



# SUSF Interfaculty Sport – Goalball Competition

## RULES OF THE GAME

### TEAM

- Maximum of SIX (6) players on the court at any one time.  
(3 players will be blindfolded for play; 3 players act as facilitators)
- Each team must have a minimum ONE (1) female player or facilitator on the court at any time.
- Unlimited number of spectators is allowed in a quiet manner.

### EQUIPMENT AND ATTIRE

- Equipment (a match ball) is provided.
- A limited number of elbow and knee pads are available to borrow for the duration of the day.
- No equipment is provided for team practice and warm up.
- **All players must wear blackout masks or blindfolds at all times on court; masks will be put on under the supervision of officials before play.**
- **Blindfolds will be provided by NSW Goalball and they must be returned at the conclusion of the day.**
- Active wear is encouraged; same colour shirts are recommended, team uniforms are not compulsory.
- Joggers and runners are acceptable; enclosed and appropriate footwear must be worn.

### COURT AREA

- The field dimensions are the same as a volleyball court (18m x 9m).
- Court is divided in 3 Areas, i.e. team area (9m x 3m), landing area (9m x 3m) and neutral area (9m x 6m).
- Spectators can spectate the game from an area no closer than four (4) meters from any part of the court.

### FORMAT/RULES

- **It is a KNOCK OUT competition; Best of 3 games (i.e. 2-0 or 2-1).**
- Each match consists of maximum 3 x 7 minutes games with a 1-minute break to change ends.
- **The audible command “Play” must be called by the referee to begin/restart the game.**
- One (1) substitution<sup>^</sup> can be made during each game ONLY. And all three (3) players can substitute between games. *Reason for this is to allow the most play for players and more games can be played across the day.*
- A goal is scored when the ball has been thrown along the ground, passing the opposition and completely crosses a goal line. This must happen during the game clock and when the ball is in play.
- Upon receiving control of the ball, the team has ten (10) seconds to throw the ball back to the opposing team.
- When the ball has stopped moving and the players are unaware of its location, Officials/Referees will assist to return the ball to the closest player, usually the winger.
- If a ball is thrown OUT, it will be returned to the court of play to the closest winger.
- The game will end immediately once a team lead the other team by 10 goals or game clock is up.

### Game Protocol

- **Spectators are expected to remain quiet after referee calls “quiet please” and during the game to allow players on court to hear the ball.**
- **Spectators’ mobile phones will be switching to silent mode throughout the competition.**
- The referee will start the game and throw the ball to the player who is closest to the centre position. He/She then will blow the whistle 3 times and call “play”.
- **Players may touch their eyeshades when game clock is off or on the referee’s call. Players can signal this during a game by holding their hand straight up in the air and call “eyeshades.” They must refrain from touching UNTIL the referee approaches them.**



## **SUSF Interfaculty Sport – Goalball Competition (Cont'd)**

### *Basic violations*

- ✘ Players are NOT allowed to touch their eyeshades during play. Failure to comply will result in personal penalty.
  - ✘ Any communication after referee's call "quiet please" will receive a penalty.
  - ✘ No additional orientation aids are permitted on court. Failure to comply will result in personal penalty.
  - ✘ Any unnecessary noise\* made by a thrower, any member of the throwing team or spectators during the act of throwing until the ball touches the defensive team's player will result in penalty.
  - ✘ A referee can determine a player is behaving in an unsportsmanlike manner and it may result the player in ejection/elimination from the game or the premise.
- In the event of a draw, it will go into golden point.
  - In the event of a draw in the FINALS, extra time of 2 minutes will be added with no substitution. If it is tied, the winner will be decided on a "for and against" points count.
  - Specific game rules can be referred in [this link](https://www.ibsasport.org/sports/files/1218-Rules-2018-2021-IBSA-Goalball-Rules-and-Regulations-(Effective:-6-May-2020).pdf) (https://www.ibsasport.org/sports/files/1218-Rules-2018-2021-IBSA-Goalball-Rules-and-Regulations-(Effective:-6-May-2020).pdf)

### **OFFICIALS & MISCONDUCT**

- Referee's discretion on calls are final.
- Any misconduct on decisions can result in offending players being asked to leave the field.
- Any misconduct on spectators' behaviour can result in disqualification of the individual and/or team from the competition.

^ substitution: players must have their blackout masks or blindfolds checked by an official before they start playing.

\* Any unnecessary noise: e.g. excessive stomping (with the feet), excessive punching/slapping on the court by hand, excessive clapping, whistling, singing, continuous excessive or unrelated conversation and unnecessary shouting.