

# Fall 2019 Newsletter



Bringing Real Futsal to North Alabama

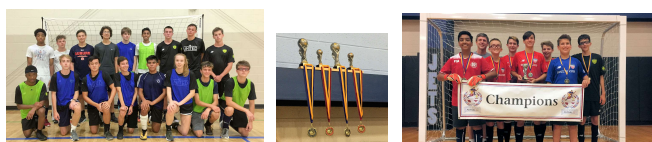
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Thanks go to the league's Gold Level Sponsor:



## Summer Futsal Season Ended but What a Summer Season It Was!

This sixth summer futsal season was categorically the best summer season to date. Two age group youth futsal academies (one group ages 11-14 years, a second 15-18 years) played futsal on Thursdays at the Optimist Rec. Center in June and July while receiving a small amount of futsal coaching – emphasis was on *playing*. Mid July we held a futsal tournament at James Clemens High School with similar youth divisions. Pictures below are from the academies and the tournament.



Left to right: Ages 15-18 academy players, trophies & medals, and winner of the U13/14B division, AYSO United '05B Red.

An adult division competed on Wednesdays at Oakwood University with results reported, team standings kept and division winner congratulated. Golden Boot and Golden Glove awards were also given out. See pictures below.

The winning adult team, in what's called the 'Champions Division', also had their name added to the perpetual trophy, which is kept at league sponsor West End Grill. Drop in anytime to see it in their foyer. West End Grill is located at 6610 Old Madison Pike near Bridge Street.



Left to right: Winner of the adult division Kohona Shinobi, winner of the Golden Boot award Kyle Simmons and winner of the Golden Glove award Jeffrey Jolin.

These and many more pictures from this summer are on the Photos page at [www.nafutsal.com/Photo-Albums](http://www.nafutsal.com/Photo-Albums).

For benefits of North Alabama *FUTSAL* and futsal in general, see [www.nafutsal.com/News/Id/40987](http://www.nafutsal.com/News/Id/40987), the news article titled "Futsal is Unique and Challenging".

## Fall/Winter Season Plans

Plans have been made for youth pickup futsal games during Fall Break in October. Registration for the winter season starts soon and will end late October for adults / mid-November for youth. Adult games will begin in November; youth games in December. They will be played in the gyms at James Clemens High School (youth and adult) and Providence Elementary School (mainly youth) on Friday nights and some Sunday afternoons. Watch the webpage at [www.nafutsal.com/More/Calendar](http://www.nafutsal.com/More/Calendar) along with [facebook.com/nafutsal](https://facebook.com/nafutsal) and other social media (see top of page 2) for the latest news. Subscribe to the North Alabama *FUTSAL* Mailing List to receive the latest news in your inbox.



## Announcements for Fall, Winter & Spring

1. Preseason Practice and/or Pickup Games offered. October 9 (Wed), youth pickup futsal games at Optimist Rec. Ctr. October 25 (Fri) and November 1 (Fri), adult team practice or pick-up games at Providence Elem. School. If interested, email [info@nafutsal.com](mailto:info@nafutsal.com).
2. Big discounts available when registering for the 2020 Dixie Defrost Futsal Tournament. When registering for the tournament during the winter *season* registration period, i.e. on or before 11/18/2019, teams get a \$95 discount, called the Golden (Early) Bird Special. On or before 12/20/2019, teams get a \$45 discount, called the Silver (Early) Bird Special.
3. Tuition Refunds for taking the online futsal coach course at [UnitedSoccerCoaches.org/education/Level-1-Futsal](http://UnitedSoccerCoaches.org/education/Level-1-Futsal). To improve the quality of futsal coaching and futsal games themselves, the league will refund 50% of one's tuition cost (\$40 or \$50, depends) and provide a free polo shirt boasting the NAFL logo (while supplies last) after completing the course. The first to complete the course will be refunded 100% of his/her tuition cost. Complete details and rules at [www.nafutsal.com/More/Documents](http://www.nafutsal.com/More/Documents) under Training.
4. Next spring, plans are for the league's games to be played in the newly renovated Johnson Legacy Complex, at the former J.O. Johnson High School. See article on AL.com at <https://www.al.com/alabama/2019/01/multi-million-dollar-johnson-gym-renovation-to-be-completed-in-huntsville-in-2020.html>. After renovations have been completed, it will contain two futsal courts at the standard 2:1 ratio of length to width (international futsal courts are 40 by 20 meters) on new cushiony poured floors with permanently painted futsal lines. Exciting!



## Fourth Annual Dixie Defrost Futsal Tournament

This tournament has grown each year. With the announcement of much bigger discounts conveniently available during fall registration, the 4th annual Dixie Defrost Futsal Tournament, to be held on January 18-20, 2020, should be the largest yet. Regular registration fees range from \$295 to \$395/team.



