

TO THE MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1806

Zurich, 15 August 2022

SG/dch

Futsal Laws of the Game 2022-23

Dear Sir or Madam,

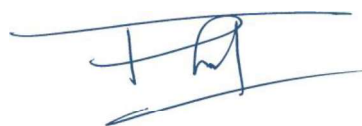
FIFA is pleased to inform you that updates to the Futsal Laws of the Game have been approved by the Bureau of the FIFA Council. The updates incorporate certain futsal-specific changes while also bringing the Laws into line with some modifications recently made in football.

Please find enclosed both an overview of the main amendments and the full Futsal Laws of the Game 2022-23. The full Futsal Laws of the Game 2022-23 are also available on [FIFA.com](https://www.fifa.com).

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dominic Chielens, Refereeing Manager, at the FIFA Refereeing Subdivision (refereeing@fifa.org).

Yours faithfully,

FIFA



Fatma Samoura
Secretary General

Cc: - FIFA Council
- Confederations

Encl.: - Main amendments to the Futsal Laws of the Game
- Futsal Laws of the Game 2022-23

Main amendments to the Futsal Laws of the Game

Key: *italics* = new/modified text; ~~strikethrough~~ = deleted text.

Futsal Laws of the Game 2022-23	
LAW 1 – The Pitch	<p>9. The goals</p> <p>(...)</p> <p><i>It is recommended that all goals used in an official competition organised under the auspices of FIFA or confederations not include any extraneous structures (i.e. except for the goalposts and crossbar – e.g. support bars) that could prevent the ball from going into the goal.</i></p> <p>10. Goal movement</p> <p>In the event that a defending-team player (including the goalkeeper) either deliberately or accidentally moves or overturns their own goal prior to the ball crossing the goal line, the goal must be allowed if the ball would have entered the goal between the normal position of the goalposts.</p> <p>(...)</p> <p><i>If a defending-team player moves or overturns their own goal and:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>the ball does not enter or touch the goal, play is stopped and:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>if it was accidental, the match is restarted with a dropped ball;</i> - <i>if it was deliberate, the match is restarted with an indirect free kick and the offending player must be cautioned.</i> • <i>the ball touches but does not enter the goal, play is stopped and:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>if it was accidental, the match is restarted with a dropped ball;</i> - <i>if it was deliberate, the match is restarted with a penalty kick and the offending player must be sent off for denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity.</i> • <i>the ball enters the goal (wholly passing over the goal line) between the normal position of the goalposts, with or without touching the</i>

	<p><i>goal, a goal is allowed and the offending player must be cautioned if it was deliberate.</i></p> <p>If a defending team player deliberately moves or overturns their own goal and it makes contact with the ball, a penalty kick is awarded to the opposing team and the offending player must be cautioned or, if the offence denied the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity, sent off.</p> <p>(...)</p>
<p>LAW 5 - The Referees</p>	<p>3. Powers and duties The referees: (...) stop play if, in their opinion, a player is seriously injured and ensure that the player is removed from the pitch. An injured player, including a goalkeeper, may not be treated on the pitch, may only return to the pitch after the match has restarted and must re-enter the pitch from their team's substitution zone. The only exceptions to the requirement to leave the pitch are when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a goalkeeper and an outfield player have collided and need attention; <p>(...)</p> <p>7. Video support</p> <p><i>The use of video support (VS) is only permitted when the match/competition organisers have fulfilled all the VS protocol and implementation requirements (as set out by FIFA) and received written permission from FIFA.</i></p> <p><i>The referees make use of VS when a team's head coach (or, in the head coach's absence, another designated team official) challenges a decision in relation to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Goal/no goal</i> • <i>Penalty kick/no penalty kick</i> • <i>Direct red cards</i> • <i>Mistaken identity</i> <p><i>In addition, VS can be used at the referees' discretion when there is a disagreement between the two referees regarding an incident in</i></p>

