

Fall 2023 Newsletter



Bringing Real Futsal to North Alabama

Volume 9, Issue 1, November 2023



As a league sponsor your logo would appear here:



Year 2023

2023 included some very unique events on top of North Alabama *FUTSAL* continuing to bring quality futsal to youth and adults in our city, i.e., players learned futsal, others refined their existing skills, some played in very competitive league-type games, other played friendlies while all had great fun. Read on for what was *unique* in 2023.



10th Winter Futsal Season

In the 10th winter season, North Alabama *FUTSAL* had to scale back because Fridays were the only day available to the league. All other days were consumed with volleyball. We made the best of it. A small adult futsal academy was conducted, which was a *unique* opportunity for the adult players. Youth participated in Futsal Time, also on Fridays. Pausing from play, below are some of the players.



YOUTH and ADULT FUTSAL PLAYERS

Spring Adult Pickup Futsal - Unique

In January 2023 the Richard Showers Recreation Center wanted to standardize their indoor soccer play which they have been hosting on Friday evenings for few a years. North Alabama *FUTSAL* helped and the result was great. Many young adults now understand and even embrace the standard futsal rules as defined by FIFA and enjoy playing futsal.

10th Summer Futsal Season

In the 10th summer season, North Alabama *FUTSAL* bounced back with 6 adult teams playing in competitive league-type games. And what an outstanding summer season it was! Below are the teams that enjoyed competing for division champion this past summer.



Team "2 GOALS 1 CUP"



Team "CLIFFHANGERS"



Team "THE CONTRACTORS"



Team "DARRELL'S DIAMOND DOLLS"



Team "PSG AMERICA"



DIV. WINNER, "ROCKET CITY SAMBA"

Additionally, pickup futsal for young adults was hosted on Monday nights this summer at the Optimist Recreation Center. It was a Big Hit! It continued until mid-August. People keep asking about it. Plans are to do the same next summer.

Fall Friendlies

Again this past fall adult teams played friendlies against Chattanooga Football League (CFL) teams. It was great fun to play futsal in another environment. Below is a picture of both teams inside the Johnson Legacy Center.



PLAYERS WHO PLAYED FRIENDLIES BETWEEN NAFL AND CFL

More pictures from this past summer and fall are on the Photos page at www.nafutsal.com.



Happy 10th Birthday – Unique



In September 2023 the North Alabama Futsal League turned 10 years old, a proud Major Milestone! NAFL is here to stay.

Fall Adult Pickup Futsal

Fall 2023 the Richard Showers Recreation Center continued pickup futsal for young adults. North Alabama *FUTSAL* helped and the result was again great.



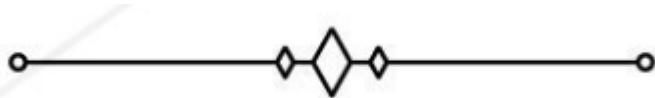
Sanctioned and Insured

North Alabama Futsal League’s activities are sanctioned by U.S. Futsal Federation (USFF), which brings quality, consistence, dependability and Medical & Liability insurance to the league.



Referee Training

North Alabama *FUTSAL* has the capacity to train and certify USFF futsal referees. Fall 2023 a new futsal referee course was conducted in coordination with Chattanooga FL. There are now trained & certified futsal referees under the same FIFA & USFF standards in order to host playing futsal consistently. While ChattFL hosted the course at their facility, Huntsville gained a newly trained referee too.



Sponsors

Sponsorship dried up during the COVID pandemic. If your company would like to be the top sponsor of this league, look at the Sponsorship page on www.nafutsal.com. There are various levels of sponsorship to choose from. Put your companies name in front of all players and spectators. Contact NAFL with questions.

Important Dates

- 10/2/2023 – Registration begins for winter futsal season
- 11/6/2023 – Registration ends for Teams, continues for players
- 11/26/2023 – Winter Futsal Season begins – league-type games
- 12/1/2023 – Winter Futsal Season begins – futsal academies
- 1/28/2024 – Season ends (estimate)

The most current & complete calendar may be viewed on the Calendar page at www.nafutsal.com



The Coach’s Corner

Trapping the ball. Because of the current American bad habit of learning to play futsal AFTER learning to play soccer, players have already been taught “do NOT attempt to trap the ball by stepping on it!” This is good advice in soccer. But this is EXACTLY the best type of trap in futsal when time permits. Trapping the ball with the sole of the foot is good in the game of futsal for several reasons:

1. The ball rolls very predictably on a gym floor such that there is little risk in attempting to use one’s sole of his/her foot.
2. Developing this type of trap also emphasizes the important practice of FACING the ball when it comes to you, when time permits.
3. Traps under the sole of a foot can be very efficient in both trapping and directing the ball to the next desired location.
4. Moreover, trapping the ball under the sole of a foot will more quickly both trap and play the ball in the game of futsal when time is very much more critical than in soccer.
5. With careful adjustment, the trap under the sole of the boot can be used productively in the outdoor game, i.e. soccer, on occasion.

Trapping the futsal ball with a soccer technique takes more time and lacks the amount of control needed in the game of futsal. Coaches should teach their players to trap with the soles of their feet and they will adapt to futsal much better than otherwise.



Search YouTube for national and international futsal games and watch them. You will see traps like this. The Greats do it. So should you.