



COMMUNITY LIFESTYLE

2024 Flag Football League Weather & Safety Policy

Community Lifestyle believes the safety of our children, coaches and parents is of the utmost importance. The following rain policy shall be observed by all coaches during 2024 season.

Games - general

- Once the game has started the officials will have the responsibility to remove the players from the field if the conditions become extreme.
- If ordered to do so, please find a safe shelter in an automobile or building until instructed to return to the playing field or told that the game has been cancelled.
- In most sports games are played rain or shine. Cancellations occur only due to severe weather, thunder/lightning or persistent rain.
- Please check Community Lifestyle's Facebook for game cancellations.
- Cancelled games will be made up on the Make-up weekend.

Policy for Games:

Games are not canceled due to rain. They are, however, delayed in the event there is torrential rain or thunder and lightning.

- **Torrential Rain**
 - In the event torrential rain is present, the game will be delayed for 30 minutes until the rain calms. If after 30 minutes the torrential rain has not calmed, then a decision will be made to delay the game for another 30 minutes, reschedule the game, or end the game with the existing score being the end result.
 - The decision to delay for an additional 30 minutes is made by referees and head coaches.
 - The decision to reschedule the game is made by the director.
 - The decision to end the game with the existing score being the end result is mutually decided upon by both head coaches and referees. That final score is then reported to the league and the standings are updated accordingly.
- **Thunder and Lightning**
 - In the event thunder and lightning is present, the referees will abide by national weather station.
 - When thunder is heard within 30 seconds of a visible lightning strike, or a cloud-to-ground lightning bolt is seen, the thunderstorm is close enough to strike your location with lightning. Suspend play for thirty minutes and take shelter immediately.



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- Once activities have been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes following the last sound of thunder or lightning flash prior to resuming any activity or returning outdoors.
- The 30-minute clock RESETS after every last sound of thunder or lightning flash.
- If after 30 minutes the thunder and lightning flashes are still within 30 seconds of each other, then a decision will be made to delay the game for another 30 minutes, reschedule the game, or end the game with the existing score being the end result.
- The decision to end the game with the existing score being the end result is mutually decided upon by both head coaches and referees. That final score is then reported to the league and the standings are updated accordingly.

Practices

Community Lifestyle generally assumes that, if possible, practices WILL be held. Coaches generally have the discretion to cancel practice as they see fit. However, please use these guidelines to assist you in determining if practice should be canceled. Coaches should establish a protocol for announcing the cancelations of practice and how parents will be notified. If practices are canceled, coaches should notify parents in the established method, and parents are expected to pick up their children immediately.

- Practices should generally be canceled in advance upon heavy rain or lightning at the start of practice, or if steady rain occurs up to one hour before the start of practice.
- Practice should generally be canceled in the event of strong winds, heavy rain, hail, lightning, hot weather above 104 degrees. Additional considerations may include wind direction and speed and the exposure of site (ie – outdoor practice would be canceled, but an indoor practice might continue).
- Outdoor practice should always be canceled or delayed if thunder or lightning is present. When thunder is heard, or a cloud-to-ground lightning bolt is seen, the thunderstorm is close enough to strike your location with lightning. Suspend play and take shelter immediately. Once play has been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard or flash of lightning is witnessed prior to resuming play.
- Provide ample amounts of water. This means water should always be available and athletes should take in as much water as they desire.
- If the heat index is above 95 degrees water breaks at least every 15 mins are mandatory, ice down towels for cooling should be available and all athletes should be watched/monitored carefully for overheating. A player should be removed from play if there is any concern that the player is overheating.