

## FIFA Futsal World Cup Brazil 2008

### Statistical Kit



Russia (in white) and Brazil -- Photo: FIFA



# FIFA Information Services FIFA Futsal World Cup Brazil 2008 Statistical Kit



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## General Information

### History

One of the newest additions to FIFA's competitions is the Futsal World Cup. Brazil proved to be the dominant force at the first three editions, winning in the Netherlands in 1989, Hong Kong in 1992 and Spain in 1996. At the fourth event in Guatemala 2000, they were stopped from lifting the trophy a fourth time, with Spain becoming the new futsal champions after beating Brazil in a thrilling final. They followed up their first futsal championship title with a second title in 2004, this time pipping Italy at the post. There were also fine performances from less established football countries for whom the 5-a-side version offers a welcome opportunity to promote their domestic game and shine in the international spotlight.

Although FIFA acknowledges the importance of futsal as a game in its own right, it has resisted the temptation to diverge too far from the principles of 11-a-side football, designing the rules to ensure continuity with the classic outdoor game. As new variants of football evolve, FIFA is also paying particular attention to beach football as well as to football for the disabled.

### Future

FIFA has no doubt that futsal is, and will continue to be, an important and attractive part of football. The growing level of interest in futsal is proof of that, as is the constantly increasing number of entries for the FIFA Futsal World Cup. A total of 46 countries entered for Spain 1996, but this figure increased to 70 for Guatemala 2000, to 86 for Chinese Taipei 2004 and 96 for Brazil 2008

FIFA's aim is to promote futsal, to make it more popular still, to train its representatives and to launch various futsal projects.

### General

To date, the FIFA Futsal World Cup has made two stops in Europe (Netherlands 1989 & Spain 1996), two in Asia (Hong Kong 1992 & Chinese Taipei 2004), one in Central America (Guatemala 2000) and now, for the first time, in South America (Brazil 2008).

In 2004, two associations made their debut at the FIFA Futsal World Cup – hosts Chinese Taipei and the Czech Republic – bringing the total number of associations that have featured in the FIFA Futsal World Cup to 35.

With three futsal world titles to their name, Brazil dominate the statistics. They also narrowly missed out on two further world titles – both to Spain, in 2000 and 2004. Aside from Brazil and Spain, the other ever-presenters at the FIFA Futsal World Cup are Argentina, Australia and the Netherlands, with the latter the most surprising of absentees from the 2004 edition of the competition.

### Matches

The FIFA Futsal World Cup is fourth in the list of oldest FIFA competitions after the FIFA World Cup™, the FIFA U-20 and FIFA U-17 World Cup. From the first competition in 1989 onwards, sixteen teams have taken part in each event, which consisted of 40 matches in three different phases. As of 2008, the number of teams taking part will increase to 20.

Since the first FIFA Futsal World Cup in the Netherlands, a total of 200 matches have been played. The match between the USA and Malaysia in Segovia (Spain) on 28 November 1996 was also the 100th match in the



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history of the FIFA Futsal World Cup. Spain's 2004 final victory over Italy was the 200th match in FIFA futsal history.

Brazil have played the most matches in the Futsal World Cup (40), followed by Spain (35), Argentina (29) and the Netherlands (26). The two teams to have been world champions – Brazil (33 victories, 4 draws, 3 defeats) and Spain (28 victories, 2 draws, 5 defeats) – are also the most successful teams overall.

Five different teams have played in the five finals held to date, with Brazil featuring in four of them. The Brazilians also lead the way in terms of fair play. The FIFA Fair Play Award was awarded to the USA in 1989 and 1992, but Brazil claimed the honour in 1996, 2000 and 2004.

One-sided matches with a flurry of goals tend to be the exception rather than the rule. A total of twenty matches (10%) have ended in draws. Interestingly, this ratio is as high as the long-term average in 11-a-side football. While there were only two goals in the 1-1 draw between the USA and Australia in 1989, the fans were treated to a 7:7 thriller when Russia and Spain went head-to-head in 1992.

The 31 matches that were decided by a single goal and the 39 games that ended with one team two goals clear show that almost half the matches at the FIFA Futsal World Cup – 90 in total – are keenly contested, thrilling affairs.

## Goals

The average number of goals scored in each match at the Futsal World Cup is 6.78, i.e. twice as high than at the FIFA World Cup™ between 1930 and 2006. The greatest number of goals was recorded in Hong Kong 1992 and Guatemala 2000 (302; average of 7.6 per match), followed by Spain 1996 (290; 7.3) and Chinese Taipei 2004 (237; 6.78).

Manoel Tobias (BRA) is at the top of the goalscoring charts with 19 goals in 7 matches in 2000. Iran's Saeid Rajabi Shirazi is in second place with 16 goals in 8 matches (1992), followed by Russia's Konstantin Eremenko, who notched 15 goals in just three matches in 1992, and Brazil's Falcao, who scored 13 goals in 6 games in 2004. Of these three top goalscorers, only Tobias won the World Cup with his team.

Eremenko (RUS) holds the record for the greatest number of goals in a single match (7; China PR v. Russia, 1-10, Hong Kong 1992). Tobias (BRA) and Alvaro (ESP) are in joint second place with six goals apiece.

At the Futsal World Cup in Guatemala in 2000, Tobias (BRA) scored four hat tricks (v. Kazakhstan, Guatemala, Egypt and Russia). He even scored a double hat trick in Brazil's 29-2 victory over Guatemala.

Over the course of the four tournaments held to date, Brazil have scored 258 goals (an average of 6.45 per match) and are thus the most lethal team. Spain (161; 4.6 average) are in second place. In other words, Brazil have played in exactly 20% of all matches in the FIFA Futsal World Cup (40) and have scored approximately 20% of all goals (258 of 1,357). That is twice the average!

Players to have got off the mark in rapid fashion include Manoel Tobias (Brazil v. Kazakhstan, 2000), Daniel (Spain v. Croatia, 2000) and Falcao (Brazil v. Argentina, 2004), with all three men firing their team into the lead in the very first minute.

The futsal world champions have twice boasted the tournament's top scorer: Brazil, with Manoel Tobias in 1996 and 2000. The game with the most goals took place in Guatemala City in 2000, with Brazil making light work of the hosts (29-2).

## Players, coaches, referees, fans

Two players have played in four of the five FIFA Futsal World Cups: Brazil's double world champions Fininho and Manoel Tobias (1992-2004).



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Saudi Arabia's Safouk Al Temyat is the youngest player to have played in a FIFA Futsal World Cup. He was just 16 years old when he participated in the inaugural tournament in 1989.

Javier Lozano has coached the Spanish team in four separate Futsal World Cups and he led his country to the title in 2000 and 2004. His feat is unequalled. Other men to have coached their teams to three FIFA Futsal World Cups include Ron Groenewoud (Netherlands coach), John Kowalski (USA coach), James Roberts (Australia coach), Fernando Larranaga (Argentina coach) and Clemente Reinoso (Cuba coach). None of these men took their team to the title.

The FIFA Futsal World Cup can also be a springboard for referees, as a number have gone on to take charge of crucial matches in the FIFA World Cup™: Kim Milton Nielsen (Denmark), Pierluigi Pairetto (Italy), Emilio Soriano Aladren (Spain) and Laszlo Vagner (Hungary).

In terms of attendances, the FIFA Futsal World Cup Guatemala 2000 raised the bar to its present level with a total of 224,038 fans at an average of 5,600 per match. The record attendance for a single match is held by the 1996 final (Spain v. Brazil), as some 15,500 fans found their way to the Palau Sant Jordi in Barcelona.

## Laws of the Game

- 2 x 5 players on the pitch
- 2 x 20 minutes of play per match
- no clock stoppage for substitutions
- max. 7 substitutes per team; unlimited substitutions permitted
- penalty and second penalty kicks
- the goalkeeper is allowed to play all over the pitch
- the goalkeeper can throw the ball beyond the halfway line with no further restrictions
- accumulated fouls: the sixth direct free kick is taken from either the second penalty mark or even closer
- each team is allowed a one-minute time-out in each half

## Final matches overview

### 2004/Chinese Taipei

Final:	<b>Champions: Spain</b> Spain – Italy 2:1 (0:0)
Attendance:	3,500
Teams/ Matches:	16/40
Fair Play Prize:	Brazil
Golden Shoe:	Falcao (BRA), 13 goals
Golden Ball:	Falcao (BRA)

### 2000/Guatemala

Final:	<b>Champions: Spain</b> Spain – Brazil 4:3 (2:1)
Attendance:	7,568
Teams/ Matches:	16/40
Fair Play Prize:	Brazil
Golden Shoe:	Manoel (BRA), 19 goals
Golden Ball:	Manoel (BRA)



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#### **1996/Spain**

Final: Brazil – Spain 6:4 (3:1)  
Attendance: 15,500  
Teams/ Matches: 16/40  
Fair Play Prize: Brazil  
Golden Shoe: Manoel (BRA), 14 goals  
Golden Ball: Manoel (BRA)

#### **1992/Hong Kong**

Final: Brazil – USA 4:1 (1:0)  
Attendance: 10,466  
Teams/ Matches: 16/40  
Fair Play Prize: USA  
Golden Shoe: Rajabi Shirazi (IRN), 17 goals  
Golden Ball: Jorginho (BRA)

#### **1989/Netherlands**

Final: Brazil – Netherlands 2:1 (1:0)  
Attendance: 4,200  
Teams/ Matches: 16/40  
Fair Play Prize: USA  
Golden Shoe: Laszlo ZSADANYI (HUN), 7 goals  
Golden Ball: Vic HERMANS (NED)

*Golden Shoe Award goes to the best goal scorer - Golden Ball Award goes to the best player*



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## Team Information

### List of participating teams

Argentina (ARG)

Brazil (BRA)

China PR (CHN)

Cuba (CUB)

Czech Republic (CZE)

Egypt (EGY)

Guatemala (GUA)

Iran (IRN)

Italy (ITA)

Japan (JPN)

Libya (LBY)\*

Paraguay (PAR)

Portugal (POR)

Russia (RUS)

Solomon Islands (SOL)\*

Spain (ESP)

Thailand (THA)

Ukraine (UKR)

Uruguay (URU)

USA

\*Newcomers:



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## Overall records of the participating Teams

ARGENTINA (ARG)	
<b>Confederation:</b>	CONMEBOL
<b>Number of previous FIFA Futsal World Cups (best rank; year):</b>	5 (4; 2004)
<b>Overall Record:</b>	
<i>FIFA Futsal World Cup all-time ranking:</i>	4
<i>Number of matches played:</i>	29
<i>Wins:</i>	13
<i>Draws:</i>	2
<i>Losses:</i>	14
<i>Goals for - Goals against:</i>	73-84
<i>First participation:</i>	1989
<b>Biggest win:</b>	8:1 (v. CUB; 2000)
<b>Best goal scorer</b>	9 - SANCHEZ Carlos (2-1996, 3-2000, 4-2004)
<b>Most capped player (minimum 5)</b>	17 - SANCHEZ Carlos, PLANAS Leandro (3-1996, 6-2000, 8-2004)
<b>Big Count Stats (2006):</b>	
<i>Population:</i>	40,301,927
<i>Players:</i>	2,658,811
<i>% of population</i>	6.6
<i>Total male players:</i>	2,349,811
<i>Total female players:</i>	309,000
<i>Male professionals:</i>	3,530
<i>Female professionals:</i>	0
<i>Futsal players male:</i>	8,375
<i>Futsal players female:</i>	600
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football male:</i>	1,210,000
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football female:</i>	15,000
<i>Clubs:</i>	3,348
<i>Teams</i>	23,623

Argentina have yet to miss the finals of a FIFA Futsal World Cup, a feat only matched by one other South American side, Brazil. Their best result to date came at Chinese Taipei 2004, where they made it to the semi-finals and eventually took fourth place. Prior to that, they had been eliminated at the second group stage at Netherlands 1989, Hong Kong 1992 and Guatemala 2000, while at Spain 1996, they fell at the first hurdle.

Three previous editions of the tournament under Fernando Larranaga (currently the team's coordinator), new coach Sergio Lopez has inherited a squad of considerable experience: team captain Carlos Sanchez, Javier Guisandes and Leandro Planas will be taking part in their fourth FIFA Futsal World Cup, Diego Giustozzi and Esteban Gonzalez their third, and Hernan Garcias and Fernando Wilhelm their second. Debutants such as Santiago Elias, Sebastian Corazza and Maximiliano Rescia will bring their youth and energy to a side that lost just once, against Brazil in the semi-final, at the recent Copa America. *(Text source: www.fifa.com)*





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BRAZIL (BRA)	
<b>Confederation:</b>	CONMEBOL
<b>Number of previous FIFA Futsal World Cups (best rank; year):</b>	5 (1; 1989, 1992, 1996)
<b>Overall Record:</b>	
<i>FIFA Futsal World Cup all-time ranking:</i>	1
<i>Number of matches played:</i>	40
<i>Wins:</i>	33
<i>Draws:</i>	4
<i>Losses:</i>	3
<i>Goals for - Goals against:</i>	258-68
<i>First participation:</i>	1989
<b>Biggest win:</b>	29:2 (v. GUA; 2000)
<b>Best goal scorer</b>	43 - MANOEL TOBIAS (8-1992, 14-1996, 19-2000, 2-2004)
<b>Most capped player (minimum 5)</b>	31 - MANOEL TOBIAS (8-1992, 8-1996, 8-2000, 7-2004)
<b>Big Count Stats (2006):</b>	
<i>Population:</i>	191,908,598
<i>Players:</i>	13,197,733
<i>% of population</i>	6.9
<i>Total male players:</i>	11,752,783
<i>Total female players:</i>	1,444,950
<i>Male professionals:</i>	16,200
<i>Female professionals:</i>	0
<i>Futsal players male:</i>	286,483
<i>Futsal players female:</i>	19,785
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football male:</i>	6,050,000
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football female:</i>	30,000
<i>Clubs:</i>	28,970
<i>Teams</i>	86,910

Ever since the early days of the FIFA Futsal World Cup, Brazil have been a force to be reckoned with on the international scene. The *Auriverde* claimed the trophy at the first three editions of the showpiece event, at Netherlands 1989, Hong Kong 1992 and Spain 1996, but have since been outstripped by their futsal *bête noire*, Spain. *La Furia Roja* proved too strong for Brazil in the Final of Guatemala 2000 and at the semi-final stage of Chinese Taipei 2004, where they went on to take the title once more.

