



# GROWING UP IN PORTO

ASSOCIAÇÃO

DE FUTEBOL DO PORTO

2024-25 SEASON



PORTUGAL POPULATION

**10.7 MILLION**



FIFA RANK **6**



# SUMMARY

## OPTIMAL COMPETITIVE OPPORTUNITIES

FROM THE AGE OF 6 PLAYERS GAIN UPWARDS OF 30+ MATCHES A SEASON  
540+ AGE APPROPRIATE MATCHES GAMES BEFORE THEIR 20<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY  
10 MONTH LONG SEASON

## ENGAGING CRITICAL MASS

LARGEST PLAYER BASE IN PORTUGAL (23,800+ PLAYER REGISTERED)  
9% OF THE MALE POPULATION BETWEEN AGES 5-20 ENGAGED  
(TOTALLING 19,000+ PLAYERS)

## HIGH OPERATIONAL VOLUME

25,600 MATCHES ORGANISED IN 2024-25 ACROSS ALL FORMATS AND AGE GROUPS  
450+ CLUBS (AND THEIR YOUTH TEAMS)  
850+ REFEREES

# PORTUGAL'S LARGEST PLAYER BASE



POPULATION

**1.74 MILLION**

**18 MUNICIPAL COUNCILS**

# NUMBER OF PLAYERS ENGAGED IN ROUND THE YEAR COMPETITIONS FROM AGE 5 ONWARDS

≈ 19,600  
**PLAYERS**

PORTUGAL'S LARGEST PLAYER BASE

> 9%

OF PORTO'S  
MALE POPULATION  
BETWEEN THE  
AGE OF 5-20

# TOTAL NUMBER OF MATCHES ORGANISED ANNUALLY

+ MATCHES ORGANIZED FOR EACH AGE CATEGORY

# 25,600



**MATCHES  
ORGANIZED  
ACROSS  
AGE GROUPS**

SUB-6	SUB-7	SUB-8	SUB-9	SUB-10	SUB-10/11	SUB-11	SUB-12	SUB-13	SUB-15	SUB-17	SUB-19	OPEN
212 MATCHES	978 MATCHES	1355 MATCHES	2222 MATCHES	2004 MATCHES	1319 MATCHES	1858 MATCHES	633 MATCHES	3278 MATCHES	3254 MATCHES	4645 MATCHES	1860 MATCHES	2288 MATCHES



# LIST OF MAJOR LEAGUE COMPETITIONS

## FROM UNDER 6 TO OPEN TIERS

AGE BAND	AFP OUTDOOR COMPETITIONS	TEAMS	MAX. SQUAD SIZE	REGISTERED PLAYERS (UPPER-BOUND)
SENIORS (18 +)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DIVISÃO DE ELITE</li> <li>- PRÓ-NACIONAL</li> <li>- 1ª DIVISÃO</li> <li>- 2ª DIVISÃO</li> </ul>	146	25	≈ 3 650
U-19 (JUNIORES A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DISTRITAL 1ª DIVISÃO (2*16)</li> <li>- DISTRITAL 2ª DIVISÃO (6*14)</li> </ul>	100	23	≈ 2 300
U-17 (JUNIORES B)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DISTRITAL 1ª DIVISÃO (2*16)</li> <li>- DISTRITAL 2ª DIVISÃO (8*12)</li> </ul>	128	23	≈ 2 940
U-15 (JUNIORES C)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DISTRITAL 1ª DIVISÃO (2*16)</li> <li>- DISTRITAL 2ª DIVISÃO (10*12)</li> </ul>	152	20	≈ 3 040
U-13 (INFANTIS – 11-A-SIDE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DISTRITAL 1ª DIVISÃO (2*18)</li> <li>- DISTRITAL 2ª DIVISÃO (9*14)</li> </ul>	180	20	≈ 3 600
U-11 (INFANTIS – 7-A-SIDE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CAMPEONATO DISTRITAL SUB-11 (3*18)</li> </ul>	54	14	≈ 760
U-9 / U-8 / U-7 / U-6	- LIGA AFP “CARLOS ALBERTO” (≈ 330 FESTIVAL TEAMS ACROSS 4 AGES)	330	10	≈ 3 300
<p><b>NOT INCLUDED:</b> Futsal sides (another ~6 200 male players across 320 teams).            Beach-soccer (short summer championship).            Players holding an AFP card but competing in a <i>national</i> league (e.g., FC Porto U-19 in the Campeonato Nacional). Those registrations are recorded in the Central FPF database)</p>		<b>1090 TEAMS</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>≈ 19,600 PLAYERS</b>

