

## **7<sup>th</sup> European Deaf Futsal Championship**

**Poreč, Croatia**

**9 – 22 March 2026**

### **Technical Regulations**

Please refer to EDSO General Sports Regulation, where no ruling is stated in this Technical Regulation.

Click here [EDSO-General-Sports-Regulations](#)

#### **1. EVENTS**

Team tournament competition will be conducted for men and women.

##### **1.1. ICSD Winter Deaflympics**

The ICSD will announce the details of the men's and women's teams that have qualified for the Winter Deaflympics.

#### **2. PARTICIPANTS**

##### **2.1. Age Eligibility**

For the minimum age for the European Championships the player for Men and Women must be born before or on 31.12.2012.

All players under the age of sixteen years of age or under in the same year as the Competition MUST obtain authorization's from Parent/Guardian and Education departments.

##### **2.2. Eligibility of Deafness**

Deaf, defined as a hearing loss of at least 55dB pure tone average (PTA) in the better ear (three-tone pure tone average at 500, 1000 and 2000 Hertz, air conduction, ISO 1969 Standard)

##### **2.3. Number of Teams**

###### **MEN:**

Each National Federation may enter one (1) team. Participation in the EDSO Competition is limited to a maximum of sixteen (16) men's teams.

**Teams (16 participants):** Croatia (Host), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czech Republic, England, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Türkiye and Ukraine.

###### **WOMEN:**

Each National Federation may enter one (1) team. Participation in the EDSO Competition is limited to a maximum of twelve (12) Women's teams.

**Teams (12 participants):** England, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Türkiye.

##### **2.4. Number of players**

Each team may have a maximum of fourteen (14) players.

**2.4.1.** Each national federation that qualifies for the final competition shall enter 14 players of whom shall be goalkeepers) numbered from 1 to 99. The numbers on the back of the shirts shall correspond with the numbers indicated on the official player's list (Form 4) The number 1 must be worn by Goalkeeper. No number may be used by more than one player.

**2.4.2.** The list of twenty-five (25) players (showing the full last name(s), every first name, popular name, date of birth and country) shall be submitted to the Secretariat, using the official form (Form 3) for this purpose, no later than thirty-one (31) full days before the opening match in the final competition. Only these 14 players (except in the case of force majeure recognized by the Organising Committee for the EDSO will be permitted to compete in the final competition.

- 2.4.3. A listed player may only be substituted in the event of serious injury leading up to 24 hours before his team's first match, after EDSO has received a detailed medical assessment in the official languages (English), and only after acceptance and confirmation by the Sports Medical Committee that the injury is sufficiently serious to prevent the player from taking part in the competition. The national federation shall then immediately nominate the substitute and inform EDSO accordingly.
- 2.4.4. 14 players shall be included in the starting list for the match (5 selected players and 9 substitutes.).
- 2.4.5. The Organising Committee will publish the official lists of 14 players from each country on paper to be handed out to all countries at the first technical meeting. This information shall include the players' shirt numbers, family names, first names and the names of the team coaches/managers (including background staff).
- 2.4.6. Any team found guilty of fielding an ineligible or suspended player will forfeit the match. A win and three points and/or a score of 5-0 will be awarded to the opposing team, or greater, depending on the score of the match.

### 3. REGISTRATION

#### 3.1. Athletes Registration

The Player Registration (Form 3) with the names of each athlete indicating event entered must be submitted to the Sport Director Futsal no later than **7 February 2026**. Such submissions will be made via official online registration form followed by the official registration form, together with passport photos of each player.

#### 3.2. Final Athletes Registration

The final entries with the names of each athlete indicating event entered must be submitted to the Sport Director Futsal no later than **22 February 2026**. Such submissions will be made via official online registration form followed by the official registration form.

#### 3.3. Charge Athletes Registration

A listed player may only be substituted in case of serious injury until **8 March 2026**, after Sport Director Futsal has received a detailed medical examination in the official languages (English), and only after acceptance and confirmation by the Sports Medicine Committee, that the injury is severe enough the player from participating in the competition. The national association must then immediately name the substitute player from form 3 (25 player list) and inform Sport Director Futsal accordingly.

