

Fall 2018 Newsletter



Bringing Real Futsal to North Alabama

Volume 5, Issue 2, September 2018

Thanks go to the league's Gold Level Sponsor:



The Fifth Summer Futsal Season's Growth was in Breadth

Adult division teams competed in the 5th summer season of the North Alabama *FUTSAL* League this summer on Wednesday nights at Oakwood University, in the Ashby Auditorium, a comfortable gym with a nostalgic atmosphere and friendly students and staff. Teams competed for division champion, for golden boot award and for golden glove award in another fun summer season. The winning team and the recipients of Golden Boot and Golden Glove awards are shown below. Congratulations to them!



Red Devils
Adult 'Champions Division' Winner



Jose Delgado
Golden Boot Award
Champions Division



Nate Haynes
Golden Glove Award
Champions Division

This summer's league growth was in breadth rather than in just numbers (depth). In addition to regular season games, Pickup Futsal Games for adults were added by the league for the first time ever. Conducted on Mondays, players just appeared, signed it, paid a small fee, formed 5-man teams and played several futsal games. Many of these players will most likely find their way onto teams for the upcoming winter season.

For youth players, middle school and high school academies were offered as well as help in teaching very young, beginner, indoor soccer players (4-8 years old) in various gyms around the city. Below is a picture taken in the Goldsmith Schiffman Elem. School gym of the middle school academy players one afternoon (showing only about half of the players who actually participated).



Pictures of most of the teams that have played in the North Alabama *FUTSAL* League are on the Pictures page at <http://www.nafutsal.org/> (soon to become <http://www.nafutsal.com/Photo-Albums>).

Fall/Winter Season Plans

Plans are being made for another futsal camp during Fall Break in October. Registration for the winter season will finish late October / early November and games will begin in November. Games will be played again in the gyms at James Clemens High School (youth and adult) on Friday nights and Providence Elementary School (youth) on Friday nights and in the gym at the former Johnson High School (adult) on Wednesday nights. Watch the webpage at www.nafutsal.com/More/Calendar1 along with 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 announcements in your inbox.

New This Season

Last winter it was the addition of High School and Middle School divisions. This winter's big news stories are:

1. New Player/Team Registration Online System coming. A new, modern website for registration, scheduling and season and tournament results is being rolled out this fall. See <http://www.nafutsal.com/> (notice the dot COM). Thank you for your patience as we all try to learn this new system.
2. Preseason Practice and/or Pickup Games in October offered. Starting October 19 (Fri) and continuing on Fridays through November 9th at Providence Elem. School, the gym will be available for teams to practice, for new futsal player clinics, and/or pick-up games, both youth and adults. If interested, email info@nafutsal.org.
3. Big discounts available when registering for the next Dixie Defrost Futsal Tournament. When registering for the tournament during the registration period for the winter season, i.e. on or before 11/4/2018, teams get a \$95 discount, called the Golden Early Bird Special. On or before 12/21/2018, teams get a \$45 discount, called the Silver Early Bird Special. Afterwards, full price. See next page.
4. Tuition Refunds for taking the online futsal coach course at UnitedSoccerCoaches.org/Futsal. To improve the quality of coaching and the quality of the 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 provided separately.

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 19 & 20, 2019, should be the largest yet. Regular registration fees range from \$295 to \$395/team.



See “New This Season” on previous page for big discounts. Add this to your plans for the culmination of the winter futsal season.

USFF S.E. Regional Futsal Tournament

Unfortunately the 2018 S.E. Regional Futsal Tournament fell through as there was an attempt to move it to a different city. This tournament is usually played mid-February each year and has most often been played in Charleston, SC. Any news of when and where the 2019 S.E. Regional Futsal Tournament will be conducted will be passed on. This is an option for any futsal team in our area to consider traveling to and competing in.



North Alabama *FUTSAL* League President, Darrell Schmidt, attended the nationals in Santa Clara, CA, for a second time last summer as a futsal referee, a coach and a league administrator. It was a great learning experience being part of top notch futsal games in the Santa Clara convention center which housed nine futsal courts under a single roof. Three concurrent tournaments, from youth teams to professional teams, were played and took four days to complete. For a sample of this tournament, view the NLPF Final Videos on Facebook.com/NAFutsal. If you ever have an opportunity to be part of regionals or nationals, you should jump on it. You will learn a huge amount about futsal.

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 all North Alabama *FUTSAL* activities, have them view the [Sponsorship Opportunities](#) page on www.nafutsal.org and/or contact N. A. *FUTSAL* to discuss. See the [Contact Us](#) page.

Important Dates to Remember

- * 9/24/2018 – Registration **Opens** for the Winter Futsal Season and the next Dixie Defrost Futsal Tournament
- * 9/25/2018 – Adult Team Captains Meeting at 7:00pm at Merrimack Soccer Central meeting room - **MANDATORY**
- * 10/8/2018 – **End** Early Bird Special for winter season - **Adults** (20% discount on team fee if all players individually registered also)
- * 10/8/2018 – Winter Futsal Season **Youth Registration Starts**
- * 10/9,11/2018 – **FREE** Fall Break Futsal Clinic for high school & middle school age players, 6:00-8:00pm, Showers Rec. Ctr.
- * 10/11/2018 – Youth Team Coaches/Managers Meeting at 8:00pm in the Richard Showers Recreation Center Gym.
- * 10/19/2018 – Pickup Games or New Futsal Player Clinic and/or Futsal Team Practice **begin** in the Providence Elementary School gym.
- * **10/21/2018 – Adult Team Registration Deadline**
- * 10/21/2018 – **End** Early Bird Special for winter season - **Youth** (20% discount on team fee if all players individually registered also)
- * **11/4/2018 – Youth Team Registration Deadline**
- * 11/4/2018 – **End** Golden Early Bird Special for tourney - All Teams
- * 11/7/2018 – **Adult Divisions Futsal Games Begin**
- * 11/16/2018 – **Youth Divisions Futsal Games Begin**
- * 12/21/2018 – **End** Silver Early Bird Special for tourney - All Teams

All calendar entries can be viewed at www.nafutsal.com/More/Calendar1



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. 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.
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 critical.
5. With careful adjustment, the trap under the sole of the boot can be used productively in the outdoor game, i.e. soccer.

Trapping the futsal ball with a soccer technique takes more time and lacks the 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.