Porto FA's competitive structure, the association currently has four divisions for senior men alone

# MATCH OPPORTUNITIES FOR A PLAYER GROWING UP IN PORTO FROM **UNDER 6** TO OPEN TIERS

**570** +

**AGE APPROPRIATE MATCHES**

**AGE**

**5 TO 20**

## NUMBER OF GAMES PER SEASON ACROSS AGE GROUPS

CATEGORY	PHASE 1	PHASE 2	OTHER	TOTAL
SUB 6	6	14	10	30 games
SUB 7	8	16	10	34 games
SUB 8	8	16	10	34 games
SUB 9	10	20	10	40 games
SUB 10	9	22	10	41 games
SUB 10/11	9	18	10	37 games
SUB 11	10	22	10	42 games
SUB 12	11	18	10	39 games
SUB 13	30	16	10	56 games
SUB 15	30	8	10	48 games
SUB 17	30	8	10	48 games
SUB 19	30	7	10	47 games
SUB 23	14	14	10	38 games
OPEN TIER	34		10	44 games

- PHASE 1 = GEOGRAPHIC GROUPING,
- PHASE 2 = PLAYING LEVEL/ABILITY BASED GROUPING
- OTHER = FESTIVALS, CUPS, PLAY-OFFS

# UNDER 6 TO 9: **LIGA CARLOS ALBERTO**

The Liga AF Porto “Carlos Alberto” is the entry-level festival-style competition run by the Porto Football Association.

It is aimed exclusively at the U-6 to U-9 age bands and is played in scaled 5 v 5 formats.

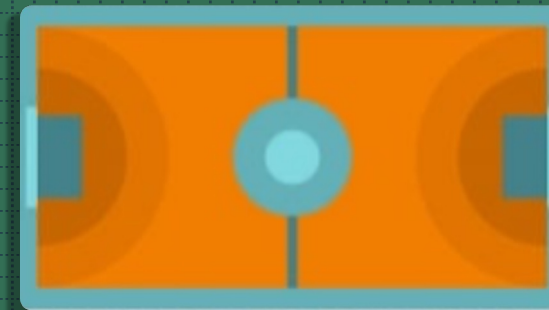
**UNDER 6,7,8 AND 9**

## LIGA CARLOS ALBERTO



AGE BAND	FOOTBALL DIVISION
SUB-9	JUNIORES F - TRAQUINAS A
SUB-8	JUNIORES F - TRAQUINAS B
SUB-7	JUNIORES G - PETIZES A
SUB-6	JUNIORES G - PETIZES B

## AF PORTO DISTRICT FUTSAL PATHWAY



AGE BAND	FUTSAL DIVISION
SUB-9	AF PORTO FUTSAL JUNIORES F
SUB-8	AF PORTO FUTSAL JUNIORES G
SUB-7	AF PORTO FUTSAL PETIZES A
SUB-6	AF PORTO FUTSAL PETIZES B

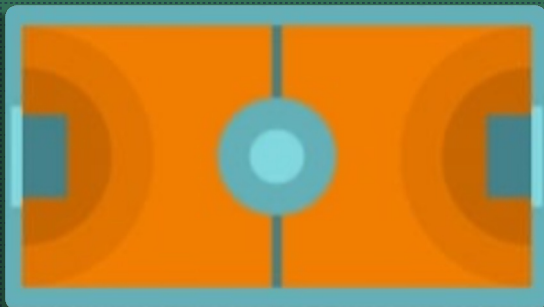
# MATCH VOLUME

## LIGA CARLOS ALBERTO + FUTSAL

### 50-65 GAMES PER SEASON



ALTERNATE WEEKEND



EVERY WEEKEND

Alternating outdoor football (every second Saturday) with indoor futsal (most Sundays) lets children play 55-65 organised games per season without fixture clashes.

FPF regulations permit a child to hold one football and one futsal card provided he or she does not play two official games on the same calendar day.

Additional small “Torneios Convívio” organised by neighbour clubs or municipal councils.

Christmas, Carnival and Easter long-weekend events are common.

## **SOURCE:**

### **AF PORTO 2024-25 SEASON**

<https://resultados.fpf.pt/Competition/GetCompetitionsByAssociation?associationId=232&seasonId=105>

## **REPORT:**

### **INDIAN FOOTBALL'S TALENT CLUSTERS (And How to Develop Them)**

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7380937978203799552/>