	<p><i>one of the above-mentioned categories.</i></p> <p><i>VS can also be used at the referees' discretion in the following situations:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>If the chronometer malfunctions</i> • <i>If the chronometer is incorrectly (re)started/stopped by the timekeeper pursuant to the provisions of Laws 6 and 7</i> • <i>To verify whether a goal has been scored</i> • <i>To confirm whether the ball entered the goal before the acoustic signal for the end of a period</i> <p><i>VS involves one or more replays of the incident. The referees will review the replay footage directly and the referee will make the final decision. The initial decision does not change unless the replay footage shows that a "clear and obvious error" was committed or a "serious missed incident" occurred.</i></p>
<p>LAW 6 – The Other Match Officials</p>	<p>4. Reserve assistant referee (RAR)</p> <p>In tournaments or competitions where this figure is appointed, the reserve assistant referee's</p> <p><i>A reserve assistant referee may be appointed under the competition rules. Their role and duties must be in accordance with the provisions stipulated in the Futsal Laws of the Game.</i></p> <p>The reserve assistant referee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is appointed under the competition rules and replaces the third referee if <i>either any of the referees or the third referee</i> are unable to start or continue officiating the match <i>and can also replace the timekeeper if needed;</i> • assists the referees <i>and the third referee</i> at all times, including with any administrative duties before, during and after the match, as required by the referees; <p>(...)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • takes a position <i>near the timekeeper</i>, so as to be able to assist the referees <i>and the third referee</i> by providing any relevant information regarding the match.

<p>LAW 8 – The Start and Restart of Play</p>	<p>1. Kick-off</p> <p>Procedure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The referee tosses a coin and the team that wins the toss of a coin decides which goal to attack in the first period or whether to take the kick-off in the first or second period.</i> • <i>Unless stated otherwise in the competition regulations, the home team chooses which goal to attack in the first period.</i> • Depending on the above, the other team takes the kick-off or decides which goal to attack in the first period. • <i>The team that decided which goal to attack did not take the kick-off in the first period takes the kick-off to start the second period.</i>
<p>LAW 10 – Determining the Outcome of a Match</p>	<p>3. Kicks from the penalty mark</p> <p>Procedure</p> <p>Before kicks from the penalty mark start</p> <p>(...)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If, at the end of the match or extra time, and before the kicks from the penalty mark start, one team has a greater number of players (including substitutes) than its opponents, it may choose to reduce its numbers to the same number as its opponents and the referees must be informed of the name and number of each player excluded, if any. Any excluded player is not eligible to take part in the kicks, <i>whether as a kicker or as a goalkeeper</i> (except as outlined below). <p>(...)</p> <p>During kicks from the penalty mark</p> <p>(...)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the goalkeeper commits an offence and, as a result, the kick is retaken, the goalkeeper is warned for the first offence; and <i>if the same player commits any subsequent offence(s), they are cautioned for any subsequent offence(s).</i> <p>(...)</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If, during the kicks from the penalty mark, one team's number of players is reduced, the team with more players may choose to reduce its numbers to the same number and the referees must be informed of the name and number of each player excluded, if any. Any excluded player is not eligible to take further part in the kicks, <i>whether as a kicker or as a goalkeeper</i> (except as outlined above). <p>Substitutions and sendings-off during kicks from the penalty mark</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A player or, substitute or team official may be cautioned or sent off. <p>(...)</p>
<p>LAW 12 – Fouls and Misconduct</p>	<p>1. Direct free kick</p> <p>A direct free kick is also awarded if a player commits any of the following offences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a handball offence <i>that is deliberate and/or involves the hand/arm making the player's body unnaturally bigger</i> (except for the goalkeeper within their penalty area) <p>Handling the ball</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>It is a <i>direct-free-kick</i> offence if a player:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> deliberately touches the ball with their hand/arm, for example moving the hand/arm towards the ball. touches the ball with their hand/arm when it has made their body unnaturally bigger. A player is considered to have made their body unnaturally bigger when the position of their hand/arm is not a consequence of, or justifiable by, the player's body movement for that specific situation. By having their hand/arm in such a position, the player takes a risk of their hand/arm being hit by the ball and being penalised. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> scores in the opponents' goal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> directly from their hand/arm, even if accidental, including by the goalkeeper;

o—immediately after the ball has touched their hand/arm, even if accidental.

