

# DPR holds first youth futsal league, crowns champions

By **Current News Staff Writer** - March 22, 2018



*The D.C. Department of Parks and Recreation and the University of the District of Columbia organized the first youth Futsal League this winter. (Photo courtesy of Marcus Hopkins/DPR)*

The D.C. Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and the University of the District of Columbia through the 4-H Youth Development Program organized the first youth Futsal League this winter.

The league is dedicated to the promotion and organization of youth soccer at both the recreational and competitive level. It is also devoted to the development of its players and coaches in order to allow them to reach their fullest potential and to instill sportsmanship and friendship while developing a community and leadership spirit among all of its members.

The league began play in December and ran through March. It featured young adults between the ages of 12 and 19 and consisted in three types of tournaments: U-19 boys, U-19 girls and U-15 boys. Approximately 18 teams composed of roughly 200 youths participated.

A tournament was held at the Columbia Heights Community Center March 10 to 14 and crowned the league's champions. The winners of each league were the Griffins from the U-19

girls (bottom), the D.C. Scores from the U-19 boys (below), and the D.C. Scores from the U-15 boys.

Futsal is a variant of soccer played on a hard court, and mainly indoors. It can be considered a version of a five-a-side soccer game. Unlike some other forms of indoor football, the game is played on a hard surface delimited by lines. Walls or boards are not used. The sport is also played with a smaller, harder ball.

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