Since Brazil were awarded host nation status for the FIFA Futsal World Cup 2008, retaking their place at the summit of the world game has become a matter of national pride. Coach Paulo Cesar de Oliveira has been charged with finding the right mix of players from Brazil's stellar domestic league - such as Falcao, player of the tournament at Chinese Taipei - and those working wonders in Spanish and Italian futsal. Having qualified automatically for Brazil 2008, the *Auriverde's* star-studded squad must now prove they have the will to win to match their undoubted talent.

Missing out on the futsal world title for the second tournament in succession in 2004 was a crushing blow to all those involved with the Brazilian national team. The task now facing the coaching staff is to imbue the *Canarinha* squad with the belief that they can indeed knock Spain off their perch. "We need to rebuild our players' confidence. The FIFA Futsal World Cup is the culmination of a long-term project, during which we hope that every player called up to the *Seleção* realises the level of effort and tactical awareness needed, over and above individual talent, to achieve success," underlined head coach "PC" de Oliveira. (Text source: [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com))



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CHINA PR (CHN)	
<b>Confederation:</b>	AFC
<b>Number of previous FIFA Futsal World Cups (best rank; year):</b>	2 (13; 1996)
<b>Overall Record:</b>	
<i>FIFA Futsal World Cup all-time ranking:</i>	34
<i>Number of matches played:</i>	6
<i>Wins:</i>	0
<i>Draws:</i>	0
<i>Losses:</i>	6
<i>Goals for - Goals against:</i>	10-41
<i>First participation:</i>	1992
<b>Biggest win:</b>	-
<b>Best goal scorer</b>	3 - LI Ming (1992); 3 - XU Hong (1992)
<b>Most-capped player (minimum 5)</b>	14 players with 3 caps
<b>Big Count Stats (2006):</b>	
<i>Population:</i>	1,330,044,605
<i>Players:</i>	26,166,335
<i>% of population</i>	2.0
<i>Total male players:</i>	24,266,330
<i>Total female players:</i>	1,900,005
<i>Male professionals:</i>	1,688
<i>Female professionals:</i>	551
<i>Futsal players male:</i>	132
<i>Futsal players female:</i>	0
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football male:</i>	4,995,100
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football female:</i>	50,000
<i>Clubs:</i>	1,621
<i>Teams</i>	11,347

China may have qualified for the FIFA World Cup™ only once, but the world's most populous nation has been more successful at the five-a-side game. Their qualification for Brazil 2008 ensured their third appearance at the global showpiece. The 1990s was the golden era for China, when they booked consecutive progression to the FIFA Futsal World Cups in 1992 and 1996, although they failed to register a single win on both occasions.

China's policy of counting on an experienced foreign coach paid off as the team, under Brazilian Farinha, emerged as tournament surprise packages by taking one of Asia's four qualifying spots at Brazil 2008. Despite an 8:1 humiliation at the hands of Iran in the second group game, two crushing 9:0 victories over Tajikistan and Kuwait respectively were enough for Farinha's charges to qualify for the last eight along with Iran. There, they outclassed Uzbekistan 4:1 in the quarter-finals to book passage to Brazil 2008, where they will be hoping to notch their first win. With qualification for Brazil sealed and the pressure off, China lost the semi-final clash against Thailand 7:3 before going down to Japan 5:3 in the third-place playoff.

The good work done by China's Brazilian coaching team first paid dividends in an international tournament in Malaysia in February, where the East Asians bravely drew against Brazil before defeating England. They further cemented their place as a rising Asian power by finishing fourth in Asia's qualifying campaign in May. Coach Farinha is expecting the team to break further ground at Brazil 2008 through their trademark teamwork. "It was the good team work that gave us the edge in the qualifying competition, and I hope we can continue to build on this in the World Cup," he said. (Text source: [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com))



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CUBA (CUB)	
<b>Confederation:</b>	CONCACAF
<b>Number of previous FIFA Futsal World Cups (best rank; year):</b>	3 (14; 2004)
<b>Overall Record:</b>	
<i>FIFA Futsal World Cup all-time ranking:</i>	35
<i>Number of matches played:</i>	9
<i>Wins:</i>	0
<i>Draws:</i>	0
<i>Losses:</i>	9
<i>Goals for - Goals against:</i>	8-67
<i>First participation:</i>	1996
<b>Biggest win:</b>	-
<b>Best goal scorer</b>	2 - PORTAL Papi (1996)
<b>Most capped player (minimum 5)</b>	9 - PORTAL Papi (3-1996, 3-2000, 3-2004)
<b>Big Count Stats (2006):</b>	
<i>Population:</i>	11,423,952
<i>Players:</i>	1,141,825
<i>% of population</i>	10
<i>Total male players:</i>	1,045,900
<i>Total female players:</i>	95,925
<i>Male professionals:</i>	100
<i>Female professionals:</i>	0
<i>Futsal players male:</i>	6,300
<i>Futsal players female:</i>	0
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football male:</i>	1,000,000
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football female:</i>	12,400
<i>Clubs:</i>	338
<i>Teams</i>	1,500

Cuba qualified for their first FIFA Futsal World Cup in Spain in 1996, finishing bottom of their section after three heavy losses including an 18:0 reverse at the hands of mighty Brazil. They returned four years later at the finals in Guatemala, but the result was the same: no points from three matches. It was a case of *déjà vu* in Chinese Taipei in 2004, but the Cubans did look a more respectable outfit at those finals. This time around, in Brazil, they will be desperate to pick up their first points at a five-a-side finals and maybe even cause a sensation with a run into the knockout rounds.

The Cubans - led by coach Eddys Jesús Valdes - finished runners-up at the CONCACAF qualifying competition in June of 2008 in Guatemala. Managing to win their group on goal difference ahead of the hosts after two draws and a win, the Cubans edged out Panama 4:1 in their semi-final before falling to the hosts in the final in a penalty shootout after a 3:3 draw at the end of regular time. Eduardo Morales scored in the first minute of the final, putting a cap on an outstanding tournament.

With a record of nine losses from nine games at the FIFA Futsal World Cup, Cuba are hoping that recent investment in and attention to the game on the biggest of the Caribbean's islands will pay off. Coach Valdes will be keen to get his side, at the very least, a point at the 2008 finals. "This group has been together for five years now," said winger Fernando Chapman. "Of the 12 of us that went to the qualifiers, ten of us were at the finals in 2004 in Chinese Taipei. Our goal this time is to go past the first round." (Text source: [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com))



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CZECH REPUBLIC (CZE)	
<b>Confederation:</b>	UEFA
<b>Number of previous FIFA Futsal World Cups (best rank; year):</b>	1 (8; 2004)
<b>Overall Record:</b>	
<i>FIFA Futsal World Cup all-time ranking:</i>	17
<i>Number of matches played:</i>	6
<i>Wins:</i>	2
<i>Draws:</i>	0
<i>Losses:</i>	4
<i>Goals for - Goals against:</i>	12-18
<i>First participation:</i>	2004
<b>Biggest win:</b>	5:0 (v. AUS; 2004)
<b>Best goal scorer</b>	5 - ARES Michal (2004)
<b>Most capped player (minimum 5)</b>	5 players with 6 caps in 2004: DLOUHY Martin, BLAZEJ Vit, SLUKA Tomas, MARES Michal, RAJNOCH Daniel
<b>Big Count Stats (2006):</b>	
<i>Population:</i>	10,220,911
<i>Players:</i>	1,040,357
<i>% of population</i>	10.2
<i>Total male players:</i>	976,355
<i>Total female players:</i>	64,002
<i>Male professionals:</i>	1,558
<i>Female professionals:</i>	0
<i>Futsal players male:</i>	39,443
<i>Futsal players female:</i>	1,200
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football male:</i>	100,000
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football female:</i>	3,100
<i>Clubs:</i>	3,968
<i>Teams</i>	15,463

Brazil 2008 will be the Czech Republic's second appearance at the FIFA Futsal World Cup finals. The East Europeans came through the first group stage in Chinese Taipei four years ago, but a second round record of three defeats, 13 goals conceded and only four scored against Spain, Portugal and Italy indicated that the Czechs had not yet achieved elite status in the world game. That impression was confirmed at the most recent European championships where the Czechs again finished the group stage without a point, conceding 17 goals and scoring only seven in defeats by Italy, Portugal and Romania.

By contrast, the Czechs' FIFA Futsal World Cup qualifying campaign was a much less erratic affair. Maximum points from group encounters with Azerbaijan, Finland and Armenia set up a play-off with old foes Romania. After a 1:1 stalemate in the home leg, the Czech Republic battled to a 2:2 draw in Romania and qualified for Brazil on the away goals rule.

The Czechs rate as dark horses going into their second FIFA Futsal World Cup finals. If coach Tomas Neumann's men can repeat the form they showed in qualifying, they could end up as one of the surprise packages of the tournament. (Text source: [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com))



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EGYPT (EGY)	
<b>Confederation:</b>	CAF
<b>Number of previous FIFA Futsal World Cups (best rank; year):</b>	3 (6; 2000)
<b>Overall Record:</b>	
<i>FIFA Futsal World Cup all-time ranking:</i>	12
<i>Number of matches played:</i>	12
<i>Wins:</i>	5
<i>Draws:</i>	0
<i>Losses:</i>	7
<i>Goals for - Goals against:</i>	56-58
<i>First participation:</i>	1996
<b>Biggest win:</b>	12:0 (v. TPE; 2004)
<b>Best goal scorer</b>	11 - SAYED Gehad (7-2000, 4-2004)
<b>Most capped player (minimum 5)</b>	9 -SAYED Gehad, EL GOHARY Yousef, MOHAMED Abdel Hakim, SEIF Samir (6-2000, 3-2004), ISMAIL Tamer (3-1996, 6-2000)
<b>Big Count Stats (2006):</b>	
<i>Population:</i>	81,713,517
<i>Players:</i>	3,138,110
<i>% of population</i>	3.8
<i>Total male players:</i>	3,137,420
<i>Total female players:</i>	690
<i>Male professionals:</i>	48
<i>Female professionals:</i>	0
<i>Futsal players male:</i>	1,000
<i>Futsal players female:</i>	150
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football male:</i>	260,000
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football female:</i>	0
<i>Clubs:</i>	590
<i>Teams</i>	6,495

Egypt attended their first FIFA Futsal World Cup in 1996, when they achieved the first victory for Africa in the competition's history by beating Australia 8:2. Four years later they earned Africa a quarter-final berth with notable victories over the likes of Uruguay and Russia. Although a draw with Argentina would have granted them a place in the semis, they lost 3:4 to the South Americans. The Pharaohs appeared for the third successive time in Chinese Taipei and despite a first-round exit, they made their mark with the biggest margin of victory in the tournament, 12:0 over the hosts.

This will be Egypt's fourth appearance at the world finals, and they will be looking to impress once again with at least a place in the second round and a team brimming with talent and experience. With a core of solid and experienced campaigners, and a few new faces in the team, the Egyptians are looking likely to exude all the mental confidence they need to make a mark in 2008.

The Egyptians have one of the most organised futsal leagues in Africa and with the teams taking part in this league all sponsored by large companies, the five-a-side game appears to have a promising future in the land of the Nile. (Text source: [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com))



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<b>GUATEMALA (GUA)</b>	
<b>Confederation:</b>	CONCACAF
<b>Number of previous FIFA Futsal World Cups (best rank; year):</b>	1 (12; 2000)
<b>Overall Record:</b>	
<i>FIFA Futsal World Cup all-time ranking:</i>	21
<i>Number of matches played:</i>	3
<i>Wins:</i>	1
<i>Draws:</i>	0
<i>Losses:</i>	2
<i>Goals for - Goals against:</i>	10-40
<i>First participation:</i>	2000
<b>Biggest win:</b>	6:5 (v. KAZ; 2000)
<b>Best goal scorer</b>	4 - DE MATA Hector (2000)
<b>Most capped player (minimum 5)</b>	8 players with 3 caps
<b>Big Count Stats (2006):</b>	
<i>Population:</i>	13,002,206
<i>Players:</i>	2,006,649
<i>% of population</i>	15.4
<i>Total male players:</i>	1,847,811
<i>Total female players:</i>	158,838
<i>Male professionals:</i>	600
<i>Female professionals:</i>	0
<i>Futsal players male:</i>	332
<i>Futsal players female:</i>	0
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football male:</i>	1,700,000
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football female:</i>	105,000
<i>Clubs:</i>	138
<i>Teams</i>	225

Guatemala first appeared on the world futsal stage in the year 2000, when they hosted the FIFA Futsal World Cup. Although pressure was heavy on the side to at least reach past the first group phase, all the *Chapines* could manage was a solitary victory over Kazakhstan before losing 29:2 to Brazil. The three points were not enough to take them through. Since then, though, the Central American country has ramped up its efforts in the five-a-side discipline and the evidence of that extra effort is plain for all to see ahead of Brazil 2008.

The Guatemalans are the reigning champions of the North, Central American and Caribbean zone after winning the regional championship in June at their Domo Polideportivo in the capital of Guatemala City. With a slick passing game and blazing speed on the floor, the light blue-clad side made easy meat of the competition. They opened their account with a 5:0 rout of Trinidad and Tobago, then drew 3:3 with Mexico and snuck through to the semi-finals with another 3:3 draw, this time against Cuba. A 4:0 win over group winners and previous champions USA in front of 7000 roaring fans put the hosts in the final, where they beat Cuba in a shootout to claim their first-ever CONCACAF futsal title.