~~If a goal is not scored immediately after a player accidentally touches the ball with their hand/arm, play should be continued, provided that the hand/arm did not make the player's body unnaturally bigger.~~

The goalkeeper has the same restrictions on handling the ball as any other player outside the penalty area. If the goalkeeper handles the ball inside their penalty area when not permitted to do so, an indirect free kick is awarded but there is no disciplinary sanction. *However, if the offence is playing the ball a second time (with or without the hand/arm) after a restart before it touches another player, the goalkeeper must be sanctioned if the offence stops a promising attack or denies an opponent or the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity.*

2. Indirect free kick

An indirect free kick is awarded if a player:

(...)

- *scores in the opponents' goal:*
 - o *directly from their hand/arm (including by the goalkeeper), provided that it is accidental and the hand/arm did not make their body unnaturally bigger;*
 - o *immediately after accidentally touching the ball with their hand/arm, provided that the hand/arm did not make their body unnaturally bigger.*

If a player does not score immediately after accidentally touching the ball with their hand/arm, play should be continued, provided that the hand/arm did not make the player's body unnaturally bigger.

(...)

An indirect free kick is also awarded if a goalkeeper commits any of the following offences:

(...)

- after ~~playing~~ *having played* the ball *in controlled possession*, wherever on the pitch, touches it again in their own half of the pitch after it has been deliberately played to the goalkeeper by a team-mate without an opponent playing or touching it; *there is no disciplinary sanction*;

(...)

3. Disciplinary action

(...)

If, before entering the pitch at the start of the match, a player or team official commits a sending-off offence, the referees have the authority to prevent the player or team official from taking part in the match; the referees will report any other misconduct.

If the referees need to caution a named player, substitute or team official before the match starts, they should do so verbally rather than by showing a yellow card, and report it to the appropriate authorities after the match.

If the same person commits another cautionable offence during the match, the referees caution them by showing a yellow card. However, this does not count as a sending-off offence, as it is the first yellow card shown to the offending person during the match.

Sending-off offences

A player or substitute who commits any of the following offences is sent off:

- denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity by a handball offence (except a goalkeeper within their own penalty area) or by *deliberately* moving or overturning the goal (such as when this prevents the ball from passing over the goal line)

Denying a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity (DOGSO)

Where a player denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity by a handball offence, the player is sent off wherever the offence

	<p>occurs <i>(except a goalkeeper within their penalty area)</i>.</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>The following must be considered when determining whether it is a DOGSO situation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the distance between the offence and the goal • the general direction of the play • the likelihood of keeping or gaining control of the ball • the location and number of defending outfield players, as well as the goalkeeper • whether or not the goal is “unguarded” <p>If a goalkeeper is just in front of their own goal to guard it, it is considered that no DOGSO offence can be committed, even if the situation meets the other criteria for DOGSO.</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>If the number of attacking-team players is the same as or greater than the number of defending-team players (except the goalkeeper) when the goal is not guarded by the goalkeeper and other criteria for DOGSO are met, this can be considered a DOGSO situation.</p> <p><i>If a defending-team player commits an offence without attempting to play the ball (e.g. holding, pulling, pushing, no possibility to play the ball, etc.) and the number of attacking players is greater than the number of defending players, this must be considered a DOGSO situation, even if the goal is guarded by the goalkeeper.</i></p> <p>4. Restart of play after fouls and misconduct</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>If, when the ball is in play:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a player commits an offence against a match official or an opposing player, substitute, sent-off player or team official off the pitch; or
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a substitute, sent-off player or team official commits an offence against, or interferes with, an opposing player or a match official off the pitch: <p>play is restarted with a free kick on the nearest boundary-line point to where the offence/interference occurred; a penalty kick is awarded if this is a direct-free-kick offence and the nearest boundary-line point lies on the part of the goal line that belongs to the offender's penalty area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>a substitute, sent-off player or team official commits an offence against a substitute, sent-off player or team official of either team, play is restarted with a dropped ball (see Law 8).</i> <p>(...)</p> <p>If the referees stop play for an offence committed by a player, on inside or off outside the pitch, against an outside agent, play is restarted with a dropped ball, unless a <i>an indirect</i> free kick is awarded for leaving the pitch without the referees' permission; <i>the indirect free kick is taken from the point on the boundary line where the player left the pitch.</i></p>
<p>LAW 13 – Free Kicks</p>	<p>2. Procedure</p> <p>All free kicks must be taken:</p> <p>(...)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • from the place where the offence occurred, except: <p>(...)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ indirect free kicks for offences involving a player entering, re-entering or leaving the pitch without permission, which are taken from the position of the ball when play was stopped, unless play was stopped with the ball inside the penalty area, in which case the free kick is to be taken from the penalty-area line at the point nearest to the place where the ball was located when play was stopped, following an imaginary line parallel to the touchline (...) However, if a player commits an offence off the pitch (<i>except against an outside agent</i>), play is restarted with a

