



## **Weather Policy**

The safety of players, coaches, management and spectators is the primary concern of PEMAA. This policy provides the direction to govern when match competitions and training sessions will proceed or not under specific weather conditions. By understanding and following the information below, the safety of everyone shall be greatly increased.

### **General**

#### **For Competitions in which a Referee is assigned**

Ultimately, the referee has the final say over starting, delaying or restarting a match due to weather and/or current field conditions. Such unsafe conditions may include, but not limited to, high winds greater than 60 km/hr, heavy rain, sight of lightning, significant water on the field and extreme cold/heat. It is up to the discretion of the Referee to determine if conditions are safe to play. Waiting to stop play or not waiting to start play may result in a serious injury or loss of life. Referees are expected to act responsibly when dealing with such events during matches they are controlling.

#### **For Competitions in which a Referee is not assigned**

For programming occurring when a referee is not assigned to a match, the Game Leaders (Coach) for each team will confer and collectively, have the final say over starting, delaying or restarting a match due to weather and/or current field conditions. Such unsafe conditions may include, but not limited to, high winds greater than 60 km/hr, heavy rain, sight of lightning, significant water on the field and extreme cold/heat. It is up to the discretion of each Coach (or designate) to determine if conditions are safe to play. Waiting to stop play or not waiting to start play may result in a serious injury or loss of life. Coaches and Team Officials are expected to act responsibly when dealing with such events during matches they are involved with. Coaches are encouraged to document and capture unsafe field conditions and/or weather events at the field during the match, and provide to PEMAA

### **Lightning/Changing Weather**

Seek shelter when the time difference between the sight of lightning and the sound of thunder is thirty (30) seconds or less. It is recommended that you wait thirty (30) minutes or more after hearing the last thunder before leaving the shelter. If you cannot see the lightning, just hearing the thunder is a good back up rule.

Weather Condition	Range	Action
<b>Extreme Heat</b>	32C or under	Proceed with games, add extra breaks and encourage additional hydration
(including Humidex)	Above 32C	Encourage additional hydration and Add 2min water break in the middle of each half
	Above 38C	Temperature 2hrs prior to game time will result in a Facebook post and email to coaches (time allowed) with notice of cancellation.
<b>Air Quality</b>	Should local authorities post an air quality advisory advising cautionary measures or cancellation 2 hours prior to game time. ***PEMMA Soccer committee members will confirm air quality via Environment Canada website and local conditions and or, consult Lambton Public Health	Depending on air quality levels, players will be encouraged to take it easy, add extra water breaks  High risk situations – PEMAA will consult Lambton Public Health and where necessary games will be cancelled for everyone's safety
	Should any pollution related emergency or the plant warning sirens go off	Instructions of the MyCNN will be followed. If any shelter in place or other precautionary measures are to be taken, games will be canceled for everyone's safety
<b>Rain</b>	Light-Moderate Rain	Games continue. ***Coaches can jointly decide to end the games, but a single coach withdrawing is considered forfeiting the match.
	Heavy Rain	Coaches and committee members in attendance must monitor closely for lightning. ***Coaches can jointly decide to end the games, but a single coach withdrawing is considered forfeiting the match.
	Hail	Should hail begin during a game or is present at the time of practice, momentary pause to shelter in vehicles should take place. If the hail persists into more than half the allotted time slot, the game will be called.

For questions or concerns, please contact us at [soccer@pointminor.ca](mailto:soccer@pointminor.ca)

*\*We kindly ask that parents and participants refrain from using social media as a medium for complaints or comments. Only emails or concerns in writing will receive a response.*