Having returned to the world stage for the first time since 2000, the Guatemalans - coached by Carlos Eduardo Estrada - are keen to show their improvement in futsal. With a slew of talented players in the side, most notably Jose Rafael Gonzalez, the goal for the *Chapines* is clear: reach past the first stage for the first time. (Text source: [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com))



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IRAN (IRN)	
<b>Confederation:</b>	AFC
<b>Number of previous FIFA Futsal World Cups (best rank; year):</b>	4 (4; 1992)
<b>Overall Record:</b>	
<i>FIFA Futsal World Cup all-time ranking:</i>	11
<i>Number of matches played:</i>	17
<i>Wins:</i>	8
<i>Draws:</i>	0
<i>Losses:</i>	9
<i>Goals for - Goals against:</i>	63-66
<i>First participation:</i>	1992
<b>Biggest win:</b>	7:1 (v. CUB; 1996)
<b>Best goal scorer</b>	16 - RAJABI SHIRAZI Saeid (1992)
<b>Most-capped player (minimum 5)</b>	11 - VARMAZYAR Sadegh (8-1992, 3-1996)
<b>Big Count Stats (2006):</b>	
<i>Population:</i>	65,875,223
<i>Players:</i>	1,806,544
<i>% of population</i>	2.7
<i>Total male players:</i>	1,696,548
<i>Total female players:</i>	109,996
<i>Male professionals:</i>	560
<i>Female professionals:</i>	0
<i>Futsal players male:</i>	3,000
<i>Futsal players female:</i>	500
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football male:</i>	339,900
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football female:</i>	6,000
<i>Clubs:</i>	100
<i>Teams</i>	270

Iran have monopolised futsal in Asia since its introduction, winning nine of the past ten continental tournaments, their only loss coming when Japan dethroned them in 2006.

Iran's qualification for this year's FIFA Futsal World Cup was a rather straightforward one. They made light work of the group stage, scoring 34 times in only three games while conceding just once in the process. A 9:1 quarter-final triumph over Lebanon sealed their progression to Brazil 2008, before they beat Japan by a solitary goal to reach the Asian final. There, Iran cruised to a 4:0 win over hosts Thailand to lift the trophy for a record ninth time.

After conquering Asia time and time again under coach Hossein Shams, Iran have set their sights on transferring their continental dominance onto the global stage. To improve on their semi-final performance at Hong Kong 1992, coach Shams is embarking on building a more competent side. With youngsters Ali Asghar Hassan Zade and Mostafa Taiebi complementing veterans such as Mohammad Reza Heidarian, Vahid Shamsaei and Kazem Mohammadi, Shams puts faith into the players' individual talents to break new ground at Brazil 2008. "The team have made very good progress and the players' personal technique is helping out," he said. "We have some very special talents in futsal to count on." (Text source: [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com))



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ITALY (ITA)	
<b>Confederation:</b>	UEFA
<b>Number of previous FIFA Futsal World Cups (best rank; year):</b>	4 (2; 2004)
<b>Overall Record:</b>	
<i>FIFA Futsal World Cup all-time ranking:</i>	3
<i>Number of matches played:</i>	23
<i>Wins:</i>	13
<i>Draws:</i>	2
<i>Losses:</i>	8
<i>Goals for - Goals against:</i>	82-58
<i>First participation:</i>	1989
<b>Biggest win:</b>	10:1 (v. MAS; 1996)
<b>Best goal scorer</b>	9 - FAMA Andrea (5-1989, 1-1992, 3-1996)
<b>Most capped player (minimum 5)</b>	14 - FAMA Andrea (6-1989, 2-1992, 6-1996)
<b>Big Count Stats (2006):</b>	
<i>Population:</i>	58,145,321
<i>Players:</i>	4,980,296
<i>% of population</i>	8.6
<i>Total male players:</i>	4,688,929
<i>Total female players:</i>	291,367
<i>Male professionals:</i>	3,541
<i>Female professionals:</i>	0
<i>Futsal players male:</i>	70,000
<i>Futsal players female:</i>	5,000
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football male:</i>	3,190,000
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football female:</i>	17,700
<i>Clubs:</i>	16,128
<i>Teams</i>	80,864

Nowadays, Italy rate as one of Europe's most consistent futsal nations, although the early years were anything but plain sailing. The Italians did contest the first FIFA Futsal World Cup in the Netherlands back in 1989, but were eliminated in the second group phase. The next two global match-ups also failed to produce any significant success, and Italy missed out altogether on the 2000 finals in Guatemala. Their greatest success to date came just four years later, however, with the runners-up spot in Chinese Taipei after an unlucky 2:1 defeat by Spain in the Final. The Italians boast a much better record on the continental stage, winning the European crown in front of their home crowd in 2003 with a 1:0 triumph in the final against Ukraine. Spain again provided the opposition in last year's European final, the Iberians once more coming out on top by a 3:1 margin.

Italy breezed to a place at the FIFA Futsal World Cup Brazil 2008 in impressive style, emerging from a group containing Kazakhstan, Cyprus and Andorra with maximum points and a towering goal difference of +27 after scoring 28 times and conceding just once. Adriano Foglia and Jairo Manoel starred with a total of six goals apiece against outclassed opposition. Moving on to the two-legged final qualifying play-off against Croatia, the Italians won the home leg in Pescara 6:3 with another brace from deadly No.10 Adriano Foglia. For the return match, the Italians switched their focus to defending, completing a rock-solid 3:0 victory to stride into the global finals.

Once they arrive in Brazil, Italy will be aiming to build on their burgeoning status as a major power in world futsal. After coming second to Spain at the FIFA Futsal World Cup in 2004 and the UEFA Futsal Championship in 2007, the Italians will be determined to go one better in South America. (Text source: [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com))





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JAPAN (JPN)	
<b>Confederation:</b>	AFC
<b>Number of previous FIFA Futsal World Cups (best rank; year):</b>	2 (13; 1989, 2004)
<b>Overall Record:</b>	
<i>FIFA Futsal World Cup all-time ranking:</i>	26
<i>Number of matches played:</i>	6
<i>Wins:</i>	0
<i>Draws:</i>	1
<i>Losses:</i>	5
<i>Goals for - Goals against:</i>	8-22
<i>First participation:</i>	1989
<b>Biggest win:</b>	-
<b>Best goal scorer</b>	3 - KOGURE Kenichiro (2004)
<b>Most capped player (minimum 5)</b>	22 players with 3 caps
<b>Big Count Stats (2006):</b>	
<i>Population:</i>	127,288,419
<i>Players:</i>	4,805,150
<i>% of population</i>	3.8
<i>Total male players:</i>	4,500,506
<i>Total female players:</i>	304,644
<i>Male professionals:</i>	973
<i>Female professionals:</i>	3
<i>Futsal players male:</i>	109,053
<i>Futsal players female:</i>	11,419
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football male:</i>	2,850,000
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football female:</i>	150,000
<i>Clubs:</i>	1,000
<i>Teams</i>	29,132

Despite being regarded as Asia's perennial bridesmaids, Japan belong among the continent's best. In fact, coach Sergio Sapó's side remain the only side to have denied Iran the continental title thanks to their heroic victory over Team Melli in the 2006 final. Japan's reign proved brief, however, as Iran beat them 4:1 in the following year's competition.

Until their narrow defeat by Iran in the semi-finals, Japan had kept an unblemished record in the Asian qualifiers. They beat Chinese Taipei 8:2 on their opener and followed it up with a 4:1 win over Turkmenistan. Australia proved their toughest test in the group stage, although Sapó's troops recovered a two-goal deficit to run out 4:2 victors. A 4:0 reverse of Kyrgyzstan in the quarter-finals sealed Japan's place at Brazil 2008, and despite being edged out by Iran in their next outing, they overcame China PR 5:3 to seize bronze.

Spearheaded by veteran Kenichiro Kogure, who finished top scorer in last year's AFC Futsal Championship, Japan were targeting their second continental title earlier this year. Their hopes, however, ended with a 1:0 defeat by Iran in the semi-finals. Despite the loss, the forthcoming FIFA Futsal World Cup provides coach Sapó and his charges with a chance to show their potential. "I'm not 100 per cent satisfied, because we were here to go to the final and win the championship," said the Brazilian after the qualification campaign. "But we still have the World Cup and what we need to do now is to do our preparatory work well." (text source: [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com))



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LIBYA (LBY)	
<b>Confederation:</b>	CAF
<b>Number of previous FIFA Futsal World Cups (best rank; year):</b>	0
<b>Big Count Stats (2006):</b>	
<i>Population:</i>	6,173,579
<i>Players:</i>	263,800
<i>% of population</i>	4.3
<i>Total male players:</i>	263,800
<i>Total female players:</i>	0
<i>Male professionals:</i>	0
<i>Female professionals:</i>	0
<i>Futsal players male:</i>	500
<i>Futsal players female:</i>	0
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football male:</i>	22,000
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football female:</i>	0
<i>Clubs:</i>	110
<i>Teams</i>	550

Libya have never before reached the finals of a FIFA Futsal World Cup. However, the North Africans are considered pioneers on the continent. They made their first official appearance at the African Futsal Championship in Egypt in 2000 where they beat South Africa 6:2, drew with Morocco 8:8 and were thrashed by champions Egypt 9:1. While Morocco and Egypt both had professional players based in Europe at the time, Libya did themselves proud with a squad of only local players.

The Libyans are led by Croatian coach Mato Stankovic, who previously worked with clubs Split 1700, Split Gasperov and Brodosplit Inzenjering. 'Mata', 38, orchestrated the end of Egypt's reign over the African championship as his side were crowned champions this year. This is the second time the Libyans have beat their Egyptian rivals; they also won the Arab Futsal Championship on home soil against the Pharaohs. The five-a-side version of the game enjoys solid support in Libya, and with enthusiastic fans who vigorously back their team, they will be fancying their chances at the finals.

Emerging as the new African powers has put a degree of pressure on the team, but the players and coach are looking forward to their first finals. Mata summed up the spirit in the camp: "It is a magnificent thing to qualify for the finals and I could not be prouder of my players. They gave everything they had and earned their place with heart and soul. Now, though, we will need to focus on the next job of showing what we can do against the best in the world." (Text source: [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com))



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<b>PARAGUAY (PAR)</b>	
<b>Confederation:</b>	CONMEBOL
<b>Number of previous FIFA Futsal World Cups (best rank; year):</b>	3 (6; 1989)
<b>Overall Record:</b>	
<i>FIFA Futsal World Cup all-time ranking:</i>	14
<i>Number of matches played:</i>	12
<i>Wins:</i>	4
<i>Draws:</i>	2
<i>Losses:</i>	6
<i>Goals for - Goals against:</i>	36-43
<i>First participation:</i>	1989
<b>Biggest win:</b>	5:0 (v. ALG; 1989)
<b>Best goal scorer</b>	4 - SANCHEZ Jose (1989)
<b>Most capped player (minimum 5)</b>	9 - LOPEZ Victor (6-1989, 3-1992)
<b>Big Count Stats (2006):</b>	
<i>Population:</i>	6,831,306
<i>Players:</i>	1,037,435
<i>% of population</i>	15.2
<i>Total male players:</i>	886,966
<i>Total female players:</i>	150,469
<i>Male professionals:</i>	590
<i>Female professionals:</i>	0
<i>Futsal players male:</i>	3,000
<i>Futsal players female:</i>	169
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football male:</i>	800,000
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football female:</i>	150,000
<i>Clubs:</i>	1,696
<i>Teams</i>	3,500

Paraguay took part in the first two editions of the FIFA Futsal World Cup, their best performance to date coming at the inaugural competition in 1989 in the Netherlands. There the *Albirroja* came agonizingly close to a semi-final berth after finishing third in the second group phase. However, after exiting Hong Kong 1992 at the first-round stage, Paraguay subsequently missed out on qualifying for a place at Spain 1996 and Guatemala 2000. They did manage to return to futsal's top table at Chinese Taipei 2004, only to fall at the first hurdle.

The decision to persevere with coach Adolfo Ruiz Diaz has proved a wise one. The tactician has kept faith with the nucleus of the squad that travelled to Chinese Taipei while gradually introducing fresh young talent, and the results are there for all to see. Paraguay picked up bronze in the 2007 Pan-American tournament and finished fourth in the recent Copa America. There they lost just two games, going down in extra time to Uruguay in the last four and falling to a last-gasp Argentina winner in the play-off for third place. Inspired by captain Carlos Chilavert and the ever-reliable Walter Villalba, the *Guaraníes* have added a genuine goalscorer to their ranks in the shape of Marcos Benitez. (Text source: [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com))



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PORTUGAL (POR)	
<b>Confederation:</b>	UEFA
<b>Number of previous FIFA Futsal World Cups (best rank; year):</b>	2 (3; 2000)
<b>Overall Record:</b>	
<i>FIFA Futsal World Cup all-time ranking:</i>	8
<i>Number of matches played:</i>	14
<i>Wins:</i>	8
<i>Draws:</i>	1
<i>Losses:</i>	5
<i>Goals for - Goals against:</i>	41-31
<i>First participation:</i>	2000
<b>Biggest win:</b>	5:0 (v. CUB; 2004)
<b>Best goal scorer</b>	7 - JOEL QUEIROS (2004)
<b>Most capped player (minimum 5)</b>	14 - ANDRE (8-2000, 6-2004)
<b>Big Count Stats (2006):</b>	
<i>Population:</i>	10,676,910
<i>Players:</i>	547,734
<i>% of population</i>	5.1
<i>Total male players:</i>	488,787
<i>Total female players:</i>	58,947
<i>Male professionals:</i>	1,663
<i>Female professionals:</i>	0
<i>Futsal players male:</i>	22,267
<i>Futsal players female:</i>	3,531
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football male:</i>	200,000
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football female:</i>	10,000
<i>Clubs:</i>	2,284
<i>Teams</i>	8,786

Portugal acquitted themselves in fine style on their first appearance at a FIFA Futsal World Cup, storming all the way to a third-place finish at Guatemala 2000. Having squeezed through to the finals after a hard-fought qualifying draw against Italy, the Portuguese lost just twice in eight encounters on Central American soil, those reverses coming against eventual finalists Spain and Brazil. At Chinese Taipei 2004, the Lusitanians just missed out on a semi-final berth after finishing third in their second-round group behind Spain and Italy - who both went on to reach the Final.