See Announcements on previous page for big discounts. Add this to your plans for the culmination of the winter futsal season.



## Futsal Growth in Alabama

This November will be the start of North Alabama *FUTSAL*'s seventh winter season and with it comes the "seven year itch". Itching to be the season we orbit the moon. And it's going to happen with the continued growth of North Alabama *FUTSAL* League, with Madison AYSO's continued devotion to the benefits of futsal every winter, with Huntsville Recreation Centers embracing futsal, with the new state-of-the-art futsal courts being built in the new Johnson Legacy Complex, with other local organizations starting up their own futsal programs, with the creation of the new futsal leagues in Birmingham and Mobile on top of the existing leagues in Trussville, Montgomery, and Memphis and Knoxville, Tennessee. It's going to happen. The only remaining question is ... **are you going to be part of it?**

This summer's increased participation locally and the fact that most players already knew how to play futsal are clear indications that **futsal is "taking off"** in Huntsville and Madison. With new and existing futsal leagues in nearby cities, expect to see even more growth across Alabama.

## Sponsors

The following companies were sponsors of North Alabama *FUTSAL* during the winter and summer seasons:

- West End Grill**, Huntsville, AL – Gold Level
- ColorXpress**, Madison, AL – Bronze Level

Please show your appreciation by visiting these sponsors' businesses. Additional sponsors will help offset the costs to teams to play futsal in the league. If you know of a company who would like to have their company name displayed as a sponsor during North Alabama *FUTSAL* activities, have them view the [Sponsorship](#) page on [www.nafutsal.com](http://www.nafutsal.com) and/or contact N. A. *FUTSAL* to discuss. See the [Contact-Us](#) page.



## Important Dates to Remember

- \* **9/29/2019** – **Registration Opens** for the Winter Futsal Season and the 2020 Dixie Defrost Futsal Tournament
- \* **9/30/2019** – **MANDATORY** Adult Team Captains Meeting at 6:30pm at pavilion by Merrimack field 14  
*OPTIONAL* Q&A Session (Adult AND Youth Team Managers), 7:30-8:30 pm at pavilion by Merrimack field 14
- \* **10/9/2019** – **FREE** Fall Break Youth Futsal Pickup Games for 14 through 17 age players, 6:30-8:30pm, Optimist Rec. Ctr.
- \* **10/13/2019** – **End** Early Bird Special for winter season - **Adults** (10% discount on team fee if all individual player registrations completed)
- \* **10/21/2019** – Winter Futsal Season **Youth Registration Starts**
- \* **10/21/2019** – Youth Team Coaches/Managers Meeting at 6:30pm at pavilion by Merrimack fields 1 & 2.
- \* **10/25/2019** – **TENTATIVE**: Adult Pickup/Practice Games in the Providence Elementary School gym.
- \* **10/27/2019** – **Adult Team Registration Deadline**
- \* **11/1/2019** – **TENTATIVE**: Adult Pickup/Practice Games in the Providence Elementary School gym.
- \* **11/4/2019** – **End** Early Bird Special for winter season -- **Youth** (10% discount on team fee if all individual player registrations completed)
- \* **11/8/2019** – **Adult Divisions Futsal Games Begin**
- \* **11/18/2019** – **Youth Team Registration Deadline**
- \* **11/18/2019** – **End** Golden Bird Special for tourney - All Teams
- \* **12/6/2019** – **Youth Divisions Futsal Games Begin**
- \* **12/20/2019** – **End** Silver Bird Special for tourney - All Teams
- \* **1/10/2020** – **Adult & Youth Tourney Registration Deadline**

Most current & complete calendar at [www.nafutsal.com/More/Calendar](http://www.nafutsal.com/More/Calendar)

## The Coach's Corner

**Futsal Kickoffs.** At kickoffs the ball may be kicked backwards in soccer now, but it **must still go forward in futsal** per FIFA futsal laws of the game. Preparation for this will help a futsal team play better, of course. Below is one common and very effective kickoff set play.

The following positions are taken:

- Goalkeeper in his/her goal
- Fixo (or stopper) in front of the goalkeeper
- One Winger at the halfway line outside the center circle.
- Second Winger and Target (or striker) on the ball at the halfway line inside the center circle.

Procedure:

1. The Target player rolls the ball forward with the sole of his/her foot and immediately runs forward.
2. The Winger at the ball kicks it backwards to the Fixo and immediately run towards the open touchline. (It may help to stand sideways to the halfway line to quickly kick it backwards.)

Formation:

Within seconds of the kickoff the kicking team will be in the 1-3-1 attacking formation, i.e., GK, Fixo & Wingers and Target. See diagram.

