



IHRC – Inclement Weather & Field Conditions Policy

Weather Hotline

(513) 979-6204

The weather hotline will be updated should the status of any recreational facility/field change Monday-Friday with status of play; open/playable, questionable or closed. We will do our best to update the weather hotline over the weekend, but ask that you take into account the current weather and/or field conditions prior to making a decision to play.

When fields are questionable or closed, we will make every effort to also send out an email to sport chairs/coaches/teams that are scheduled for that day/time. On Fridays we will update the hotline and send out an email to sport chairs/coaches/teams for the weekend usually calling fields questionable (if inclement weather is likely in the forecast) and leave up to the users if safe to play.

Since most of our users are youth sports teams it is convenient for the coaches/users to call the hotline daily. We have three options for status of play:

- Fields open/playable
- Fields questionable - games allowed only if coaches & officials determine at game time it is safe and/or field surface is playable
- Fields closed

Since most fields are multiuse with natural turf and dirt ballfields, often times the ballfields will be closed but the natural turf is still questionable or playable.

Unplayable Field Guidelines

Fields will be considered unplayable in any of the following conditions exist:

- Standing water on the surface of the field/baseball diamond.
- Water sponging up around one's feet when walking on the grass on the field.
- Inclement Weather (Lightning and Thunderstorms)

If any of the above-mentioned conditions occur, the fields will be considered “unplayable” and the practice/game will be cancelled. If a group arrives at the field and these conditions exist or if these conditions develop during play, it is not permitted to play on the field.

Lightning/Thunder

Regardless of how far you estimate thunder or lightning to be from the field area, coaches, trainers and parents are to clear all team personnel from the field area and instruct everyone to go inside a sturdy building or car. Sturdy buildings are the safest place to be. Avoid sheds, picnic shelters, and bleachers. If no sturdy building is nearby, a hard-top vehicle with windows closed will offer some protection. The steel frame of the vehicle provides some protection if you are not touching metal. If inclement weather is in the area, we asked that parents stay close by if the training session or games cancel. There are no exceptions; the safety of our community is top priority.

Most leagues require referees/umpires to wait 30 minutes after hearing thunder, seeing lightning or after a lightning detector goes off before making a decision to resume play.