#### 3.4. No Charge Athletes Registration

No changes or additional entries will be accepted after **8 March 2026**.

#### 4. COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS

##### 4.1. Technical Organization

EDSO is responsible for the technical organization of the Futsal competitions.

##### 4.2. Committee

###### 4.2.1 Technical Committee:

The technical committee will be composed of the EDSO Sport Director and members appointed by the Organising Committee:

Carlo Melfi	EDSO Futsal Sport Director Men
Andjelija Vujovic	EDSO Futsal Sport Director Women
Pedro Costa	EDSO Football Sport Director
Iosif Stavrakakis	EDSO Representative
Vasas György	Referee Liaison Officer
Matej Bagaric	Sports Liaison Officer
Kristijan Zivkovic	Deaf Host Representative

###### 4.2.2 Protest Committee:

The Protest Committee shall be lead by a person in charge of the Disciplinary & Control body.

##### 4.3. Competition Rules

4.3.1. The Futsal competitions will be conducted in accordance with the *current FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game*. In case of disagreement in the interpretation of the Rules and Regulations, the English text shall prevail. Unforeseen incidents not covered by the Rules and Regulations shall be dealt with as follows:

4.3.2. Cases of a general nature will be resolved in accordance with EDSO Regulations, EDSO General Technical Rules and this Futsal Technical Regulations.

4.3.3. Technical questions related to competition rules shall be resolved according to the UEFA Rules and Regulations.

4.3.4. Only athletes who comply with the EDSO Regulations are entitled to take part in the EDSO Futsal competitions.

##### 4.4. Competition Equipment

4.4.1. The Futsal chosen for the European Championships shall conform to the FIFA Laws of the Game and bear one of the following three quality standard designations licensed by FIFA: 'FIFA Approved', 'FIFA Inspected' or 'International Match Balls Standard'. The official competition match balls shall be **JAKO Match ball Futsal**.

##### 4.5. Competition Clothing

4.5.1. Each team shall wear its official colours for Player and Goalkeeper as identified on the official final entry by **7 February 2026**. If the two teams colours might cause confusion, team A of the official match schedule shall be entitled to wear its official outfit and team B shall use its reserve outfit or, if necessary, a combination of the official and the reserve outfit; EDSO - Technical Committee decides the matter.

4.5.2. In addition to the official outfit, each team shall have a reserve outfit (reserve colours), which shall also be declared on the final entry form. The colours of the reserve outfit (shirt, shorts and socks) shall be noticeably different from and contrast with the colours of the official outfit (shirt, shorts and socks). The reserve outfit shall also be taken to every match.

4.5.3. The two teams must wear colours that distinguish them from each other as well as from the match officials. Each goalkeeper must wear colours that are distinguishable from those of the other players and the match officials.

**4.5.4.** A player or substitute replacing the goalkeeper must wear a goalkeeper's shirt with the player or substitute's own number on the back. Competition rules may also stipulate that a player acting as a flying goalkeeper must wear exactly the same colour as the main goalkeeper's shirt.

**4.5.5.** Throughout the final competition, each player shall wear the number allocated to him on the official players' list. The colour of the numbers must contrast clearly with the outfits (light on dark or vice versa) and be legible from a distance for spectators in the stadium and possibly television viewers. These numbers shall be between 25cm and 35cm in height in the center of the back of the shirt, between 10cm and 15cm in height on the front of the shirt in any position at chest level, and between 10cm and 15cm in height in any position on the front of either leg of the shorts.

**4.5.6.** The national federation's emblem may also be worn as a badge on the shirt.

**4.5.7.** The manufacturer's authorized trademark may be used once as a graphic logo or name, or graphic logo and name combined (in accordance with the EDSO Regulations).

#### **4.6. Draw**

The draw for teams participating in the Group Stage of the European Championships is to be held on 14 August 2025 in Hanover (GER).

#### **4.7. Competition Plan**

##### **4.7.1. Group Stage**

**MEN:** The participating sixteen (16) teams will be divided into four groups of four (4) teams each. During the preliminary round, each team will play the other teams in its group.