Portugal finished a creditable fourth at the UEFA Futsal Championship 2007 on home soil, missing out on third place at the hands of Russia, themselves beaten by the Iberians in the third place play-off at Guatemala 2000. Portugal subsequently embarked on a sparkling qualifying campaign for this year's FIFA Futsal World Cup, beating group opponents Latvia 4:0, Slovakia 3:0 and Turkey 3:2 before a 9:1 aggregate defeat of Slovenia in the final two-legged qualifier.

More than 20 years on from their first official match, played in the Spanish city of La Coruna in February 1987, Portugal are confident of causing a stir at Brazil 2008. "We're more mature and more experienced. Nowadays we're a team who play with real quality. It's all a result of the ability, hard work and commitment we've shown over a number of years - we've achieved a level of consistency. Our goal at the World Cup is to finish on the podium and improve on our performances at the European Championship," says Orlando Duarte, Portugal national coach. (Text source: [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com))



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Russia (RUS)	
<b>Confederation:</b>	UEFA
<b>Number of previous FIFA Futsal World Cups (best rank; year):</b>	3 (3; 1996)
<b>Overall Record:</b>	
<i>FIFA Futsal World Cup all-time ranking:</i>	7
<i>Number of matches played:</i>	19
<i>Wins:</i>	9
<i>Draws:</i>	3
<i>Losses:</i>	7
<i>Goals for - Goals against:</i>	86-57
<i>First participation:</i>	1992
<b>Biggest win:</b>	11:1 (v. CHN; 1996)
<b>Best goal scorer</b>	28 - EREMENKO Konstantin (15-1992, 8-1996, 5-2000)
<b>Most capped player (minimum 5)</b>	18 - EREMENKO Konstantin (3-1992, 8-1996, 7-2000)
<b>Big Count Stats (2006):</b>	
<i>Population:</i>	140,702,094
<i>Players:</i>	5,802,536
<i>% of population</i>	4.1
<i>Total male players:</i>	5,105,014
<i>Total female players:</i>	697,522
<i>Male professionals:</i>	3,274
<i>Female professionals:</i>	450
<i>Futsal players male:</i>	57,048
<i>Futsal players female:</i>	3,000
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football male:</i>	1,400,000
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football female:</i>	43,800
<i>Clubs:</i>	13,840
<i>Teams</i>	55,350

Russia's FIFA Futsal World Cup history began inauspiciously in 1992, when a poor defensive record of 16 goals conceded in three matches meant elimination at the group stage. A dramatic turnaround in Spain four years later saw the Russians claim an impressive third spot with a 3:2 success over neighbours Ukraine in the deciding match. Russia's most recent appearance on the world stage came at the 2000 finals in Guatemala, where they took fourth after a 4:2 defeat to Portugal in the third-place play-off. At the UEFA Futsal Championship in late 2007, a new generation picked up the thread of previous FIFA Futsal World Cup performances and finished third, gaining revenge over Portugal for a defeat at the same stage in 2000.

Russia were drawn in a group of three nations in qualifying for the FIFA Futsal World Cup Brazil 2008, but after France withdrew at the last minute, the berth in the next round was decided in a single eliminator against Serbia. The Russians duly won 3:2 to book a play-off spot with Belarus, one of the surprise packages at the group stage, but the experience of three appearances at the FIFA Futsal World Cup finals told in the end as the Russians eased to a 6:2 aggregate win. Much of the credit goes to keeper Pavel Stepanov for conceding only four goals in three matches.

Russia travel to Brazil looking to build on their impressive track record at global and continental level, including third- and fourth-place finishes at the FIFA Futsal World Cup finals in 1996 and 2000 respectively. After another podium finish at the most recent European championships, coach Oleg Ivanov's team are not to be underestimated when the world's elite gathers in South America. (Text source: [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com))



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<b>SOLOMON ISLANDS (SOL)</b>	
<b>Confederation:</b>	OFC
<b>Number of previous FIFA Futsal World Cups (best rank; year):</b>	0
<b>Big Count Stats (2006):</b>	
<i>Population:</i>	581,318
<i>Players:</i>	26,820
<i>% of population</i>	4.6
<i>Total male players:</i>	20,880
<i>Total female players:</i>	5,940
<i>Male professionals:</i>	0
<i>Female professionals:</i>	0
<i>Futsal players male:</i>	160
<i>Futsal players female:</i>	140
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football male:</i>	10,000
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football female:</i>	5,000
<i>Clubs:</i>	200
<i>Teams</i>	500

Like so many other nations in Oceania, the Solomons were overshadowed for a long time by Australia, the region's undisputed powerhouse until their move to the Asian Football Confederation in 2006. It was Australia who represented Oceania at Chinese Taipei 2004, where they lost all three of their group games. The Solomons, after fighting successfully through the Oceania qualifiers in Suva, Fiji, will be hoping to do better.

In this, the Solomons' first appearance at a FIFA finals tournament of any kind, they will be relying on the goalscoring ability of Micah Lea'alafa and Elliot Ragomo, who scored 22 goals between them in the qualifying tournament in Suva. Their play is not only about all-out attack, however, and they showed their tactical organization and patience in the crucial qualifying game, a 4:2 win over eventual runners-up Tahiti.

Coach Victor Wai'ia knows that his team will face a very stern initiation in Brazil, but believes that his team has qualities that will stand them in good stead amongst the world's futsal elite. "We now our team does not have the most skilful individual players, but we play with heart and are very technical in defence," he commented. "We have ten players on the same level, and this has helped us." *(Text source: www.fifa.com)*



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<b>SPAIN (ESP)</b>	
<b>Confederation:</b>	UEFA
<b>Number of previous FIFA Futsal World Cups (best rank; year):</b>	5 (1; 2000, 2004)
<b>Overall Record:</b>	
<i>FIFA Futsal World Cup all-time ranking:</i>	2
<i>Number of matches played:</i>	35
<i>Wins:</i>	28
<i>Draws:</i>	2
<i>Losses:</i>	5
<i>Goals for - Goals against:</i>	161-71
<i>First participation:</i>	1989
<b>Biggest win:</b>	10:0 (v. TPE; 2004)
<b>Best goal scorer</b>	14 - JAVI RODRIGUEZ (8-2000, 6-2004)
<b>Most capped player (minimum 5)</b>	22 - JULIO (6-1996, 8-2000, 8-2004)
<b>Big Count Stats (2006):</b>	
<i>Population:</i>	40,491,051
<i>Players:</i>	2,834,190
<i>% of population</i>	7.0
<i>Total male players:</i>	2,536,103
<i>Total female players:</i>	298,087
<i>Male professionals:</i>	1,331
<i>Female professionals:</i>	0
<i>Futsal players male:</i>	87,926
<i>Futsal players female:</i>	8,316
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football male:</i>	1,750,000
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football female:</i>	165,000
<i>Clubs:</i>	18,092
<i>Teams</i>	39,811

Spain head to Brazil 2008 looking for their third consecutive FIFA Futsal World Cup crown. On top of their two world titles, *La Furia Roja* can also point to a runners-up finish at the 1996 event on home soil and four European titles (1996, 2001, 2005 and 2007). Spanish futsal is also buoyant at club level, with the country's teams enjoying considerable success in international competitions and very healthy attendances for domestic league action.

Current coach Venancio Lopez took over from his all-conquering predecessor Javier Lozano in September 2007 and has so far overseen a seamless transition. The first major challenge for the new man in charge was the UEFA Futsal Championship in Portugal in December 2007, a test he passed with flying colours as Spain successfully defended their European crown. Next up were some impressive displays in FIFA Futsal World Cup qualifying. Group opponents Croatia and Georgia were eased aside 3:1 and 13:1 respectively, ahead of a 13:1 aggregate success over Bosnia Herzegovina in the two-legged final qualifier.

*La Selección*, top-three finishers at the last four editions of the global showpiece, are certain to be among the favourites once more at Brazil 2008, along with the host nation. "Our prime objective is to reach the Final, and once there, we want to win the title again if at all possible. Our team's philosophy is based on working hard and not living in the past, because what the future holds is increasingly difficult. Our rivals are improving and strengthening their squads significantly. We intend to do everything we can to evolve faster than they do," says Spain coach Venancio Lopez. (Text source: [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com))



# FIFA Information Services

## FIFA Futsal World Cup Brazil 2008

### Statistical Kit



<b>THAILAND (THA)</b>	
<b>Confederation:</b>	AFC
<b>Number of previous FIFA Futsal World Cups (best rank; year):</b>	2 (12; 2004)
<b>Overall Record:</b>	
<i>FIFA Futsal World Cup all-time ranking:</i>	22
<i>Number of matches played:</i>	6
<i>Wins:</i>	1
<i>Draws:</i>	0
<i>Losses:</i>	5
<i>Goals for - Goals against:</i>	7-30
<i>First participation:</i>	2000
<b>Biggest win:</b>	3:2 (v. AUS; 2004)
<b>Best goal scorer</b>	2 - PIEMKUM Pattaya, POLSAK Yutthana (1-2000, 1-2004)
<b>Most-capped player (minimum 5)</b>	6 - MUNJARERN Anucha, PIEMKUM Pattaya, KHONGKAEW Narongsak (3-2000, 3-2004)
<b>Big Count Stats (2006):</b>	
<i>Population:</i>	65,493,298
<i>Players:</i>	1,298,000
<i>% of population</i>	2.0
<i>Total male players:</i>	1,207,500
<i>Total female players:</i>	90,500
<i>Male professionals:</i>	500
<i>Female professionals:</i>	0
<i>Futsal players male:</i>	900
<i>Futsal players female:</i>	0
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football male:</i>	330,000
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football female:</i>	2,400
<i>Clubs:</i>	150
<i>Teams:</i>	1,790

Thailand may be usual underdogs at the 11-a-side game, but on the futsal court they are one of Asia's finest sides. At the FIFA Futsal World Cup Chinese Taipei 2004, 'The Nation of Smiles' registered a memorable 3:2 win over Australia. Under coach Jose Maria Pazos Mendez, the talented Thais will now aim to cause a stir at Brazil 2008.

Even before the tournament kick-off, hosts Thailand were tipped to challenge favourites Iran. Despite the expectations, however, they started slowly but managed nonetheless to eke out a narrow win over Iraq. An 11:0 reverse of Indonesia showed their credentials thereafter, and then came a 3:1 win over Kyrgyzstan. Thailand's 5:3 quarter-final defeat of Australia sealed their progression to this year's FIFA Futsal World Cup, and they then undid China PR to reach the continental decider, where they fell 4:0 to Iran.

Mendez proved his pedigree as an international coach as he successfully transformed a team of talented individuals into a winning unit in only two months in charge. Qualification for Brazil 2008 came as further proof of the team's potential. "We were given a very short time to prepare for the competition but we have made a lot of positive changes with the team," Mendez said following the Asian preliminaries. "Progression to the World Cup is the most important of all." (Text source: [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com))





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### Statistical Kit



Ukraine (UKR)	
<b>Confederation:</b>	UEFA
<b>Number of previous FIFA Futsal World Cups (best rank; year):</b>	2 (4; 1996)
<b>Overall Record:</b>	
<i>FIFA Futsal World Cup all-time ranking:</i>	10
<i>Number of matches played:</i>	14
<i>Wins:</i>	6
<i>Draws:</i>	3
<i>Losses:</i>	5
<i>Goals for - Goals against:</i>	51-40
<i>First participation:</i>	1996
<b>Biggest win:</b>	11:2 (v. AUS; 1996)
<b>Best goal scorer</b>	10 - MOSKALIUK Oleksandre (1996)
<b>Most capped player (minimum 5)</b>	14 - KOSENKO Olexandr (8-1996, 6-2004)
<b>Big Count Stats (2006):</b>	
<i>Population:</i>	45,994,287
<i>Players:</i>	2,273,017
<i>% of population</i>	4.9
<i>Total male players:</i>	2,040,756
<i>Total female players:</i>	232,261
<i>Male professionals:</i>	2,206
<i>Female professionals:</i>	221
<i>Futsal players male:</i>	4,050
<i>Futsal players female:</i>	300
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football male:</i>	300,000
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football female:</i>	14,700
<i>Clubs:</i>	68
<i>Teams</i>	6,500

Ukraine first appeared on the global futsal stage at the FIFA Futsal World Cup Spain 1996, where they confounded the pundits with a fine fourth-place finish after a narrow 3:2 defeat to Russia in the third-place play-off. The Ukrainians missed out on the finals in Guatemala four years later, but were present in Chinese Taipei in 2004, coming through the first group phase but packing their bags for home after losing out to Brazil and Argentina in the next round. Their UEFA Futsal Championship performance in late 2007 must rate as a disappointment, as Ukraine failed to collect a point and finished bottom of a group including Spain, Russia and Serbia.

The Eastern Europeans comfortably came through the first phase of qualifying for the FIFA Futsal World Cup Brazil 2008, taking maximum points from a group containing Israel, Moldova and Bulgaria. A solid team performance in support of top marksman Il'Dar Makayev earned Ukraine an eliminator against Hungary, where they won the home leg 3:1 but were pushed all the way in the second meeting, needing late goals from Fedir Pylypiv and Dmytro Silchenko to secure a third FIFA Futsal World Cup appearance.

