

Edmonton Sport and Social Club Full Weather Policy

Daily Weather Call

- The daily weather call is posted online immediately after a final decision has been reached. Updates are posted no later than:
 - **4:30 p.m.** – Weekday Leagues
 - **11:30 a.m.** – Weekend Leagues
- Please do not call the office regarding the weather call – if the website is not yet updated, a decision has not yet been made
- Due to the short season, and limited number of rain-out make-up weeks available, the ESSC will attempt to play games when possible
- Due to the nature of Alberta weather and outdoor sports, players should expect that some games may be played in less than ideal conditions (rain, lower temperatures, etc.)
- The ESSC will look to cancel games on days where the weather is extremely poor and/or player safety could be compromised
- The weather in Alberta can change quickly and can vary drastically in different areas of the City at any given time, **players are never forced to compromise their safety!**
 - Even if games are posted 'ON,' players should use their best judgement when at the field if the conditions have deteriorated

Factors of the Daily Weather Call

- During the Outdoor Season the ESSC monitors the weather hourly and makes a daily weather call based on a variety of factors:
 - Hourly forecast and temperature
 - Projected rainfall / precipitation
 - Radar maps and data
 - Environment Canada and other weather alerts
 - Field conditions as reported by the ESSC field staff



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Regular Season Rain-Out Scenarios

- Both teams are required to arrive at the field/court on time with the minimum number of players required to avoid a default
- If conditions are unplayable, including a stoppage due to thunder & lightning, teams are expected to wait **20 minutes** for the possibility of the weather to pass, before calling the game off

- **If both teams choose to cancel** their game, results will be recorded as follows:
 - If at least half the game was played at the time it was called, the score will stand
 - If less than half the game was played, the score will be submitted as a tie
 - If both teams would like to try to re-schedule, a 0-0 tie should be submitted, along with a [re-schedule form](#)
 - The ESSC will help facilitate a re-schedule, but the game must be played at least one week prior to playoffs
 - The ESSC reserves the right to issue refunds to teams in place of a re-schedule

- **If one team chooses not to play**, but the other team believes the conditions are appropriate for outdoor play, the result will be recorded as follows:
 - The team that does not want to play will receive a default loss in the standings
 - No default fee will be charged, and no default refund will be awarded to the team being defaulted against
 - Spirit Rating / Sportsmanship points will be awarded in full
 - The ESSC will not issue refunds to teams in place of a re-schedule

- **For outdoor sports that have an on-site Coordinator**
 - The Coordinator will have the final say on the conditions
 - If the Coordinator decides conditions are playable but if one or more teams choose not to play:
 - The team(s) that do not want to play will receive a default loss in the standings
 - No default fee will be charged, and no default refund will be awarded to the team(s) being defaulted against
 - Spirit Rating / Sportsmanship points will be awarded in full
 - The ESSC will not issue refunds to teams
 - If the Coordinator decides to cancel games where the weather is extremely poor and/or player safety could be compromised, please see the below *"If games are 'OFF' or fields are 'closed' during the regular season/playoffs"* guidelines



If games are 'OFF' or fields are 'closed' during the regular season:

○ **8-week Leagues:**

- **1st time** – the season will be extended by one week; the game will be re-scheduled
- **2nd time** – ESSC will evaluate the schedule and attempt to re-schedule by:
 - Running a double-header week (single-opponent sports)
 - Running multiple three-match weeks (double-opponent sports)
- **3rd time or more** – the game will not be re-scheduled and pro-rated refunds will be issued to impacted teams

○ **16-week Leagues:**

- **1st and 2nd time** – the season will be extended by one week for each cancellation; the game(s) will be re-scheduled
- **3rd time** – ESSC will evaluate the schedule and attempt to re-schedule by running a double-header week
- **4th time or more** – the game will not be re-scheduled and pro-rated refunds will be issued to impacted teams

○ **5-week Fall Leagues:**

- **1st time** – the season will be extended by one week; the game will be re-scheduled
- **2nd time** – ESSC will evaluate the schedule and attempt to re-schedule a game by:
 - Running a double-header week (single-opponent sports)
 - Running multiple three-match weeks (double-opponent sports)
- **3rd time** – the ESSC will evaluate the schedule and attempt to re-schedule by:
 - Running a double-header week (single-opponent sports)
 - Running multiple three-match weeks (double-opponent sports)

*** The City of Edmonton can close the outdoor fields for the year at any time during the Fall Season due to continuous inclement weather – in these cases, the ESSC will explore options to finish the season, and will issue pro-rated refunds to teams for any remaining games that cannot be played**



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Playoff Rain-Out Scenarios

If games are 'ON':

- See above policies under 'Regular Season Rain-out' Scenarios

If games are 'OFF' or fields are 'closed' during the playoffs

- **1st time** – the games will be re-scheduled to the following week and the season extended
- **2nd time (or more):**
 - ***If there have been no rain-outs during the regular season*** for that league, the playoffs will again be re-scheduled to the following week and the season extended
 - ***If there have been rain-out(s) during the regular season*** for that league the ESSC will evaluate the schedule and attempt to re-schedule by:
 - Working with the individual teams to find a date / time that works (priority will be given to teams competing in the championship)
 - Moving the games indoors (if possible)
 - ***The ESSC reserves the right to issue refunds to teams in place of a re-schedule***

Rain-Out Reschedules

- If games were called '**OFF**' by the ESSC, resulting in a re-schedule, the Club will update the online schedules as soon as possible – the re-scheduled games will frequently be added at the end of the regular-season, meaning the rest of the schedule usually remains untouched
- If games were called '**ON**' by the ESSC, but teams were unable to play the game
 - Enter a 0-0 tie along with comments when submitting the score online
 - Fill out the [re-schedule form](#) and the ESSC will facilitate the next steps



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Extreme Weather Conditions

○ Thunder and Lightning

- If you hear thunder (or see lightning), captains should make a decision to pause / delay the game and move off of the playfield to a safe location (vehicles)
- Players need to wait **20-minutes** to allow the thunder / lightning a chance to pass before calling the game off
- If conditions become playable again within 20-minutes, the game should be resumed and played within the original booking time
 - If at least half the game was played, the score will stand
 - If less than half the game was played, the score will be entered as a tie

○ Air Quality

- The Club will call games 'OFF' anytime that the [Air Quality Health Index](#) is at or above a rating of **10** at the time the weather call / update is due to be made
- At this level the Government of Canada encourages the general population to "reduce or re-schedule strenuous activities outdoors"
- The ESSC understands that some players are more at-risk than others due to poor air quality, and encourages any player in the at-risk population to find a sub or contact the ESSC for assistance on days where the index is at **7 or above**

○ One-off extreme weather conditions (e.g. flooding)

- Will be handled on a case by case basis
- The ESSC will monitor the situation, making the best decision possible and communicate with the teams in a timely manner