**WOMEN:** The participating twelve (12) teams will be divided into three groups of four (4) teams. In the preliminary round, each team plays against the other teams in its group.

##### **4.7.2. Quarterfinals, Semi-Finals and Classifications**

**MEN:** After the Group Stage, the 1st and 2nd placed team of each group shall play quarterfinals: (B1 v A2) (A1 v B2) (C1 v D2) (D1 v C2).

The winners of the quarterfinals will play semi-finals: (A1/B2 v D1/C2) (B1/A2 v C1/D2). The losers of the quarterfinals will play for the 5th to 8th places.

**WOMEN:** After the group stage, the first and second-placed teams in each group and the two best third-placed teams play in the quarterfinals: (A1 vs C2) (B1 vs AC3) (C1 vs AB3) (A2 vs B2).

The winners of the quarterfinals play the semi-finals: (A1/C2 against B1/AC3) (C1/AB3 against A2/B2). The losers of the quarterfinals play for places 5 to 8.

##### **4.7.3. Consolidation Classifications**

**MEN:** After the Group Stage, the 3rd and 4th placed team of each group shall play consolidation quarterfinals: (B3 v A4) (A3 v B4) (C3 v D4) (D3 v C4).

The winners of the consolidation quarterfinals will play consolidation semi-finals: (A3/B4 v D3/C4) (B3/A4 v C3/D4). The losers of the consolidation quarterfinals will play for the 12th to 16th places.

**WOMEN:** After the group stage, the lowest third-placed team in the three groups and all fourth-placed teams will play a consolidation semi-final, namely (ABC3 v BC4) and (A4 v BC4).

The winners of these matches play for places 9 and 10, the losers for places 11 and 12.

*Founded on 7th July 1983 in Antibes/France*

#### **4.7.4. Finals**

The winners of the semi-finals will play for 1st and 2nd places, the losers of the semi-finals for 3rd and 4th places.

#### **4.7.5. Equality of points - final tournament group stage**

1. The system of competition shall be similar to the league system, each team playing a match against each of the other teams in the same group, with three (3) points for a win, one (1) point for a draw and no (0) point for each match lost.
2. Ranking in each group shall be determined as follows:  
  
If two or more teams in the same group are equal on points on completion of the group stage, the following criteria are applied, in the order given, to determine their rankings:
  - a) higher number of points obtained in the group matches played among the teams in question;
  - b) superior goal difference from the group matches played among the teams in question;
  - c) higher number of goals scored in the group matches played among the teams in question;
  - d) if, after having applied criteria a) to c), teams still have an equal ranking, criteria a) to c) are reapplied exclusively to the group matches between the remaining teams to determine their final rankings. If this procedure does not lead to a decision, criteria e) to h) apply in the order given to the two or more teams still equal;
  - e) superior goal difference in all group matches;
  - f) higher number of goals scored in all group matches;
  - g) lower disciplinary points total based only on yellow and red cards received in all group matches (red card = 3 points, yellow card = 1 point, expulsion for two yellow cards in one match = 3 points);
  - h) higher position in the EDSO senior national futsal team coefficient ranking used for the final draw.
- 4.7.6. If two teams which have the same number of points and the same number of goals scored and conceded play their last group match against each other and are still equal at the end of that match, their final rankings are determined by kicks from the penalty mark provided that no other teams within the group have the same number of points on completion of all group matches. Should more than two teams have the same number of points, the criteria listed under Paragraph 4.7.5 apply. This procedure is only necessary if a ranking of the teams is required to determine the teams qualified for the quarter-finals.
- 4.7.7. If the result stands as a draw at the end of normal playing time in a quarter-final, a semi-final, the third-place or the final, extra time consisting of two 5-minute periods of effective time is played. If the two teams are still equal after extra time, the winner is determined by kicks from the penalty mark.
- 4.7.8. If the result stands as a draw at the end of normal playing time in the 5th to 16th place match, no extra time is played. Kicks from the penalty mark determine the winning team.
- 4.7.9. If extra time is required, there is a five-minute break between the end of normal time and the start of extra time. As a rule, the players remain on the field of play during this five-minute break, at the discretion of the referee.
- 4.7.10. Kicks from the penalty mark are taken in accordance with the procedure laid down in the FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game 2024/2025.
- 4.7.11. The referee decides which goal will be used for the kicks:
  - a) If either goal could be used for the kicks, then, in the presence of the two captains, the referee tosses a coin to decide which goal will be used.
  - b) For reasons of safety/security, state of the field of play, lighting or other similar reasons, the referee may decide which goal will be used without tossing a coin. Such decisions are final.