Sealing a berth in Brazil represents a first milestone on the road to recovery after a desperately disappointing showing at the European championships last year. However, coach Gennadiy Lysenchuk's team is nothing if not resolute, and Ukraine are unlikely to be satisfied with a supporting role at the finals in South America. *(Text source: www.fifa.com)*



# FIFA Information Services

## FIFA Futsal World Cup Brazil 2008

### Statistical Kit



URUGUAY (URU)	
<b>Confederation:</b>	CONMEBOL
<b>Number of previous FIFA Futsal World Cups (best rank; year):</b>	2 (6; 1996)
<b>Overall Record:</b>	
<i>FIFA Futsal World Cup all-time ranking:</i>	13
<i>Number of matches played:</i>	9
<i>Wins:</i>	4
<i>Draws:</i>	1
<i>Losses:</i>	4
<i>Goals for - Goals against:</i>	24-25
<i>First participation:</i>	1996
<b>Biggest win:</b>	4:1 (v. MAS; 1996)
<b>Best goal scorer</b>	5 - PINEIRO Alvaro (1996)
<b>Most capped player (minimum 5)</b>	9 - D ALESSANDRO Andres (6-1996, 3-2000)
<b>Big Count Stats (2006):</b>	
<i>Population:</i>	3,477,778
<i>Players:</i>	241,300
<i>% of Population</i>	6.9
<i>All male:</i>	214,000
<i>All female:</i>	27,300
<i>Male professionals:</i>	1,100
<i>Female professionals:</i>	0
<i>Futsal male:</i>	2,600
<i>Futsal female:</i>	100
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football male:</i>	93,500
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football female:</i>	1,000
<i>Clubs:</i>	1,210
<i>Teams</i>	2,200

Though futsal's origins can be traced back to Uruguayan soil, the *Celeste* have yet to firmly establish themselves on the FIFA Futsal World Cup stage. Having failed to qualify for the first two editions of the event, Uruguay finally made their debut at Spain 1996. There, they narrowly missed out on a semi-final berth after coming third in their second-phase group. A first-round exit at Guatemala 2000 was then followed by another qualifying failure on the road to Chinese Taipei 2004. As a result, Brazil 2008 marks the *Charrúas'* return to the elite event after eight years away.

Relying heavily on the experience of goalkeeper Mauro Roibal and wide man Andres D'Alessandro, both veterans of the 1996 and 2000 campaigns, coach Daniel Darino's charges booked their ticket for Brazil 2008 after taking second spot at the recent Copa America. And despite two comprehensive defeats at the hands of the *Auriverde*, the Copa campaign highlighted the potential of Santiago Blenkleider. The gifted pivot was one of the stars of the tournament, and is widely considered to be a worthy successor to the legendary Nicolas Moliterno, who retired after the final. Gabriel De Simone and the Hernandez duo, Martin and Fabian, also underlined their importance to the squad.

"After all the planning work we'd done in the year leading up to the Copa, we deserved a tournament display like that. We fulfilled our objective and on top of that we reached the final. Now we're going to have a rest and plan our preparations ahead of the World Cup," says Uruguay pivot Santiago Blenkleider. (Text source: [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com))



# FIFA Information Services

## FIFA Futsal World Cup Brazil 2008

### Statistical Kit



USA	
<b>Confederation:</b>	CONCACAF
<b>Number of previous FIFA Futsal World Cups (best rank; year):</b>	4 (2; 1992)
<b>Overall Record:</b>	
<i>FIFA Futsal World Cup all-time ranking:</i>	6
<i>Number of matches played:</i>	25
<i>Wins:</i>	12
<i>Draws:</i>	4
<i>Losses:</i>	9
<i>Goals for - Goals against:</i>	84-62
<i>First participation:</i>	1989
<b>Biggest win:</b>	10:2 (v. MAS; 1996)
<b>Best goal scorer</b>	10 - GABARRA Jim (5-1989, 5-1992)
<b>Most capped player (minimum 5)</b>	19 - GABARRA Jim (8-1989, 8-1992, 3-1996)
<b>Big Count Stats (2006):</b>	
<i>Population:</i>	303,824,646
<i>Players:</i>	24,472,778
<i>% of population</i>	8.1
<i>Total male players:</i>	17,416,859
<i>Total female players:</i>	7,055,919
<i>Male professionals:</i>	1,463
<i>Female professionals:</i>	50
<i>Futsal players male:</i>	15,000
<i>Futsal players female:</i>	2,272
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football male:</i>	8,079,600
<i>Company or Army Teams, Schools &amp; Universities, Street Football female:</i>	5,386,400
<i>Clubs:</i>	5,000
<i>Teams</i>	400,000

The United States have a proud tradition in futsal by CONCACAF standards. Twice champions of the region, the Americans reached the semi-finals of the first global futsal competition in the Netherlands, in 1989 and lost to Brazil in the final three years later in Hong Kong. Since then they have qualified for all the FIFA Futsal world showpieces (save for Guatemala 2000) and reached the second round again in Chinese Taipei in 2004.

In the qualifying competition in June, the Americans - then holders of the regional title - roared through the group stages only to run into hosts Guatemala in the semi-finals. In front of a wild crowd of 7,000 hostile supporters, Tozer's Americans fell flat and lost 4:0. They did manage to dust themselves off, though, and hammer Panama 7:1 in the third-place game to reach Brazil 2008.

Back at yet another FIFA Futsal World Cup, the Americans are keen to make it out of the group stages and reclaim the kind of status that marked their formative years in the five-a-side discipline. Tozer is hoping for improvement. "We went to Guatemala with the express aim of qualifying for the World Cup in Brazil, and we did just that. We also know that we will need to pick up our form before the finals get underway if we want to make any kind of a mark," the coach said. *(Text source: www.fifa.com)*



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## FIFA Futsal World Cup Brazil 2008

### Statistical Kit



## FIFA Futsal World Cup Brazil 2008

### Group Matches Facts and Figures

#### 1. Brazil v. Japan

Brazil won all four of their previous FIFA Futsal World Cup matches against AFC opponents. They defeated Saudi Arabia 8:0 in 1989, Iran 8:3 in 1996, Kazakhstan 12:1 in 2000 and Thailand 9:1 at the last tournament in 2004.

Japan did not win a single match (one draw, five losses) out of the six played in their two appearances in FIFA Futsal World Cups (1989 and 2004). Their only draw (1:1) was in 2004 against the USA.

Brazil are leaders in terms of the number of FIFA Futsal World Cup matches played (this will be their 41st), wins (33), goals (258) and titles won (3). They are also the only team to have qualified for the semi-finals in all five FIFA Futsal World Cup editions. Moreover, they hold the records for the three biggest wins (29:2 against Guatemala in 2000, 18:0 against Cuba in 1996 and 15:1 against Costa Rica in 1992) and the longest unbeaten run (25 consecutive matches between 1989 and 2000).

#### 2. Cuba v. Solomon Islands

Cuba have lost all nine of their previous FIFA Futsal World Cup matches and, together with Australia (who did not qualify for this edition), have had the worst run of consecutive defeats in all tournaments.

Solomon Islands are one of two newcomers to the FIFA Futsal World Cup 2008. This is the first time that an OFC country other than Australia has qualified for the final competition of this tournament.

#### 3. Italy v. Thailand

Italy have a record of two wins and one defeat against Asian teams in FIFA Futsal World Cup matches. After the loss in the first head-to-head with an Asian side in 1992 (7:5 to Iran), they beat Malaysia 10:1 in 1996 and Japan 5:0 in 2004.

Italy won all four of their opening matches at previous FIFA Futsal World Cups.

In five of their six FIFA Futsal World Cup matches, Thailand only once scored more than one goal, 3:2 in the only win against Australia in 2004.

#### 4. Paraguay v. USA

This is their third head-to-head at a FIFA Futsal World Cup. The USA won both previous encounters: 2:0 in 1989 and 3:1 in 2004. The latter was the USA's last win at a FIFA Futsal World Cup, followed by one draw and three defeats.

Paraguay scored five goals in each of their three previous FIFA Futsal World Cup inaugural matches. They beat Algeria 5:0 in 1989, lost 7:5 to Italy in 1992 and won 5:4 against Japan in 2004.

#### 5. Argentina v. China PR

Argentina won the only previous head-to-head with China PR at the FIFA Futsal World Cup in 2000 2:1.

This is Argentina's 30th match at a FIFA Futsal World Cup. They are third in terms of the number of matches played, behind Brazil and Spain.

China PR lost all six of the matches they played in their two previous appearances at the FIFA Futsal World Cup (1992 and 1996).



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Argentina have won all of their matches against Asian opposition at FIFA Futsal World Cups: five wins in five matches against Japan (2:1 in 1989), Hong Kong (2:1 in 1992), China PR (2:1 in 1996) and twice against Iran (2:1 in 2000, 6-1 in 2004).

#### **6. Guatemala v. Egypt**

Egypt did not draw in any of their previous 12 FIFA Futsal World Cup matches (five wins and seven defeats).

Egypt are Guatemala's first African opponents at a FIFA Futsal World Cup. In their only previous participation (2000), they met Portugal, Kazakhstan and Brazil.

To date Egypt are the only African team to have won a FIFA Futsal World Cup match: both Zimbabwe and Nigeria lost all three of their group matches, in 1989 and 1992, respectively. In that first African win at a FIFA Futsal World Cup, Egypt beat Australia 8:2 on 26 November 1996.

#### **7. Spain v. Iran**

Spain have been on the longest winning streak (12 consecutive wins) at the FIFA Futsal World Cup since 20 November 2000, when they beat Cuba 9:0.

No FIFA Futsal World Cup reigning champions have ever lost their first match in the edition following their win.

Of the teams that have never drawn at the FIFA Futsal World Cup, Iran have played the most matches – 17, with a record of eight wins and nine defeats.

#### **8. Uruguay v. Libya**

Uruguay lost their only head-to-head with an African team at the FIFA Futsal World Cup in 2000 – 4:2 to Egypt.

All African newcomers have lost their debut matches at FIFA Futsal World Cups by a margin of four goals or more. In 1989, Zimbabwe were defeated 5:1 by Italy and Algeria lost 5:0 to Paraguay, Nigeria lost 6:2 to Argentina in 1992 and Egypt lost 7:2 to Spain in 1996.

#### **9. Solomon Islands v. Brazil**

In their two previous head-to-heads with an OFC team at a FIFA Futsal World Cup (Australia in both cases), Brazil won without conceding a goal: 3:0 in 1992 and 10:0 in 2004.

Before 2008, four of the five biggest wins in the FIFA Futsal World Cup were recorded by Brazil against newcomers to the competition: 29:2 against Guatemala in 2000, 18:0 against Cuba in 1996, 15:1 against Costa Rica in 1992 and 12:1 against Kazakhstan in 2000.

#### **10. Russia v. Cuba**

Russia have met two other CONCACAF teams in previous FIFA Futsal World Cups: in 1992 they lost 8:3 to the USA and in 2000 they beat Costa Rica 6:1.

Cuba are the only CONCACAF team to have qualified for four consecutive FIFA Futsal World Cup final competitions: 1996, 2000, 2004 and 2008.

#### **11. USA v. Italy**

This is their fourth head-to-head at a FIFA Futsal World Cup; Italy lead by two wins to one. The USA won the first encounter 4:1 in 1989, Italy the following two in 1996 (4:2) and 2004 (6:3). All matches were in the group stages.



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## FIFA Futsal World Cup Brazil 2008

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This is the first time that two former FIFA Futsal World Cup runners-up have met in the first group stage. The USA came second in 1992 and Italy were runners-up in 2004.

#### **12. Portugal v. Paraguay**

Paraguay are the only team present at the FIFA Futsal World Cup 2008 that played on the first day of the inaugural edition in 1989. On 5 January 1989, two inaugural matches were played: Netherlands-Denmark and Paraguay-Algeria. Paraguay won 5:0.

Portugal have never scored a goal against a CONMEBOL team at a FIFA Futsal World Cup. They lost twice to Brazil in 2000 (4:0; 8:0) and once to Argentina in 2004 (1:0).

#### **13. Egypt v. Argentina**

Argentina won the only previous head-to-head, a second-round match at the FIFA Futsal World Cup in 2000, 4:3.

Along with Brazil and Spain, Argentina have participated in all six FIFA Futsal World Cup final tournaments.

#### **14. Ukraine v. Guatemala**

In both of their previous participations, Ukraine played the team that would go on to win the tournament. In 1996 they tied 2:2 with Brazil in a second-round match, while in 2004 they were defeated by Spain 2:0 in the first stage.

Guatemala were unbeaten in their qualifying campaign for the FIFA Futsal World Cup 2008, with a record of three wins and two draws.

#### **15. Libya v. Spain**

Spain are the only team not to have conceded a goal in four consecutive FIFA Futsal World Cup matches. In 2004 they beat Ukraine (2:0), Chinese Taipei (10:0), Egypt (7:0) and Czech Republic (2:0).

African teams have always lost by a margin of at least seven goals in matches against reigning FIFA Futsal World Cup champions. Egypt were defeated 12:4 by Brazil in 2000 and 7:0 by Spain in 2004.

#### **16. Czech Republic v. Uruguay**

Czech Republic are the "youngest" European team to participate in the FIFA Futsal World Cup. They qualified for the final competition for the first time in 2004.

#### **17. Brazil v. Russia**

Brazil won both previous head-to-heads – in 1996 and 2000 – 6:2.

Russia are the only team to have tied in three consecutive matches at a FIFA Futsal World Cup: they drew 7:7 with Spain in their last match in 1992, and in 1996 drew 2:2 with both the Netherlands and Argentina.

#### **18. Japan v. Solomon Islands**

This is the first head-to-head at any level between Japan and the Solomon Islands.



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#### 19. Italy v. Portugal

In their only head-to-head at a FIFA Futsal World Cup, Italy and Portugal were protagonists of the first 0:0 draw in the history of the tournament on 28 November 2004 in a second group phase match played at the Tao Yuan County venue. They also tied 0:0 in the last European Championship in 2007.

#### 20. Thailand v. USA

The USA are unbeaten against AFC teams at the FIFA Futsal World Cup. They won three out of four matches (7:1 against China PR and 4:2 against Iran in 1992, 10:2 against Malaysia in 1996) and drew one in 2004 with Japan (1:1).

