FISU WORLD UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONSHIP FUTSAL

WARSAW 2026

The Late Night Newsletter

Two medals for Brazil, Portugal and Poland

07.07.2026

The Brazilian and Portuguese national teams have already concluded their participation in the World Cup, but it was student-athletes from these two countries who dominated the FISU World University Championships Futsal. The Polish University Team won two bronze medals, achieving significant success.

In the women's tournament final, just like two years ago, Brazil prevailed, defeating Portugal. The high stakes of the final influenced the style of play of both teams from the outset. Both Brazil and Portugal focused primarily on good defensive organization, avoiding risky situations and leaving their opponents little room to create scoring opportunities. As a result, the gold medal match remained scoreless until halftime.

Brazil opened the scoring in the fourth minute of the second half, with Eveli Calou scoring. Brazil followed suit, extending their lead to 2:0 less than a minute later. This time, Hydren Vitoria Borges De Souza scored. However, the Portuguese refused to give up and continued to push for a goal, but they lacked effectiveness, and Sinara Vivian performed brilliantly in the Brazilian goal.

Matches of this caliber are unforgiving, and this time was no exception. After an individual error by their opponents and an own goal, Brazil was already 3:0 up. It became clear that they would once again claim the gold medal at the FISU World University Championship.

Brazil and Portugal also met in the men's tournament final. Their match in the group stage ended in a 1:1 draw. This time, everyone was expecting a thrilling match from the very first minute. The Canarinhos started the match brightly, taking the lead with counterattacks. Toninho first scored to make it 1:0, and a few minutes later, Wellington doubled the lead to 2:0. Aquiar Lourenco scored in the ninth minute to make it 1:2. However, the scoreline was short-lived, as Brazil regained the lead after an own goal. The teams went into the break tied at 3:1.

That wasn’t the end of the back-and-forth action and goals. At one point, the scoreboard read 7:5, but Wellington intercepted the ball in the middle of the court and passed it to Victor Hugo Gomes Oliveira, who scored from close range into the empty net, setting the score at 8:5.

- We played better than Portugal in the first half, but the second half was very tough. I'm really happy we managed to win. It's a unique feeling to become champions, because we have so many talented players in Brazil. We’re a group that was able to play here and show our best side. It’s something incredible - said Wellington.

The Polish University Team also achieved significant success, winning two bronze medals. First, the Polish women's team defeated Germany 2:0 in the indoor arena in Pruszków. The Polish team gradually took the initiative and built offensive plays. Midway through the first half, the home team scored a goal. Poland took the lead through Weronika Gorecka. The Polish team continued to dominate the pitch, but failed to extend their lead, and the score remained 1:0 at halftime.

In the second half, the tide of the match turned. The Germans attacked the Polish goal more boldly and pushed for a goal. However, they failed to find one, and in the 14th minute of the second half, the Polish team had another chance to score. Maja Fal increased the lead to 2:0.

- When we heard the final buzzer, I got chills. We had the match under control, went into it determined, and executed our plan. I'm glad the team bounced back from our semifinal defeat. We forgot about what had happened and focused on what was to come. We achieved something incredible and showed that we can play futsal - Zuzanna Maronde admitted after the match.

In the men's bronze medal match, the Polish and Czech national teams faced each other. The first half ended in a 0:0 draw, but the second half was inconclusive, and the game had to be decided by penalties. (5:4).

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BULDING THE FUTURE OF UNIVERSITY FUTSAL

For many student-athletes, competing at the FISU World University Championship is not only about winning, but it is an opportunity to represent their country, inspire the next generation, and help their sport grow. For the Costa Rican women's team, coming to this year's tournament was very significant because it is a preparation for FISU World University Championship Futsal 2028 that will happen at the home country.

Although futsal still lives in the shadow of football in Costa Rica, the sport has become more popular in recent years. According to Costa Rican player Karina Maria Cruz Delgado who studies materials engineering at Tecnologico de Costa Rica, interest has grown steadily, creating more opportunities for athletes to compete at a professional level.

Representing your country on the international stage is a moment of pride for every player. Reaching a tournament of this level requires dedication and sacrifices, making the experience even more meaningful and significant, no matter the end result. This championship is also a unique opportunity to create unforgettable memories, gain international experience, and build friendships with athletes from all over the world. Even after only four days of competition, this is something that we can see in Warsaw, on and off the court.

Like many university athletes around the world, the Costa Rican players balance sport and training with everyday responsibilities. While they compete professionally, their lives go beyond the futsal court. Karina mentions how even while playing in the professional level you still have to either study or work.

With the next FISU World University Championship set to take place in Costa Rica, Karina believes the event can become a turning point for the sport in her country. She hopes the championship will encourage more young women to discover futsal and show that sport and education can successfully go hand in hand.

"Hosting this competition will bring more visibility to futsal in Costa Rica. I hope it will motivate more girls to start playing and that it will show everyone that it is possible to study and play sports at the same time," she says

FISU WORLD UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONSHIP FUTSAL

WARSAW 2026

Results - Day 7

Men's 7th - 8th

3:3
4:5

Men's 9th - 10th

2:1

Men's 11th - 12th

0:3

Men's 13th - 14th

1:2

Men's 15th - 16th

2:4

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Women's final standings

BRAZIL	1st
PORTUGAL	2nd
POLAND	3rd
Germany	4th
France	5th
Chinese Taipei	6th
Lebanon	7th
Costa Rica	8th
Finland	9th
United States of America	10th

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Men's final standings
BRAZIL 1st
PORTUGAL 2nd
POLAND 3rd
Czechia 4th
France 5th
Lebanon 6th
Slovakia 7th
Saudi Arabia 8th
Finland 9th
New Zealand 10th
Georgia 11th
Costa Rica 12th
Cyprus 13th
Lithuania 14th
Israel 15th
United States of America 16th
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AWARDS

WOMEN:

MVP: #11 Brazil, Borges De Souza Hydren Vitoria

BEST GK: #12 Brazil, Vivian Sinara

TOP SCORER: #11 Portugal, Carvalho Margarida

FAIR PLAY AWARD: Finland

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AWARDS

MEN

MVP: #10 Portugal, Pedro Marques Faustino

BEST GK: #1 Brazil, Lamber Joao Vitor Koji

BEST SCORER: #6 France Alexis Dubois= 8 goals

FAIR PLAY: Lithuania

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heart of Poland

Warsaw

reklawiz

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miasta stołecznego
Warszawy

PATRON HONOROWY:

Marszałek
Województwa
Mazowieckiego

Marcin Kulasek
Minister Nauki
i Szkolnictwa Wyższego

Ministerstwo
Sportu i Turystyki

Wiceprezes Rady Ministrów
Minister Obrony Narodowej
Władysław Kosiniak-Kamysz

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