#### **4.8. Match Officials**

##### **4.8.1. Referees**

Allocation of four (4) officials per match (a Lead referee, Assistant referee, third Referee and a Timekeeper) to conduct the matches shall be made by the technical committee. Where possible, referees shall be in possession of an UEFA international referee license valid for 2018. However, referees with National or State accreditation may be used. A copy of all referee's qualification shall be submitted to the EDSO Sport Director Futsal a minimum of fourteen (14) full days before the first technical meeting.

**4.8.1.1.** If the referee or one of his assistants is prevented from carrying out his duties before or during a match because of injury, indisposition etc... S/he shall be replaced by the third Referee.

**4.8.1.2.** At the conclusion of each match, the referee shall fill in an official match report form and he shall hand it over to the tournament Officer of the competition at the venue immediately after the match.

**4.8.1.3.** On the report form, the referee shall note all occurrences before, during and after the match in as much detail as possible such as:

- a)** Misconduct of players, leading to caution or expulsion.
- b)** Unsporting behavior of officials, supporters and any person acting on behalf of a national team.
- c)** Any other incidents.

**4.8.1.4.** All referees and assistant referees shall use a flag (and a whistle at their discretion) to indicate the commencement or restart of play, to stop or delay play due to an infringement or injury, or to indicate that time has expired in half. The flag is an important tool for the referees along with verbal, body and eye communication.

##### **4.8.2. Appointment**

The Organising Committee shall appoint an appropriate number of referees, timekeepers, etc.

#### **4.9. Withdrawal**

**4.9.1.** If a team withdraws after the EDSO Competition have begun or is disqualified during the group matches, the group must continue without this team or a replacement. The matches played by the team concerned will not be taken into consideration and all scores and points earned will be rescinded.

**4.9.2.** If a team does not report for a match – except in cases of force majeure recognized by the EDSO Organising Committee - or if it refuses to continue to play or leaves the stadium before the end of a match, the team will be considered as having lost. The match and three points will be awarded to its opponents with a score of 5-0 or more if, in the case of an abandoned match, the winning team has already reached a higher score at the time the guilty team leaves the field.

#### **5. VENUES**

##### **5.1. Competition Venue**

The Futsal events will take place at **Žatika Arena** (2 pitches).

##### **5.2. Training Venue**

The training venues are available at **Hotel Diamant - Veli Joze** (2 pitches).



## 6. SCHEDULE

### 6.1 Competition Schedule

Refer to the competition schedule on the hosting competitions website. <https://edfc26.com/>

### 6.2 Training Schedule

Refer to the training schedule on the hosting competitions website. <https://edfc26.com/>

### 6.3 Technical Meeting

#### 6.3.1. Date and Location

The Futsal Technical Meeting will take place on **8 March 2026**.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Futsal Technical Meeting will take place on **18 March 2026**

#### 6.3.2. Attendance

Each participating National Federation may be represented by two (2) officials, of whom at least one (1) must be deaf and, if necessary, an interpreter.

Each National Federation must bring two (2) sets of uniforms to the meeting for review and approval as per Article 4.5.1.

## 7. MATCH PROCEDURES

### 7.1. Match protocol

- a) The following countdown must be respected and may be adapted only to take into account the distance between the dressing rooms and the pitch and the duration of the national anthems.