#### 21. Argentina v. Ukraine

They tied in the only FIFA Futsal World Cup head-to-head they played, in 2004. It was the second 0:0 draw in the tournament's history, three days after the first between Italy and Portugal.

#### 22. China PR v. Egypt

Egypt are the first CAF opponents for China PR at a FIFA Futsal World Cup.

Other than the two newcomers, China PR are the team competing at the FIFA Futsal World Cup 2008 that has had the longest absence from the competition. The last time China PR were present was in Spain in 1996.

#### 23. Spain v. Czech Republic

Spain beat the Czech Republic 2:0 in their only head-to-head, played at the FIFA Futsal World Cup 2004.

Of the 18 European "derbies" they have played at the FIFA Futsal World Cup, Spain have won 16, tied one (7:7 with Russia in 1992) and lost only a second group match in 2004 to Italy 3:2. Spain went on to win the final against Italy six days later.

#### 24. Iran v. Libya

Together with the Solomon Islands, Libya are one of two newcomers to the tournament and they are the fourth African team to participate in the FIFA Futsal World Cup, after Egypt, Nigeria and Zimbabwe.

Libya are Iran's first African opponents at the FIFA Futsal World Cup.

Iran v. Libya is the third match between reigning continental champions in Group D of the FIFA Futsal World Cup 2008 after Libya v. Spain and Spain v. Iran.

#### 25. Japan v. Cuba

Japan and Cuba are two of the three teams (the other is China PR) never to have won a single match in previous FIFA Futsal World Cup tournaments.

#### 26. Russia v. Solomon Islands

Before the 2008 edition, a Russian player held the record for the most goals scored in a single FIFA Futsal World Cup match. In 1992, Konstantin Eremenko scored seven goals in the 10:1 victory against China PR.



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#### **27. Thailand v. Paraguay**

Before 2008, Paraguay were the only CONMEBOL team to have conceded ten goals in a FIFA Futsal World Cup match. In 1992 they were defeated by Iran 10:6.

#### **28. Portugal v. USA**

The USA are the only team outside Europe and South America to have claimed a place in the top three at a FIFA Futsal World Cup. They were third in 1989 and runners up in 1992.

Portugal have won against all their CONCACAF opponents at FIFA Futsal World Cups. In 2000 they defeated Guatemala 6:2 and in 2004 they beat Cuba 5:0.

#### **29. China PR v. Guatemala**

China PR qualified for the FIFA Futsal World Cup 2008 despite three defeats in the preliminaries, all to AFC teams that qualified: Iran, Japan and Thailand.

#### **30. Ukraine v. Egypt**

Ukraine have won both head-to-heads at previous FIFA Futsal World Cup tournaments: 10:3 in 1996 and 5:4 in 2004.

Egypt are the only African team to have participated in four consecutive FIFA Futsal World Cups. They have been present at every final tournament since 1996.

#### **31. Iran v. Uruguay**

This is Iran's 20th match at a FIFA Futsal World Cup. They are the leaders among Asian teams in terms of the number of participations (five consecutive tournaments since 1992) and matches played at final competitions.

Uruguay have a record of beating AFC opponents at FIFA Futsal World Cups with the same result of 4:1: Malaysia in 1996 and Thailand in 2000.

#### **32. Czech Republic v. Libya**

Both teams finished unbeaten in the qualifying tournament for the FIFA Futsal World Cup 2008. Czech Republic won three and drew two of their five matches, while Libya won all six of theirs.

#### **33. Brazil v. Cuba**

Brazil beat Cuba 18:0 in the 1996 tournament. This is the second biggest win ever at a FIFA Futsal World Cup.

Brazil have been involved in two penalty shoot-outs at FIFA Futsal World Cups – more than any other team. Both were in semi-finals: they beat Belgium in 1989 but lost to Spain in 2004.

Six different Brazilian players scored a hat-trick in a single match. On 23 November 2000, Brazil beat Guatemala 29:2 in the biggest ever win at a FIFA Futsal World Cup. Six goals were scored by Manoel Tobias, five by Fininho and three each by Andenso, Falcao, Schumacher and Vander.

#### **34. Russia v. Japan**

Although Russia and Japan have participated in three and two editions, respectively, they have never played in the same tournament before 2008. Russia were present in 1992, 1996 and 2000, while Japan participated in 1989 and 2004.





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## FIFA Futsal World Cup Brazil 2008

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#### **35. Italy v. Paraguay**

Italy won both head-to-heads at previous FIFA Futsal World Cups: 7:5 in 1992 and 4:2 in 2004. In 2004 the match was the last of the first stage, like today.

Paraguay have never qualified for the second stage of the FIFA Futsal World Cup when playing in the same group as Italy (1992 and 2004).

#### **36. Portugal v. Thailand**

Portugal have won all their matches against AFC teams at FIFA Futsal World Cups by a four-goal margin: in 2000 they beat Kazakhstan 6:2 and in 2004 they defeated Iran 4:0.

#### **37. Argentina v. Guatemala**

Argentina advanced to the second stage in all five of their previous participations in FIFA Futsal World Cups.

#### **38. Ukraine v. China PR**

Ukraine won their only head-to-head against an AFC team in 2004, when they defeated Chinese Taipei 7:2.

#### **39. Spain v. Uruguay**

To date, Spain have an impressive record in first-stage matches. They have won 13 out of 15 matches played, were unbeaten in the last four editions (11 wins, 1 draw), won all their matches in the three previous editions (1996, 2000 and 2004) and did not concede a goal in first-stage matches in 2000. They failed to win on two occasions, both times in the last group match: they lost 4:1 to Brazil in 1989 and drew 7:7 with Russia in 1992.

Uruguay will be Spain's third CONMEBOL opponent in a FIFA Futsal World Cup. Spain have previously met Brazil (five times) and Argentina (once).

#### **40. Czech Republic v. Iran**

In their only previous participation in 2004, Czech Republic met all of the teams that would go on to form the top-three of the final ranking: Spain, Italy and Brazil.

Iran are the only AFC team to have previously got past the first stage of the FIFA Futsal World Cup. In 1992 they reached the semi-finals and lost the third-place match to Spain (9:6).



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#### Preliminary Competitions

**AFC**  Thailand (THA)  Iran (IRN)  China PR (CHN)  Japan (JPN)

Asia's qualifiers were held from 11 to 18 May 2008 in Thailand, in the Nimibutr and Hua Mark stadiums in Bangkok. The participating teams were: Japan, Iran, Iraq, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Australia, Turkmenistan, Korea Republic, China, Lebanon, Malaysia, Chinese Taipei, Indonesia and Kuwait.

Date	Match	Result	City
<b>Group A</b>			
11.05.2008	Kyrgyzstan – Indonesia	5:1 (2:0)	Bangkok
11.05.2008	Thailand – Iraq	1:0 (0:0)	Bangkok
12.05.2008	Thailand – Indonesia	11:0 (4:0)	Bangkok
12.05.2008	Iraq – Kyrgyzstan	0:8 (0:1)	Bangkok
13.05.2008	Iraq – Indonesia	4:5 (2:2)	Bangkok
13.05.2008	Thailand – Kyrgyzstan	3:1 (1:0)	Bangkok

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Thailand	3	3	0	0	15	1	14	9
2	Kyrgyzstan	3	2	0	1	14	4	10	6
3	Indonesia	3	1	0	2	6	20	-14	3
4	Iraq	3	0	0	3	4	14	-10	0

<b>Group B</b>			
11.05.2008	Japan – Chinese Taipei	8:2 (4:1)	Bangkok
11.05.2008	Australia – Turkmenistan	3:1 (1:1)	Bangkok
12.05.2008	Chinese Taipei – Australia	0:6 (0:2)	Bangkok
12.05.2008	Turkmenistan – Japan	1:4 (0:3)	Bangkok
13.05.2008	Japan – Australia	4:2 (0:2)	Bangkok
13.05.2008	Turkmenistan – Chinese Taipei	6:2 (1:0)	Bangkok

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Japan	3	3	0	0	16	5	11	9
2	Australia	3	2	0	1	11	5	6	6
3	Turkmenistan	3	1	0	2	8	9	-1	3
4	Chinese Taipei	3	0	0	3	4	20	-16	0

<b>Group C</b>			
11.05.2008	Uzbekistan – Malaysia	10:0 (3:0)	Bangkok
11.05.2008	Lebanon – Korea Republic	5:5 (1:2)	Bangkok
12.05.2008	Malaysia – Lebanon	4:6 (2:2)	Bangkok
12.05.2008	Korea Republic – Uzbekistan	3:4 (3:2)	Bangkok
13.05.2008	Korea Republic – Malaysia	3:4 (1:2)	Bangkok
13.05.2008	Uzbekistan – Lebanon	5:1 (1:1)	Bangkok

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Uzbekistan	3	3	0	0	19	4	15	9
2	Lebanon	3	1	1	1	12	14	-2	4
3	Malaysia	3	1	0	2	8	19	-11	3
4	Korea Republic	3	0	1	2	11	13	-2	1



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Group D			
11.05.2008	Iran – Kuwait	12:0 (5:0)	Bangkok
11.05.2008	Tajikistan – China PR	0:9 (0:6)	Bangkok
12.05.2008	Kuwait – Tajikistan	4:6 (2:4)	Bangkok
12.05.2008	China PR – Iran	1:8 (0:2)	Bangkok
13.05.2008	China PR – Kuwait	9:0 (5:0)	Bangkok
13.05.2008	Iran – Tajikistan	14:0 (10:0)	Bangkok

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Iran	3	3	0	0	34	1	33	9
2	China PR	3	2	0	1	19	8	11	6
3	Tajikistan	3	1	0	2	6	27	-21	3
4	Kuwait	3	0	0	3	4	27	-23	0

Quarter-final			
15.05.2008	Thailand – Australia	5:2 (3:1)	Bangkok
15.05.2008	Uzbekistan – China PR	1:4 (0:1)	Bangkok
15.05.2008	Iran – Lebanon	9:1 (4:0)	Bangkok
15.05.2008	Japan – Kyrgyzstan	4:0 (2:0)	Bangkok
Semi-final			
16.05.2008	Thailand – China PR	7:3 (5:1)	Bangkok
16.05.2008	Japan – Iran	0:1 (0:1)	Bangkok
Match for third place			
18.05.2008	China PR – Japan	3:5 (0:1)	Bangkok
Final			
18.05.2008	Thailand – Iran	0:4 (0:2)	Bangkok



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**CAF** - Egypt (EGY) Libya (LBY)

The CAF Futsal Championships, which served as a qualifier for the FIFA Futsal World Cup was held between 21-30 March 2008 in Tripoli, Libya. By reaching the final, Egypt and Libya qualified for Brazil 2008.

Date	Match	Result	City
<b>Group A</b>			
21.03.2008	Tunisia – Morocco	0:5	Tripoli
21.03.2008	Libya – Nigeria	4:0	Tripoli
22.03.2008	Cameroon – Nigeria	3:3	Tripoli
22.03.2008	Libya – Tunisia	4:2	Tripoli
23.03.2008	Tunisia – Cameroon	4:1	Tripoli
23.03.2008	Libya – Morocco	4:1	Tripoli
24.03.2008	Libya – Cameroon	7:1	Tripoli
24.03.2008	Nigeria – Morocco	1:2	Tripoli
25.03.2008	Nigeria – Tunisia	5:3	Tripoli
25.03.2008	Morocco – Cameroon	8:1	Tripoli

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Libya	4	4	0	0	19	4	15	12
2	Morocco	4	3	0	1	16	6	10	9
3	Nigeria	4	1	1	2	9	12	-3	4
4	Tunisia	4	1	0	3	9	15	-6	3
5	Cameroon	4	0	1	3	6	22	-16	1

<b>Group B</b>			
21.03.2008	South Africa – Angola	4:8	Tripoli
21.03.2008	Egypt – Zambia	9:0	Tripoli
22.03.2008	Egypt – South Africa	8:4	Tripoli
22.03.2008	Mozambique – Zambia	9:2	Tripoli
23.03.2008	Angola – Egypt	2:2	Tripoli
23.03.2008	South Africa – Mozambique	3:10	Tripoli
24.03.2008	Mozambique – Egypt	1:1	Tripoli
24.03.2008	Zambia – Angola	8:4	Tripoli
25.03.2008	Zambia – South Africa	5:6	Tripoli
25.03.2008	Angola – Mozambique	6:5	Tripoli

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Egypt	4	2	2	0	20	7	13	8
2	Mozambique	4	2	1	1	25	12	13	7
3	Angola	4	2	1	1	20	19	1	7
4	Zambia	4	1	0	3	15	28	-13	3
5	South Africa	4	1	0	3	17	31	-14	3

<b>Semi-final</b>			
28.03.2008	Egypt – Morocco	4:1	Tripoli
28.03.2008	Libya – Mozambique	4:1	Tripoli
<b>Match for third place</b>			
30.03.2008	Morocco – Mozambique	3:1	Tripoli
<b>Final</b>			
31.03.2008	Libya – Egypt	4:3 AET (3:3)	Tripoli



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**CONCACAF** Guatemala (GUA) Cuba (CUB) USA (USA)

Guatemala, Cuba and the United States reached the FIFA Futsal World Cup Brazil 2008 after finishing first, second and third at the CONCACAF qualifying tournament in Guatemala City, Guatemala.

