
NCR Weather Policy

The following policy provides guidance in situations where severe weather causes full time (80-minutes) matches to be cancelled:

Match Played

In order for a match to be considered as “played” the matched would have been a minimum of 60 minutes.

Matches must contain at least 13 properly registered players on the field per team to constitute a match. In accordance with World Rugby Law 3, there must be 3 front-row eligible players at the start of the match required for contested scrums. If there are not 3 front-row eligible players, the match is considered a forfeit.

Incomplete Matches

When weather conditions cause a match to be cancelled, the following guidelines will be used:

1. Matches played for less than 40 minutes shall be considered as “not-played”. Any rescheduling of the match at another time/day shall begin at the 1st minute with a score of 0-0.
2. Matches played to a time between 40 to 60 minutes shall be suspended and re-started at the time it ended on another time/day.
3. Matches played to a time between 60 and 80 minutes that cannot be continued shall be considered complete and the score will stand.

Lightening Policy

Severe weather containing lightning strikes shall be handled as follows:

1. Lightening that is visible seen or when using weather tracking applications that show lightning is within 5 miles from the fields shall require the referee to cease the match and advise all participants (coaches, players and fans) to seek immediate shelter.

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2. The speed of sound through air is approximately 0.2 miles per second, so for every 5 seconds of time between the lightning flash and the associated thunder clap, the strike is 1 mile away. The approximate distance (in miles) can be calculated by counting the time (in seconds) between the two events and dividing it by 5.
 3. Shelter shall be:
 - a. Large substantial buildings (with permanent wiring and plumbing to provide safe pathways for current from strikes to go to ground);
 - b. Fully enclosed metal vehicles which are earthed (such as buses) to guide the current around the occupants.
 4. Play may resume 30 minutes after the last visible lightning strike and/or when the last strike is reported beyond the 5 mile radius of the field by the weather tracking app.