Minutes before kick-off

75	Teams, referees, EDSO match delegate and referee observer arrive at the hall
60	Deadline to submit match sheets
50 to 15	Warm-up on the field of play (or in a dedicated area)
10	Teams enter the field of play with the futsal walk-on
6	Music and line up facing the VIP box (home team on referee team's right)
4	National anthem of "away" team (only for semi-final, place 3/4 and final)
3	National anthem of "home" team (only for semi-final, place 3/4 and final)
2	Teams shake hands and break for team photos
1	Coin toss
0	Kick-off

- b) Both teams must be at the hall at least 75 minutes before kick-off.
- c) The futsal walk-on music provided by EDSO/OC must be played as the teams enter the field of play until they have lined up, at which point the national anthems of the teams must be played.
- d) At all matches in the competition, the players are invited to shake hands with their opponents and the referee team after the line-up ceremony as well as after the final whistle, as a gesture of fair play.

### 7.2. Rules governing the technical area

Six team officials one of whom must be a team doctor, and one sign interpreter and a maximum of nine substitute players are allowed to sit on the substitutes' bench, i.e. a total of 16 people. The names of these people and their functions must be listed on the match sheet. Suspended players are not allowed to warm up or to sit on the bench on match days.



## 8. CONTROL AND SANCTIONS

### 8.1. Hearing Devices

The use of any hearing aid(s)/amplification or external cochlear implant parts for all players listed on the match sheet is strictly forbidden from the restricted zone area and this from 75 minutes (see Article 7.1) before kick-off until end official time.

#### 8.1.1. Restricted Zone Area

The restricted zone area is in effect from the time athletes enter on the match zone (pitch) during the warm-up and competition period.

#### 8.1.2. Violation and Penalty

Refer to [Audiogram Regulations](#), Article 8: VIOLATIONS and PENALTIES. Article 8.1.3

is exempt and replace as follow:

If an offending player in the football team wears hearing devices during play, the offending player shall be dismiss from field of play as Red card offence and shall receive automatic one match suspension; substitution shall be replace after 2 minutes as per *current FIFA Futsal Laws of the Games*, Law 3; the offending team shall continue, until the match is complete. The result of the match shall stand.

If the offence is repeat by the same offending player in the team, the offending player shall be dismiss from field of play as Red card offence and shall receive full tournament suspension and shall have the Accreditation card remove; substitution shall be replace after 2 minutes as per *current FIFA Futsal Laws of the Games*, Law 3; the offending team shall continue, until the match is complete. The match result shall stand.

If more than one player in the same team is found to have committed an audiogram rule violation at any time during the competition, the team will be subjected to disqualify from the Tournament.

## 9. PROTESTS

### 9.1. Procedure for lodging a protest

All sport related protests will be resolved in accordance to the current FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game and will be managed by the Futsal Protest Committee. Any official protest must be submitted in writing in English (in print writing and not in handwriting) on the Official EDSO Protest Form. The form must be given to the appointed EDSO Sport Director of the match with EURO €100 within sixty (60) minutes after official posted results.

9.1.1. The appointed EDSO Sport Director of the match decides whether the protest is sporting related eligibility related. The Futsal Protest Committee will review all sport related protests, and the EDSO Executive Committee will review all eligibility protests. The deposit of EURO €100 will be returned to the appellant only if the protest is considered valid.

### 9.2. Procedures for reviewing a protest

The appointed EDSO Sport Director of the match will hand over the letter of protest to the Control and Disciplinary Body and the verdict or decision will be made there.

The verdict or decision will be reported back from the Control and Disciplinary Body to the relevant Sport Director, who will pass onto the creator of the protest.





## **10. CAUTIONS**

As a rule, a player who is sent off the field of play (Red Card) is suspended for the next match in the competition. In case of serious offences, the Control and Disciplinary Body is entitled to augment this punishment, including by extending it to other competitions.

A player is automatically suspended for the next competition after two cautions in two different matches as well as after a fourth and any subsequent caution.

Pending yellow-card suspensions do not expire on completion of the qualifying competition and are carried forward to the final tournament.

Single cautions from matches in the final tournament that have not resulted in a suspension expire on completion of the quarterfinals.

Cautions and pending yellow-card suspensions expire on completion of the competition.

Red-card suspensions shall be carried forward to the next match or to the next ICSD Sanctioned Futsal competition for national teams.

The following fines have been determined:

- (a) Yellow card € 20
- (b) Yellow - red card € 40
- (c) Red card € 60