Date	Match	Result	City
<b>Group A</b>			
03.06.2008	Cuba – Mexico	2:2 (1:1)	Guatemala City
03.06.2008	Guatemala – Trinidad & Tobago	5:0 (2:0)	Guatemala City
04.06.2008	Trinidad & Tobago – Cuba	2:9 (1:3)	Guatemala City
04.06.2008	Guatemala – Mexico	3:3 (0:1)	Guatemala City
05.06.2008	Mexico – Trinidad & Tobago	7:3 (3:3)	Guatemala City
05.06.2008	Guatemala – Cuba	3:3 (0:0)	Guatemala City

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Cuba	3	1	2	0	14	7	7	5
2	Guatemala	3	1	2	0	11	6	5	5
3	Mexico	3	1	2	0	12	8	4	5
4	Trinidad & Tobago	3	0	0	3	5	21	-16	0

<b>Group B</b>			
03.06.2008	Costa Rica – Panama	6:6 (1:4)	Guatemala City
03.06.2008	USA – Haiti	5:3 (3:1)	Guatemala City
04.06.2008	Haiti – Costa Rica	0:13 (0:4)	Guatemala City
04.06.2008	Panama – USA	1:1 (0:0)	Guatemala City
05.06.2008	Panama – Haiti	4:0 (2:0)	Guatemala City
05.06.2008	USA – Costa Rica	6:2 (3:2)	Guatemala City

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	USA	3	2	1	0	12	6	6	7
2	Panama	3	1	2	0	11	7	4	5
3	Costa Rica	3	1	1	1	21	12	9	4
4	Haiti	3	0	0	3	3	22	-19	0

<b>Semi-final</b>			
07.06.2008	USA – Guatemala	0:4 (0:0)	Guatemala City
07.06.2008	Cuba – Panama	4:1 (1:0)	Guatemala City
<b>Match for third place</b>			
08.06.2008	USA – Panama	7:1 (2:0)	Guatemala City
<b>Final</b>			
08.06.2008	Guatemala – Cuba	3:3 (2:2) PSO 5:3	Guatemala City



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**CONMEBOL** Uruguay (URU) Argentina (ARG) Paraguay (PAR) Brazil (BRA)

Host Brazil qualified automatically. The Qualifier for South America were held from 23-28 June in Uruguay. Participating teams: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Date	Match	Result	City
<b>Group A</b>			
23.06.2008	Argentina – Colombia	2:1 (2:1)	Mercedes
24.06.2008	Colombia – Venezuela	5:4 (1:2)	Mercedes
25.06.2008	Argentina – Venezuela	3:0 (1:0)	Mercedes

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Argentina	2	2	0	0	5	1	4	6
2	Colombia	2	1	0	1	6	6	0	3
3	Venezuela	2	0	0	2	4	8	-4	0

<b>Group B</b>			
23.06.2008	Bolivia – Paraguay	0:6 (0:4)	Mercedes
24.06.2008	Peru – Bolivia	4:4	Canelones
25.06.2008	Paraguay – Peru	6:1 (3:0)	Canelones

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Paraguay	2	2	0	0	12	1	11	6
2	Peru	2	0	1	1	5	10	-5	1
3	Bolivia	2	0	1	1	4	10	-6	1

<b>Group C</b>			
23.06.2008	Uruguay – Chile	6:2 (3:1)	Mercedes
23.06.2008	Brazil – Ecuador	11:1 (5:0)	Mercedes
24.06.2008	Uruguay – Ecuador	4:2 (2:1)	Mercedes
24.06.2008	Brazil – Chile	16:0 (8:0)	Mercedes
25.06.2008	Uruguay – Brazil	1:8 (0:4)	Mercedes
25.06.2008	Chile – Ecuador	3:8	Mercedes

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Brazil	3	3	0	0	35	2	33	9
2	Uruguay	3	2	0	1	11	12	-1	6
3	Ecuador	3	1	0	2	11	18	-7	3
4	Chile	3	0	0	3	5	30	-25	0

<b>Match for ninth place</b>			
26.06.2008	Venezuela – Chile	3:0 (1:0)	Canelones

<b>Match for seventh place</b>			
26.06.2008	Bolivia – Peru	2:5 (0:1)	Canelones

<b>Match for fifth place</b>			
26.06.2008	Colombia – Ecuador	6:1 (3:1)	Canelones

<b>Semi-final</b>			
27.06.2008	Argentina – Brazil	2:5 (1:5)	Mercedes
27.06.2008	Paraguay – Uruguay	1:3 AET (1:1, 1:1)	Mercedes

<b>Match for third place</b>			
28.06.2008	Argentina – Paraguay	3:2 (1:0)	Mercedes

<b>Final</b>			
28.06.2008	Uruguay – Brazil	2:6 (1:3)	Mercedes



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#### OFC - Solomon Islands (SOL)

The Solomon Islands emerged victorious from a seven team tournament which included Fiji, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Tahiti, Tuvalu and Vanuatu which took place between 8 and 14 June at the Vodafone Arena in Suva, Fiji.

Date	Match	Result	City
08.06.2008	Solomon Islands – New Zealand	5:1	Suva
08.06.2008	Tuvalu – Vanuatu	0:6	Suva
08.06.2008	Fiji – New Caledonia	4:2	Suva
09.06.2008	New Zealand – Vanuatu	2:1	Suva
09.06.2008	Solomon Islands – New Caledonia	8:5	Suva
09.06.2008	Tuvalu – Tahiti	1:3	Suva
10.06.2008	Vanuatu – New Caledonia	11:1	Suva
10.06.2008	New Zealand – Tahiti	2:3	Suva
10.06.2008	Fiji – Solomon Islands	6:11	Suva
11.06.2008	New Caledonia – Tahiti	2:2	Suva
11.06.2008	Fiji – Vanuatu	2:5	Suva
11.06.2008	New Zealand – Tuvalu	13:1	Suva
12.06.2008	Fiji – Tahiti	2:9	Suva
12.06.2008	New Caledonia – Tuvalu	10:2	Suva
12.06.2008	Vanuatu – Solomon Islands	5:1	Suva
13.06.2008	Fiji – Tuvalu	13:2	Suva
13.06.2008	Tahiti – Solomon Islands	2:4	Suva
13.06.2008	New Caledonia – New Zealand	2:3	Suva
14.06.2008	Tuvalu – Solomon Islands	0:12	Suva
14.06.2008	Fiji – New Zealand	4:1	Suva
14.06.2008	Tahiti – Vanuatu	2:1	Suva

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Solomon Islands	6	5	0	1	41	19	22	15
2	Tahiti	6	4	1	1	21	12	9	13
3	Vanuatu	6	4	0	2	29	8	21	12
4	New Zealand	6	3	0	3	22	16	6	9
5	Fiji	6	3	0	3	31	30	1	9
6	New Caledonia	6	1	1	4	22	30	-8	4
7	Tuvalu	6	0	0	6	6	57	-51	0



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UEFA Portugal (POR) Russia (RUS) Spain (ESP) Ukraine (UKR) Italy (ITA) Czech Rep.(CZE)

Six teams from UEFA have qualified for Brazil 2008 following a preliminary competition in March and April of 2008.

Date	Match	Result	City
<b>Group 1</b>			
29.02.2008	Serbia – France	3:0 (0:0)	Belgrade
01.03.2008	France – Russia	0:3 (0:0)	Belgrade
02.03.2008	Serbia – Russia	2:3 (1:2)	Belgrade

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Russia	2	2	0	0	6	2	4	6
2	Serbia	2	1	0	1	5	3	2	3
3	France	2	0	0	2	0	6	-6	0

<b>Group 2</b>			
28.02.2008	Bosnia-Herzegovina – Lithuania	1:1 (1:0)	Visoko
28.02.2008	Netherlands – Estonia	13:0 (3:0)	Visoko
29.02.2008	Bosnia-Herzegovina – Estonia	12:1 (5:0)	Visoko
29.02.2008	Lithuania – Netherlands	3:3 (2:3)	Visoko
02.03.2008	Estonia – Lithuania	0:7 (0:3)	Visoko
02.03.2008	Bosnia-Herzegovina – Netherlands	5:2 (2:0)	Visoko

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Bosnia-Herzegovina	3	2	1	0	18	4	14	7
2	Lithuania	3	1	2	0	11	4	7	5
3	Netherlands	3	1	1	1	18	8	10	4
4	Estonia	3	0	0	3	1	32	-31	0

<b>Group 3</b>			
29.02.2008	Spain – Georgia	13:1 (7:0)	Caceres
01.03.2008	Georgia – Croatia	1:8 (1:2)	Caceres
02.03.2008	Spain – Croatia	3:1 (1:1)	Caceres

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Spain	2	2	0	0	16	2	14	6
2	Croatia	2	1	0	1	9	4	5	3
3	Georgia	2	0	0	2	2	21	-19	0

<b>Group 4</b>			
28.02.2008	Hungary – Macedonia FYR	3:0 (1:0)	Gyongyos
28.02.2008	Poland – England	10:2 (6:2)	Gyongyos
29.02.2008	Hungary – England	15:0 (6:0)	Gyongyos
29.02.2008	Macedonia FYR – Poland	2:6 (2:3)	Gyongyos
02.03.2008	England – Macedonia FYR	1:4 (0:2)	Gyongyos
02.03.2008	Hungary – Poland	6:2 (4:1)	Gyongyos

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Hungary	3	3	0	0	24	2	22	9
2	Poland	3	2	0	1	18	10	8	6
3	FYR Macedonia	3	1	0	2	6	10	-4	3
4	England	3	0	0	3	3	29	-26	0





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Group 5				
28.02.2008	Belgium – Montenegro		8:3 (4:2)	Buzau
28.02.2008	Romania – Belarus		3:3 (2:0)	Buzau
29.02.2008	Belarus – Belgium		4:1 (2:0)	Buzau
29.02.2008	Romania – Montenegro		3:1 (3:1)	Buzau
02.03.2008	Montenegro – Belarus		0:5 (0:1)	Buzau
02.03.2008	Romania – Belgium		4:3 (2:1)	Buzau

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Belarus	3	2	1	0	12	4	8	7
2	Romania	3	2	1	0	10	7	3	7
3	Belgium	3	1	0	2	12	11	1	3
4	Montenegro	3	0	0	3	4	16	-12	0

Group 6				
28.02.2008	Azerbaijan – Armenia		9:1 (2:1)	Chrudim
28.02.2008	Czech Republic – Finland		6:1 (1:1)	Chrudim
29.02.2008	Finland – Azerbaijan		2:4 (1:3)	Chrudim
29.02.2008	Czech Republic – Armenia		2:0 (2:0)	Chrudim
02.03.2008	Armenia – Finland		0:1 (0:1)	Chrudim
02.03.2008	Czech Republic – Azerbaijan		3:2 (1:0)	Chrudim

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Czech Republic	3	3	0	0	11	3	8	9
2	Azerbaijan	3	2	0	1	15	6	9	6
3	Finland	3	1	0	2	4	10	-6	3
4	Armenia	3	0	0	3	1	12	-11	0

Group 7				
28.02.2008	Slovenia – Albania		2:0 (1:0)	Corradino
28.02.2008	Malta – Greece		1:2 (0:1)	Corradino
29.02.2008	Malta – Albania		1:2 (0:2)	Corradino
29.02.2008	Greece – Slovenia		1:3 (1:2)	Corradino
02.03.2008	Albania – Greece		7:6 (2:2)	Corradino
02.03.2008	Malta – Slovenia		0:13 (0:5)	Corradino

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Slovenia	3	3	0	0	18	1	17	9
2	Albania	3	2	0	1	9	9	0	6
3	Greece	3	1	0	2	9	11	-2	3
4	Malta	3	0	0	3	2	17	-15	0

Group 8				
28.02.2008	Andorra – Kazakhstan		1:2 (0:1)	Pescara
28.02.2008	Italy – Cyprus		12:1 (7:1)	Pescara
29.02.2008	Cyprus – Andorra		6:5 (3:2)	Pescara
29.02.2008	Italy – Kazakhstan		7:0 (3:0)	Pescara
02.03.2008	Kazakhstan – Cyprus		8:3 (7:1)	Pescara
02.03.2008	Italy – Andorra		9:0 (5:0)	Pescara



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Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Italy	3	3	0	0	28	1	27	9
2	Kazakhstan	3	2	0	1	10	11	-1	6
3	Cyprus	3	1	0	2	10	25	-15	3
4	Andorra	3	0	0	3	6	17	-11	0

#### Group 9

28.02.2008	Turkey – Slovakia					2:4 (1:1)			Aydin
28.02.2008	Portugal – Latvia					4:0 (2:0)			Aydin
29.02.2008	Turkey – Latvia					3:2 (1:1)			Aydin
29.02.2008	Slovakia – Portugal					0:3 (0:1)			Aydin
02.03.2008	Latvia – Slovakia					0:4 (0:1)			Aydin
02.03.2008	Turkey – Portugal					2:3 (0:3)			Aydin

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Portugal	3	3	0	0	10	2	8	9
2	Slovakia	3	2	0	1	8	5	3	6
3	Turkey	3	1	0	2	7	9	-2	3
4	Latvia	3	0	0	3	2	11	-9	0

#### Group 10

28.02.2008	Bulgaria – Moldova					1:2 (0:0)			Varna
28.02.2008	Ukraine – Israel					4:1 (1:0)			Varna
29.02.2008	Bulgaria – Israel					0:2 (0:0)			Varna
29.02.2008	Moldova – Ukraine					0:4 (0:1)			Varna
02.03.2008	Israel – Moldova					2:0 (2:0)			Varna
02.03.2008	Bulgaria – Ukraine					2:6 (2:1)			Varna

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Points
1	Ukraine	3	3	0	0	14	3	11	9
2	Israel	3	2	0	1	5	4	1	6
3	Moldova	3	1	0	2	2	7	-5	3
4	Bulgaria	3	0	0	3	3	10	-7	0

#### Play-offs

30.03.2008	Belarus – Russia					1:5 (0:5)			Minsk
01.04.2008	Spain – Bosnia-Herzegovina					9:1 (4:0)			Toledo
01.04.2008	Ukraine – Hungary					3:1 (1:0)			Kharkov
02.04.2008	Czech Republic – Romania					1:1 (0:0)			Pardubice
02.04.2008	Slovenia – Portugal					1:6 (0:5)			Ljubliana
02.04.2008	Italy – Croatia					6:3 (2:2)			Pescara
12.04.2008	Bosnia-Herzegovina – Spain					0:4 (0:1)			Visoko
13.04.2008	Russia – Belarus					1:1 (0:0)			Shchelkovo
15.04.2008	Romania – Czech Republic					2:2 (1:2)			Tirgu-Mures
15.04.2008	Hungary – Ukraine					4:3 (2:1)			Gyongyos
15.04.2008	Portugal – Slovenia					3:0 (3:0)			Lisbon
16.04.2008	Croatia – Italy					0:3 (0:0)			Ploce



