

# 2024/2025 Newsletter



Bringing Real Futsal to North Alabama

Volume 10, Issue 1, April 2026



As a league sponsor your logo would appear here:



## 2024 and 2025 Flew By

After the winter 2023/24 season completed, the next two years raced by. We added a Director of Coaching (DOC), Andrew Davidson, created new youth programs and grew NAFL's youth participation from 3 divisions to 8 divisions expected summer 2026.



Trophies won by BY2013 and BY2015 Teams and Girls Birth Year 2013

## The Recap

The **winter 2023/24** season successfully included youth learning/playing in Futsal Academies while adults enjoyed Futsal Time (pickup games) and competing in the Champions Division (adult league games).



Youth Academy Players and Champions Division Winning Team, Cave City Utd.

**Summer 2024** season included big changes. We added a DOC, Andrew Davidson, and created new youth programs called NAF Futsal ID and NAF Select both conducted with great success. A girls BY2013 division trained in these programs and then competed in two futsal tournaments and four soccer tournaments and won every time! The adult's Champions Division had another great division with a full set of teams.



Girls Birth Year 2013 and Champions Division Winning Team, Turtles.

In the **winter 2024/25** season, we added a boys BY2015 division and hosted competitive league-type games for adults again. Our girls BY2013 and boys BY2015 teams trained at home and competed in two futsal tournaments and two soccer tournaments with wins all around. Adults played competitively again.



Co-ed BY2015 Players and Champions Division Winning Team, Darrell's Diamond Dolls

Next in the **summer 2025** season we doubled our youth divisions to BY2016, BY2015, BY2013 and BY2012 divisions and trained again via our NAF Futsal ID and NAF Select programs, proven successful. All divisions competed in the friendlies we hosted locally and three of them competed in the Nashville Futsal Festival in Tennessee with great success. Two youth even traveled to Orlando, FL, to guest play in the United Futsal's Futsal Worlds tournament. Four adult teams competed in our Champions Division having much fun, which is what it's all about.



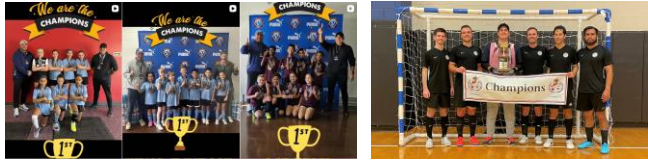
Boys BY2016, Boys BY2015 and Girls BY2013



Girls BY2012 and Champions Division Winning Team, Darrell's Diamond Dolls

Finally, in the **winter 2025/26** season we added additional youth programs called Tactical Thursdays and Futsal Fridays. Our four youth divisions trained under now four different programs and formed 5 separate teams to compete

in the National Futsal Invitational in Tennessee with three of them winning their divisions. Adults played competitively again.



Girls BY2013, Coed BY2016 & BY2015 at NFI, Team "DARRELL'S DIAMOND DOLLS"

There are many more pictures of our players, too many to include here. View more on social media and nafutsal.com.

### Pickup Futsal

Youth players were given additional opportunities to play futsal this past winter in Futsal Fridays for younger players and Tactical Thursdays for older youth players. Optimist Recreation Center continued pickup futsal for young adults. North Alabama FUTSAL helped and the result was the advancement of the popularity of futsal.

### Summer 2026 Plans

Plans are for eight youth divisions and one adult division. Futsal courts in the Johnson Legacy Center and a gym in James Clemens High School have been secured. Youth futsal training will be conducted only on week nights. Weekends are left open for competing in tournaments. Adults will play on Sundays and a few Wednesdays.

### New Brand

Teams of youth will now have a name, Commanders, and a new logo. They will now be called North Alabama Futsal Commanders or, more concisely, NAF Commanders.



### 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.

### Important Dates

- 5/2/2026 – Registration opens for summer futsal season
- 5/28/2026 – Summer Futsal Season begins for youth
- 6/7/2026 – Summer Futsal Season begins for adults
- 7/31/2026 – Season ends (estimate)

The most current & complete calendar may be viewed on the Calendar page at [www.nafutsal.com](http://www.nafutsal.com)

### Sponsors

If your company would like to be a sponsor of this league, look at the Sponsorship page on [www.nafutsal.com](http://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.



### The Coach's Corner

Everyone knows kick-ins replace soccer throw-ins in futsal. That's all. Not really! A few details should be known about performing kick-ins legally correct and tactically advantageous. Like how players retrieve the ball for throw-ins in soccer using their hands, players should retrieve the ball with their hands for kick-ins for several reasons:

1. It's what players are used to, so nothing new to learn.
2. It's actually slower to retrieve the ball and place it still on the line for a kick-in using only feet.
3. Using hands to place the ball on the line for a kick-in dependably makes the ball still, avoiding hearing the whistle from the referee because the ball was not still before the kick-in.
4. Keeping hands or fingers on top of the ball while choosing the direction to kick the ball back into play keeps one's choice of direction mostly unknown until the kick is taken.

More on that last reason: When a player places the ball on the touchline for a kick-in, stands up, backs away from the ball and starts his/her approach toward the ball to kick it, the player tells everyone the direction of the kick, including his/her opponents. Instead, staying bent over the ball with one hand keeping the ball still until the moment the kick is taken both prevents the opponent from knowing where the ball will be kicked and almost always avoids a whistle from the referee for the ball not being still.



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