	<p>free kick taken from <i>the point on</i> the boundary line nearest to where the offence occurred; a penalty kick is awarded if this is a direct-free-kick offence and the closest boundary-line point lies on the part of the goal line that belongs to the offender's penalty area;</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>5. Direct free kick beginning with the sixth accumulated foul by each team in each period (DFKSAF)</p> <p>Offences and sanctions</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>If the goalkeeper's offence results in the kick being retaken, the goalkeeper is warned for the first offence in the game; and <i>if the same player commits any subsequent offence(s) in the game, they are cautioned for any subsequent offence(s) in the game.</i></p> <p>(...)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a team-mate of the defending goalkeeper commits an offence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ if the ball enters the goal, a goal is awarded; ➤ if the ball does not enter the goal, the kick is retaken; the offender is warned for the first offence in the game. and <i>If the same player commits any subsequent offence(s) in the game, they are cautioned for any subsequent offence(s) in the game.</i> • a player of both teams commits an offence, the kick is retaken unless a player commits a more serious offence (e.g. illegal feinting); the offenders are warned for the first offence in the game. and <i>If the same players commit any subsequent offence(s) in the game, they are cautioned for any subsequent offence(s) in the game.</i>
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<p>LAW 14 – The Penalty Kick</p>	<p>1. Procedure (...)</p> <p>When the ball is kicked, the defending goalkeeper must have at least part of one foot touching, or in line with <i>or behind</i> the goal line.</p> <p>2. Offences and sanctions (...)</p> <p>If, before the ball is in play, one of the following occurs: (...)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the defending goalkeeper commits an offence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ if the ball enters the goal, a goal is awarded; ○ if the ball misses the goal or rebounds from the crossbar or goalpost(s), the kick is only retaken if the goalkeeper's offence clearly impacted on the kicker; ○ if the ball is prevented from entering the goal by the goalkeeper, the kick is retaken. <p>If the goalkeeper's offence results in the kick being retaken, the goalkeeper is warned for the first offence in the game; and if the same player commits any subsequent offence(s) in the game, they are cautioned for any subsequent offence(s) in the game.</p>
<p>LAW 15 – The Kick-In</p>	<p>1. Procedure (...)</p> <p>If the kick-in is taken and then, after it has been in play, the ball goes off the pitch over <i>either the same touchline where it was taken</i> without touching any other player, a kick-in is awarded to the opposing team, to be taken from the point where the <i>ball previous kick-in</i> went off the pitch.</p> <p>2. Offences and sanctions (...)</p> <p>An opponent who unfairly distracts or impedes the kicker (including moving closer than 5m to the place <i>point</i> from where the kick-in is to be taken) is cautioned for unsporting behaviour and, if the kick-in has been taken, an indirect free kick is awarded.</p>

