





# **Interruptions due to Weather**

Where tournament playing conditions are affected by weather, including but not restricted to rain, hail, storms, lightning, floods, fog, dust storms, fire and excessive heat, sleet, frost, ice and snow, any stoppages or cancellations of a match, matches, or the tournament, shall be at the sole discretion of the Tournament Director.

No protest or appeal shall apply to decisions made by the Tournament Director.

The Tournament Director shall seek advice from local Ground Staff and local Officials with knowledge of weather patterns, field drainage and drying out times etc., and may also consult the Technical Manager. The Tournament Director shall primarily exercise a Duty of Care to players, umpires and officials and shall also give due consideration to the care and preservation of playing fields.

Where there is lightning, the Tournament Director shall continually monitor the conditions and exercise necessary precautions. Local knowledge of storm patterns should be relied upon as well as Bureau of Meteorology warnings and observations if available.

In the case of excessive hot weather conducive to heat exhaustion, the Tournament Director shall take a responsible attitude to the safety of players and participants, and should venue specific details not be available shall consult the Bureau of Meteorology website and apply the following;

- (a) Where the ambient temperature is between 31 35 degrees Celsius, with humidity exceeding 50% consult with the team managers to instigate a drink break at each quarter of the match.
- (b) Where the ambient temperature is more than 36 degrees Celsius, with humidity exceeding 30% consult with the team managers to suggest that the game if not commenced be deemed a draw.

The Tournament Director may consider the following options:

- (a) Wait and see if conditions clear and the fields become playable, and resume play.
- (b) Where a tournament is so disrupted by weather, as described herein, that the tournament cannot continue in accordance with the published draw and schedule, the Tournament Director may;
  - (i) Adjust the match times for the balance of the tournament. It is recommended that matches not be shortened to less than twenty (20) minutes per half, but where prevailing conditions are such that this is not possible then matches may be shortened to a time and formulae that will allow the Championship to proceed to an outcome.

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# AND/OR

(ii) II. Adjust the Tournament Draw (where possible and convenient) to allow for earlier and later match playing times. No match shall be scheduled to commence earlier than 8.00 am and no match shall commence later than 9:00 pm.

#### AND/OR

- (iii) For divisions with pools where the positions in the pools have been determined, cancel the Crossover matches and Semi-finals and play Classification matches and the Final directly across the pools as follows:
  - 1st Pool A v 1st Pool B (Final Positions 1 & 2);
  - 2nd Pool A v 2nd Pool B (Positions 3 & 4);
  - 3rd Pool A v 3rd Pool B (Positions 5 & 6);
  - 4th Pool A v 4th Pool B (Positions 7 & 8) and so on.

Should it not be possible to play all these matches, the Tournament Director shall give priority to the finals. If these matches cannot be played in their entirety, then a result may be determined by a shoot-out provided that a playable half field is available for this purpose.

### AND/OR

(iv) For divisions without pools, cancel the Crossover matches and Semi-finals and the Classification matches and Finals and determine the tournament on the results of the Round Robin matches alone.

## AND/OR

- (v) Where the Crossover matches, and Semi-finals have already been completed, the Tournament Director shall make every effort to conduct the final.
- (vi) Matches cannot be played in their entirety, then a result may be determined by a shoot-out provided that a playable half field is available for this purpose.

# Resumption of Play and/or Rescheduling of Matches after Interruptions due to Weather

- (a) On resumption of play in interrupted matches, the score, interchange of players and penalty infringements, etc., shall be the same as those in place at the time of the stoppage.
- (b) In order to keep the program running closely to schedule, no match interrupted by a weather event (except in the case of a final) shall be resumed in the same time slot if the balance of playing time left in the match upon resumption exceeds fifteen (15) minutes after the normal end of playing time for that match.
- (c) Matches unable to commence within fifteen (15) minutes of their scheduled start time due to a weather event shall be abandoned.
- (d) Should it not be possible for all the matches not reached on a particular day to be rescheduled and played on a subsequent day in any division, then all such matches shall be declared a draw.

#### Results of Matches which cannot be resumed or rescheduled

- (a) Where a pool or round robin match interrupted in the first half is unable to be resumed or rescheduled under these rules, then the match will be declared a draw irrespective of the score at the time of the stoppage. Each team will receive one (1) match point and the score will be recorded as three (3) goals to each team. No protest or appeal shall apply to this rule.
- (b) Where a pool or round robin match is interrupted in the second half and is unable to be resumed or rescheduled, the match will be declared complete at the time of the stoppage. Scores, interchange of players, penalty infringements etc., shall be confirmed as those in place at the time of the stoppage, and match points awarded accordingly. No protest or appeal shall apply to this rule.
- (c) Crossover matches, and Semi-Finals stopped in the first half and unable to be resumed or rescheduled

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shall be declared a draw irrespective of the score at the time of the stoppage. The team placed highest in their respective pool or the team highest on the round robin ladder these s shall be declared the winner.

- (d) Crossover Matches and Semi-Finals stopped in the second half and unable to be resumed or rescheduled will be declared complete at the time of the stoppage and the team with the highest score shall be the winner. In the case of a draw at the stoppage the result will be determined by a shoot-out provided that a playable half field is available for this purpose. If a shoot-out is not possible, the team placed highest in their respective pool or the team highest on the round robin ladder shall be declared the winner.
- (e) Where a Final is unable to be resumed or rescheduled under this rule, and a match is stopped in the first half, the teams shall be declared joint winners irrespective of the score at the time of the stoppage.

# No protest or appeal shall apply to these rules.

