUTSAL PITCH GUIDANCE

Premier usage





For All