	<p><i>If a team-mate of the kicker is off the pitch to deceive an opponent or take up an advantageous position when the kick-in is taken, a kick-in is awarded to the opposing team and the offending player is cautioned.</i></p> <p>For any other offence, including if a kick-in is not taken within four seconds, a kick-in is awarded to the opposing team.</p>
<p>LAW 17 – The Corner Kick</p>	<p>2. Offences and sanctions (...)</p> <p>If a player, while correctly taking a corner kick, deliberately kicks the ball at an opponent in order to play the ball again but not in a careless or reckless manner or using excessive force, the referees allow play to continue.</p> <p><i>If a team-mate of the kicker is off the pitch to deceive an opponent or take up an advantageous position when the corner kick is taken, a goal clearance is awarded to the opposing team and the offending player is cautioned.</i></p> <p>For any other offence, including if a corner kick is not taken within four seconds or from the corner area, a goal clearance is awarded to the opposing team.</p>
<p>Video Support Protocol</p>	<p><i>Video Support Protocol</i></p> <p>1. Principles</p> <p><i>The referees make use of VS when a team's head coach (or, in the head coach's absence, a designated team official as stipulated on the team list) challenges a decision in relation to:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Goal/no goal</i> 2. <i>Penalty/no penalty</i> 3. <i>Direct red cards (not second cautions)</i> 4. <i>Mistaken identity</i>

VS can also be used at the referees' discretion in the following situations:

- 5. If the chronometer malfunctions*
- 6. If the chronometer is incorrectly (re)started/stopped by the timekeeper pursuant to the provisions of Laws 6 and 7*
- 7. To verify whether a goal has been scored*
- 8. To verify whether the ball entered the goal before the acoustic signal at the end of a period (notwithstanding the exception of periods extended to allow the completion of penalty kicks or direct free kicks beginning with the sixth accumulated foul (DFKSAFs))*

A successful challenge means that the referees' initial decision is changed, while an unsuccessful challenge means that the initial decision is confirmed. The initial decision does not change unless the replay footage shows that a "clear and obvious error" was committed or a "serious missed incident" occurred.

There is no limit on the number of successful challenges available to each team.

In addition, each team is allowed one unsuccessful challenge in each half of the match. Challenges not used during the first half of the match cannot be carried forward into the second half.

If extra time is played to determine the winners of the match, each team is allowed an additional unsuccessful challenge during extra time. Challenges not used during the second half of the match cannot be carried forward into extra time.

If kicks from the penalty mark are taken to determine the winners of the match, each team is allowed an additional unsuccessful challenge during kicks from the penalty mark. Challenges not used during the match cannot be carried forward into kicks from the penalty mark.

The referees will review the replay footage directly (referees' review – RR) and the referee will make the final decision.

The referees must remain “visible” during the RR to ensure transparency.

If play continues after an incident that is then reviewed, any disciplinary action taken/required during the post-incident period is not cancelled, even if the initial decision is changed (except a caution for stopping or interfering with a promising attack or a sending-off for denial of an obvious goalscoring opportunity (DOGSO)).

The period of play before and after an incident that can be reviewed is determined by this protocol.

2. Reviewable decisions/incidents

The categories of decision/incident that can be reviewed through a challenge are:

1. Goals

- 1.1 Attacking-team offence in the build-up to or scoring of the goal (e.g. handball, foul, etc.)*
- 1.2 Ball out of play prior to the goal*
- 1.3 Goal/no goal situations*

2. Penalty-area incidents

- 2.1 Penalty-kick offence not penalised*
- 2.2 Penalty kick incorrectly awarded*
- 2.3 Attacking-team offence in the build-up to the penalty incident (e.g. handball, foul, etc.)*
- 2.4 Location of the offence (inside or outside the penalty area)*
- 2.5 Ball out of play prior to the incident*

