



Five-a-Side Football Tournament Formula

The five-a-side football tournament will be participated in by 46 teams divided into 10 brackets of 4 teams each (BRACKET C1, BRACKET C2, etc.) and 2 brackets of 3 teams each (BRACKET C11, BRACKET C12).

The length of each game will consist of 2 halves, each lasting 20 minutes (non-binding time limits) with a maximum 5-minute halftime break between the two halves. During the knockout stage only, in the event of a draw at the end of full time, it will go to a penalty shootout (3 penalties per team, plus sudden death, if necessary).

In the group round, the ranking table for each individual bracket is drawn up according to the following scores:

- 3 points for each game won,
- 1 point for each game drawn,
- 0 points for each game lost.

In the event of tied scores in the ranking table, the order will be established as follows:

- a. points awarded in direct face-offs (in the case of three teams tied by points: tiebreaker),
- b. number of games won,
- c. goal difference,
- d. highest number of goals scored,
- e. lowest number of goals conceded,
- f. best score obtained in the *fair play table*,
- g. teams drawn at random.

The *fair play table* takes into account each team's behaviour over the course of the championship, assigning them points for actions such as receiving a yellow card (-1), receiving a second yellow card and being sent off (-2), receiving a red card and being sent off directly (-3), and forfeiting a match (-6).

At the end of the group round, the teams that rank first and second in the 4-team brackets, along with the top teams from the 3-team brackets, will go through to the following round, which is the knockout round.

A meritocratic ranking table will be drawn up for the teams in first and second place; the meritocratic ranking table will take the following factors into account, in order of importance:

- a. number of games played in the bracket,
- b. final position in the bracket,
- c. points scored,
- d. number of games won,

- a. best difference between baskets scored/conceded,
- b. highest number of baskets scored,
- c. teams drawn at random.

The meritocratic ranking will result in the following ranking, which will establish the subsequent team pairings:

P1, P2, ... , P10 first-place team from the 4-team brackets [P1 = best first-place, ... , P10 = worst first-place]

P11, P12 first-place team from the 3-team brackets [P11 = best first-place, P12 = worst first-place]

S1, S2, ... , S10 second-place team from the 4-team brackets [S1 = best second-place, ... , S10 = worst second-place]

The teams that come in second and third in the 3-team brackets will then go up against each other in two playoff games, crossing over, in order to go through to the preliminary round, according to the following pairings.

Game SPA1: SC11 vs. TC12

Game SPA2: TC11 vs. SC12

S = second place

T = third place

The top 8 teams ranked as the best teams in first place will go straight through to the round of 16. The remaining first-place teams, the second-place teams from the 4-team brackets, and the winning teams from the playoff games, will all go up against one another in 8 games which will decide who goes through to the preliminary round.

At the end of this round, the qualifying games will be played, with the winners going through to the round of 16.

Game PRE1: P9 vs. winner of Game SPA2

Game PRE2: P10 vs. winner of Game SPA1

Game PRE3: P11 vs. S10

Game PRE4: P12 vs. S9

Game PRE5: S1 vs. S8

Game PRE6: S2 vs. S7

Game PRE7: S3 vs. S6

Game PRE8: S4 vs. S5

The teams which get past the preliminary round will go through to the round of 16:

Game OTT1: P1 vs. PRE8

Game OTT2: P2 vs. PRE7

Game OTT3: P3 vs. PRE6

Game OTT4: P4 vs. PRE5

Game OTT5: P5 vs. PRE4

Game OTT6: P6 vs. PRE3

Game OTT7: P7 vs. PRE2

Game OTT8: P8 vs. PRE1

The teams which get past the round of 16 will go through to the quarter-finals:

Game QRT1: winner of OTT1 vs. *winner of* OTT8

Game QRT2: winner of OTT2 vs. *winner of* OTT7

Game QRT3: winner of OTT3 vs. *winner of* OTT6

Game QRT4: winner of OTT4 vs. *winner of* OTT5

The teams that get through the quarter-finals will reach the semi-finals of the championship:

Game SEM1: *winner of* QRT1 vs. *winner of* QRT4

Game SEM2: *winner of* QRT2 vs. *winner of* QRT3

The teams that get through the semi-finals will go head-to-head in the final game, which will decide the winning team of the Politecnico di Milano Championship - Student Winter Cup 2021 of the Five-a-Side Football tournament.

Please note: There will be NO match to decide 3rd and 4th place in the final.