# FIFA Information Services

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### Statistical Kit



## Statistical Overview 1989-2004

### All-time ranking

Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts.	Avg. Pts.	Part.	1989	1992	1996	2000	2004
1	<b>Brazil</b>	40	33	4	3	258	68	103	2.58	5	1	1	1	2	3
2	<b>Spain</b>	35	28	2	5	161	71	86	2.46	5	9	3	2	1	1
3	<b>Italy</b>	23	13	2	8	82	58	41	1.78	4	7	11	5		2
4	<b>Argentina</b>	29	13	2	14	73	84	41	1.41	5	8	7	9	7	4
5	Netherlands	26	12	5	9	75	71	41	1.58	4	2	5	7	8	
6	<b>USA</b>	25	12	4	9	84	62	40	1.6	4	3	2	10		7
7	Belgium	20	10	2	8	56	51	32	1.6	3	4	6	8		
8	<b>Russia</b>	19	9	3	7	86	57	30	1.58	3		9	3	4	
9	<b>Portugal</b>	14	8	1	5	41	31	25	1.79	2				3	5
10	<b>Iran</b>	17	8	0	9	63	66	24	1.41	4		4	11	10	11
11	<b>Ukraine</b>	14	6	3	5	51	40	21	1.5	2			4		6
12	<b>Egypt</b>	12	5	0	7	56	58	15	1.25	3			12	6	9
13	<b>Paraguay</b>	12	4	2	6	36	43	14	1.17	3	6	13			10
14	<b>Uruguay</b>	9	4	1	4	24	25	13	1.44	2			6	9	
15	Croatia	6	3	0	3	18	15	9	1.5	1				5	
16	Hungary	6	2	2	2	23	17	8	1.33	1	5				
17	Australia	15	2	1	12	24	85	7	0.47	5	11	12	15	15	15
18	Poland	6	2	0	4	15	22	6	1	1		8			
19	<b>Czech Republic</b>	6	2	0	4	12	18	6	1	1					8
20	Denmark	3	1	1	1	12	10	4	1.33	1	10				
21	<b>Guatemala</b>	3	1	0	2	10	40	3	1	1				12	
22	Canada	3	1	0	2	7	7	3	1	1	12				
23	Hong Kong	3	1	0	2	7	7	3	1	1		10			
24	Costa Rica	6	1	0	5	17	41	3	0.5	2		16		11	
25	<b>Thailand</b>	6	1	0	5	7	30	3	0.5	2				13	12
26	<b>Japan</b>	6	0	1	5	8	22	1	0.17	2	13				13
27	Kazakhstan	3	0	0	3	8	24	0	0	1				14	
28	Nigeria	3	0	0	3	7	15	0	0	1		14			
29	Algeria	3	0	0	3	5	17	0	0	1	15				
30	Malaysia	3	0	0	3	4	24	0	0	1			14		
31	Saudi Arabia	3	0	0	3	4	27	0	0	1	16				
32	Zimbabwe	3	0	0	3	3	14	0	0	1	14				
33	Chinese Taipei	3	0	0	3	2	29	0	0	1					16
34	<b>China PR</b>	6	0	0	6	10	41	0	0	2		15	13		
35	<b>Cuba</b>	9	0	0	9	8	67	0	0	3			16	16	14

Newcomers: Libya (LBY) and Solomon Islands (SOL)



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## FIFA Futsal World Cup Brazil 2008

### Statistical Kit



#### Ranking by tournament

YEAR	COUNTRY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1989	Netherlands	BRANEDUSA	BEL	HUN	PAR	ITA	ARG	ESP	DEN	AUS	CAN	JPN	ZIM	ALG	KSA						
1992	Hong Kong	BRAUSA	ESP	IRN	NED	BEL	ARG	POL	RUS	HKG	ITA	AUS	PAR	NGA	CHN	CRC					
1996	Spain	BRA	ESP	RUS	UKR	ITA	URU	NED	BEL	ARG	USA	IRN	EGY	CHI	MAS	AUS	CUB				
2000	Guatemala	ESP	BRA	POR	RUS	CRO	EGY	ARG	NED	URU	IRN	CRC	GUAT	THA	KAZ	AUS	CUB				
2004	Chinese Taipei	ESP	ITA	BRA	ARG	POR	UKR	USA	CZE	EGY	PAR	IRN	THA	JPN	CUB	AUS	TPE				
2008	<i>Brazil</i>																				

#### Competition Records

Year	Host	Teams	Matches	Goals	Ø	Spectators	Ø	Year	Winners	Defending Champions' subsequent rank
1989	Netherlands	16	40	221	5.53	86'500	2,163	1989	Brazil	—
1992	Hong Kong	16	40	307	7.68	n/a	n/a	1992	Brazil	Brazil, 1
1996	Spain	16	40	290	7.25	116,400	2,910	1996	Brazil	Brazil, 1
2000	Guatemala	16	40	302	7.55	224,038	5,601	2000	Spain	Brazil, 2
2004	Chinese Taipei	16	40	237	5.93	50,923	1,273	2004	Spain	Spain, 1
2008	<i>Brazil</i>	20								
	TOTAL		200	1,357	6.79	477,861*	2,986*			

\* not including 1992



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#### Superlatives (2008 is not included)

##### Most participations (team):

- 5 Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Spain
- 4 Iran, Italy, Netherlands, USA

##### Most participations (player) :

- 4 MANOEL TOBIAS (BRA, 1992-2004)
- 4 FININHO (BRA, 1992-2004)
- 3 20 players

##### Most appearances (player):

- 31 MANOEL TOBIAS (BRA)
- 27 FININHO (BRA)
- 22 JULIO (ESP)
- 20 JAVI RODRIGUEZ (ESP)
- 18 Konstantin EREMenko (RUS)

##### Most goals per team:

- 258 Brazil
- 161 Spain
- 86 Russia
- 84 USA
- 82 Italy

##### Most goals (player):

- 43 MANOEL TOBIAS (BRA)
- 28 Konstantin EREMenko (RUS)
- 20 FININHO (BRA)
- 19 FALCAO (BRA)
- 16 Saied RAJABI SHIRAZI (IRN)

##### Most goals in a match (player):

7	Konstantin EREMenko (RUS)	19.11.1992	CHN – RUS	1:10
6	ALVARO (ESP)	07.02.1992	ESP – IRN	9:6
6	MANOEL TOBIAS (BRA)	23.11.2000	GUA – BRA	2:29
6	Konstantin EREMenko (RUS)	21.11.1992	ESP – RUS	7:7
5	Laszlo ZSADANYI (HUN)	08.01.1989	HUN – KSA	11:2
5	Gabriel VALARIN (ARG)	15.11.1992	ARG – NGA	6:2
5	Hashem HIDARI (IRN)	25.11.1996	IRN – CUB	7:1
5	MANOEL TOBIAS (BRA)	27.11.1996	CUB – BRA	0:18
5	FININHO (BRA)	23.11.2000	GUA – BRA	2:29

##### Most goals in one edition (player):

- 19 MANOEL TOBIAS (BRA, 2000)
- 16 Saied RAJABI SHIRAZI (IRN, 1992)
- 15 Konstantin EREMenko (RUS, 1992)



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- 14 MANOEL TOBIAS (BRA, 1996)
- 13 FALCAO (BRA, 2004)

#### Hat tricks:

- 5 MANOEL TOBIAS (BRA, 1-1996, 4-2000)
- 3 Konstantin EREMENKO (RUS, 2-1992, 1-1996)
- 3 FALCAO (BRA, 1-2000, 2-2004)
- 3 FININHO (BRA, 1-1992, 1-1996, 1-2000)
- 3 Saeid RAJABI SHIRAZI (IRN, 3-1992)

#### Scorers in different editions:

- 4 MANOEL TOBIAS (BRA, 1992-2004)
- 4 FININHO (BRA, 1992-2004)
- 3 Konstantin EREMENKO (RUS, 1992-2000)
- 3 Henny LETTNICK (NED, 1992-2000)
- 3 Andrea FAMA (ITA, 1989-1996)
- 3 Carlos SANCHEZ (ARG, 1996-2004)

#### Biggest wins:

- |      |           |            |
|------|-----------|------------|
| 2-29 | GUA – BRA | 23.11.2000 |
| 0-18 | CUB – BRA | 27.11.1996 |
| 15-1 | BRA – CRC | 19.11.1992 |
| 0-12 | TPE – EGY | 21.11.2004 |
| 12-1 | BRA – KAZ | 18.11.2000 |

#### Highest scores:

- |    |      |           |            |
|----|------|-----------|------------|
| 31 | 2-29 | GUA – BRA | 23.11.2000 |
| 18 | 0-18 | CUB – BRA | 27.11.1996 |
| 16 | 15-1 | BRA – CRC | 19.11.1992 |
| 16 | 10-6 | IRN – PAR | 20.11.1992 |
| 16 | 12-4 | BRA – EGY | 26.11.2000 |

#### Consecutive wins:

- 12 Spain (2000-2004)
- 10 Brazil (1996-2000)
- 8 Spain (1992-1996)
- 8 Brazil (1992-1996)
- 6 Brazil (2004)

#### Consecutive defeats:

- 9 Cuba (1996-present)
- 9 Australia (1996-present)
- 6 China PR (1992-present)
- 5 Thailand (2000-2004)
- 5 Japan (1989-2004)



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#### Consecutive draws:

- 3 Russia (1992-1996)
- 2 Ukraine (1996), USA (1992), Hungary (1989), Netherlands (1989), Paraguay (1989)

#### Consecutive matches without conceding a goal:

- 4 Spain (2004)
- 2 Portugal (2004), Argentina (2004), Spain (1996, 2000), Belgium (1989)

#### Consecutive matches without defeats:

- 25 Brazil (1989-2000)
- 12 Spain (2000-2004)
- 8 Brazil (2004), Spain (1992-1996)
- 7 Italy (2004), Belgium (1989)

#### Teams involved in penalty shoot-out:

- 2 Brazil (1 win-1 defeat)
- 1 Belgium (1 defeat), Spain (1 win)

#### Oldest player:

Camilo KINDELAN (CUB): 40y 06m (IRN – CUB; 23.11.2000)

#### Oldest scorer:

Camilo KINDELAN (CUB): 40y 06m (ARG – CUB; 22.11.2000)

#### Youngest player:

Safouk AL TEMYAT (KSA): 16y 00m (KSA – ESP; 06.01.1989)

#### Youngest scorer:

Safouk AL TEMYAT (KSA): 16y 00m (KSA – ESP; 06.01.1989)

#### Most matches as coach:

- 32 Javier LOZANO (ESP, 28.10.1960): (8-1992, ESP); (8-1996, ESP); (8-2000, ESP); (8-2004, ESP)
- 20 Ron GROENEWOUD (NED, 24.01.1937): (8-1989, NED); (6-1992, NED); (6-1996, NED)
- 19 John KOWALSKI (USA, 22.12.1951): (8-1989, USA); (8-1992, USA); (3-1996, USA)
- 17 Fernando LARRANAGA (ESP, 30.06.1944): (3-1996, ARG); (6-2000, ARG); (8-2004 ARG)

#### Most matches as referee:

- 10 Pedro GALAN (ESP, 20.01.1960): 1996-2004
- 9 Hernan SILVA ARCE (CHI, 11.05.1948): 1989-1992
- 7 Seyed MOOSAVI (IRN, 04.08.1960): 1996-2004

#### Matches with most red cards:

There was never more than one red card per match! (total 26 red cards)



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#### Matches with most yellow cards:

9	Egypt – Ukraine; 23.11.2004
7	Brazil – Argentina; 11.01.1989
7	Netherlands – Ukraine; 30.11.1996
7	Paraguay – Italy; 25.11.2004

#### Players participating in Futsal Final Competitions and FIFA World Cups

Jeff AGOOS (USA)	FutsalF 1992 (8 matches 2 goals)	FWC 2002 (3/0)
Lakhdar BELLOUMI (ALG)	FutsalF 1989 (3/1)	FWC 1982, 1986 (5/1)
Fernando CLAVIJO (USA)	FutsalF 1989 (7/1)	FWC 1994 (3/0)
Paul DOLAN (CAN)	FWC 1986 (1/0)	FutsalF 1989 (3/0)
Rolando FONSECA (CRC)	FutsalF 2000 (3/0)	FWC 2002 (2/0)
Brian LAUDRUP (DEN)	FutsalF 1989 (3/4)	FWC 1998 (5/2)
Bruce MURRAY (USA)	FutsalF 1989 (8/1)	FWC 1990 (3/1)
Qi Hong (CHN)	FutsalF 1996 (3/0)	FWC 2002 (1/0)
Tab RAMOS (USA)	FutsalF 1989 (8/3)	FWC 1990, 1994, 1998 (9/0)
Steve TRITTSCHUH (USA)	FutsalF 1989 (8/0)	FWC 1990 (1/0)
Peter VERMES (USA)	FutsalF 1989 (8/6)	FWC 1990 (3/0)
Michael WINDISCHMANN (USA)	FutsalF 1989, 1992 (13/2)	FWC 1990 (3/0)

#### Scorers at a FIFA Futsal World Cup and FIFA World Cup™

Lakhdar BELLOUMI (ALG)

FWC 1982	Germany FR – Algeria 1:2
FutsalF 1989	Denmark – Algeria 8:4

Brian LAUDRUP (DEN)

FutsalF 1989	Denmark – Paraguay 2:2 (1 goal); Denmark-Algeria 8:4 (3)
FWC 1998	Nigeria – Denmark 1:4 (1); Brazil-Denmark 3:2 (1)

Bruce MURRAY (USA)

FutsalF 1989	Zimbabwe – USA 1:5 (1 goal)
FWC 1990	Austria – USA 2:1 (1 goal)