3. Direct red cards (not second cautions)

- 3.1 DOGSO*
- 3.2 Serious foul play*
- 3.3 Violent conduct, biting or spitting at another person*
- 3.4 Offensive, insulting or abusive action(s)*

4. *Mistaken identity (red or yellow cards)*

- *If the referees penalise an offence and then give the wrong player from the offending (penalised) team a yellow or red card, the identity of the offender can be reviewed; the offence itself cannot be reviewed unless it relates to a goal, penalty incident or direct red card.*

VS can also be used at the referees' discretion in relation to the following incidents:

1. *If the chronometer malfunctions, to determine how the time should be corrected*
2. *If the chronometer is incorrectly (re)started/stopped by the timekeeper pursuant to the provisions of Laws 6 and 7*
3. *To verify whether a goal has been scored*
4. *To verify whether the ball entered the goal before the acoustic signal at the end of a period (notwithstanding the exception of periods extended to allow the completion of penalty kicks or DFKSAFs)*

3. *Practicalities*

The use of VS during a futsal match involves the following practical arrangements:

1. *In principle, the cameras to be used should be able to cover the whole pitch, the main clock, the goals and both penalty areas. This means that at least four cameras are needed: one for each penalty area (including the goal line), one for the main clock and one for the whole pitch.*
2. *The replay operator (RO) has independent access to, and replay control of, all TV broadcast footage.*
3. *The referee review area (RRA) is where the referees review the replay footage before the final decision is made. It must be located close to the pitch and its location must be clearly identified.*
4. *Two monitors must be available within the RRA:*

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>One monitor for the RO, who assists the referees during the review of the replay footage</i> • <i>One monitor facing the pitch for the referees to review the replay footage</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <i>The RO assists the referees during the review by showing the footage as requested by the referees (e.g. different camera angles, adjusting the replay speed, etc.) on the referees' monitor.</i> 6. <i>The RO must undergo special training, including familiarisation with the Futsal Laws of the Game, and obtain the necessary certification.</i> 7. <i>If the technology malfunctions and there is no approved spare equipment available, VS cannot be used. Both teams must be informed immediately.</i> 8. <i>As certification is required to serve as an RO, an RO who is unable to start or continue the match may only be replaced by someone who is qualified for the role. If no qualified replacement can be found, the match must be played/continue without the use of VS and both teams must be informed immediately.</i> <p>4. Procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Initial decision</i> <i>The referees must always make an initial decision (including taking any disciplinary action needed) as if there were no VS (except for serious missed incidents).</i> • <i>Challenge or decision by the referees to perform a review</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>To challenge a decision, the head coach (or, in their absence, a designated team official as stipulated on the team list) must immediately:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>twirl their finger in the air; and</i> ○ <i>inform the third referee or reserve assistant referee of their request for a review.</i> 2. <i>The third referee or reserve assistant referee will inform the referees of the challenge via the communication system and by raising a "paddle".</i> 3. <i>Alternatively, where applicable, the referees may decide to perform a review at their own discretion.</i>
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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. <i>If play has already stopped, the referees delay the restart to perform the review.</i> 5. <i>If play has not already stopped, the referees stop play when the ball is in a neutral zone/situation, i.e. when neither team has a good attacking opportunity.</i> 6. <i>In all cases, the referees must indicate that a review will take place by clearly showing the “TV signal” (outline of a TV screen).</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>The referees go to the RRA to view replay footage. The review will be performed by both referees, but the referee will make the final decision.</i> 2. <i>During the RR, the other match officials will supervise what is happening on the pitch and within the technical area.</i> 3. <i>Players, substitutes or team officials who enter the RRA or try to influence the RR or the final decision will be cautioned.</i> 4. <i>The referees can request different camera angles/replay speeds but, in general, slow-motion replays should only be used for facts, e.g. the position of an offence or player, the point of contact for physical offences and handball, or whether the ball was out of play (including in goal/no goal situations); normal speed should be used for the intensity of an offence or to decide if it was a handball offence.</i> 5. <i>For decisions/incidents relating to goals, penalty/no penalty and red cards for DOGSO, it may be necessary to review the attacking phase of play (APP) that led directly to the decision/incident; this may include how the attacking team gained possession of the ball in open play.</i> 6. <i>For other red-card offences (serious foul play or violent conduct), chronometer incidents and mistaken identity, only the incident is reviewed.</i> 7. <i>The Futsal Laws of the Game do not allow restart decisions to be changed if play has restarted. However, for the purposes of the VS system, following an immediate challenge, an incident can still be reviewed, and the initial decision changed, even if play has already restarted.</i>
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8. *The review process should be completed as efficiently as possible, but the accuracy of the final decision is more important than speed. For this reason, and because some situations are complex, with several reviewable decisions/incidents, there is no time limit for the review process.*

