

## Inclement Weather

- It is expected that teams will play in all weather conditions unless they are considered dangerous. Weather cancellations are dependent on the weather during the game, not based on radar or potential bad weather since things can change quickly.
- The referee will make any necessary decisions on the field regarding dangerous weather conditions. If thunder and/or lightning are observed, the game will be suspended immediately, and the field will be cleared allowing people to seek safe shelter. The following steps apply:
  1. A 30-minute wait period will start. This wait period will be reset to 30 in the event any additional thunder or lightning are observed. Both teams and referee will wait this time before resuming the game.
  2. Once there is 30 minutes of clear weather, the referee shall make every reasonable effort to resume the game with full consideration of site conditions as they affect safety and playing conditions.
  3. If lightning and/or thunder is observed prior to the start of the game, the game will not begin until a 30-minute wait period of clear weather has been observed.
  4. If both teams and referee have waited 60 minutes for clear weather but are still in a wait period, the game can be abandoned if both coaches agree. A game can also be abandoned during a wait period if it will be too dark to resume the game when the period ends.
- If a game is abandoned by a referee due to weather conditions after the game has started, the following prevails:
  - If the game is at or beyond the halfway mark, the team leading at the time of stoppage of play will be declared the winner. If the game is tied, it stands.
  - If a game has not reached the halfway mark, it will need to be rescheduled and played in entirety.

## Heat

- Coaches and referees are expected to use common sense in the event of high heat and/or humidity. Player safety must be the prime consideration.
- In the interest of player safety, under weather conditions of high heat and/or humidity, the referee will allow cooling breaks. Consent of the coaches is not required. The referee will pick the appropriate time for the stoppage. The minimum duration of the break will be 4 minutes. The cooling break time will be added to the end of each half. Players may leave the field to get their water. Unlimited substitutions are allowed at this time.
- The coaches and referee may mutually agree to shorten the halves of the game.