- ***Final decision and restart***

1. *The referee is the only person who can make the final decision.*
2. *When the RR is complete, the referee must show the TV signal and communicate the final decision in front of the timekeeper's table and, if necessary, to both teams' head coaches.*
3. *The referee will then take/change/rescind any disciplinary action (where appropriate) and restart play in accordance with the Futsal Laws of the Game.*
4. *If the initial decision is overturned, or a serious missed incident is identified, play will restart in accordance with the Futsal Laws of the Game.*
5. *If the initial decision is not overturned, play will restart:*
 - *according to the initial decision if play had already stopped; or*
 - *with a dropped ball if play was stopped by the referees to perform the RR.*
6. *If the initial decision is overturned, or a serious missed incident is identified, the time when the incident occurred is relevant. The referee must inform the timekeeper of the correct time so that the chronometer can be adjusted.*
7. *If the RR relates to a chronometer incident, the referee must inform the timekeeper of the correct time so that the chronometer can be adjusted.*
8. *Once the referees are ready to restart the match, the timekeeper can restart the chronometer from the newly adjusted time.*

- ***Match validity***

In principle, a match is not invalidated because of one or more:

1. *malfunctions of the technology;*
2. *wrong decisions involving VS;*
3. *decisions not to review an incident; or*
4. *reviews of a non-reviewable situation.*

<p>Practical Guidelines for Futsal Referees and Other Match Officials</p>	<p>Positioning</p> <p>5. Positioning in ball-out-of-play situations</p> <p>The best position is one from which the referees can make the right decision and have the optimal view of play and the players. All recommendations about positioning are based on probabilities, which must be adjusted using specific information about the teams, the players and the events in the match up to that point.</p> <p>The positions suggested in the following graphics are basic; some are recommended to referees and others are mandatory. The reference to a “zone” is intended to emphasise that every recommended position is actually an area within which the referees are most likely to optimise their effectiveness. The zone may be larger, smaller or differently shaped depending on circumstances.</p> <p>Interpretation and Recommendations</p> <p>Law 5 – The Referees</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>Advantage</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>If the offence warrants a caution, it must be issued at the next stoppage. However, unless there is a clear advantage, it is recommended that the referees stop play and caution the player immediately. If the caution is not issued at the next stoppage, it cannot be shown later.</p> <p><i>If the offence was denying the opposing team an obvious goalscoring opportunity, the player is cautioned for unsporting behaviour. If the offence was interfering with or stopping a promising attack, the player is not cautioned (see Law 12 – Advantage). However:</i></p>
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- *If the offence was a reckless challenge or a holding offence, the offending player must be cautioned (see the section dedicated to Law 12 below).*
- *If the offence involved the use of excessive force, the offending player must be sent off.*

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct

Handling the ball

If a player scores in the opponents' goal immediately after accidentally touching the ball with their hand/arm, an indirect free kick is awarded to the opponents. However:

- *If a goal is not scored and the hand/arm did not make the player's body unnaturally bigger, play is to be continued.*
- *If the ball goes off the pitch over the goal line, a goal clearance is awarded to the opponents.*

If a player scores a goal after a team-mate has accidentally touched the ball with their hand/arm, including immediately thereafter, the goal is awarded.

(...)