



MURFREESBORO SOCCER CLUB

Weather Policy

Inclement Weather

Our first priority in any weather-related decisions is our players' safety. Our goal is always to play through any weather conditions; however, if weather forecasts, field & driving conditions jeopardize our players' safety, we will cancel. The referees make the final decision on whether the conditions are safe or not for play during a game.

Inclement Weather Policy

Murfreesboro Soccer Club reserves the right to cancel training sessions or games when our players' safety is at risk. *Reasons for cancellation include:*

freezing temperatures (estimated to be below 32 degrees) severe weather warnings, tornado warnings, high wind warnings, high temperatures (estimated to be above 95 degrees based on the temperature and humidity), and unsafe field conditions.

Inclement Weather Communication

Our goal is to communicate cancellations as soon as a decision is made by the City of Murfreesboro, Parks and Recreation Dept., and we strive to update our website with that info by 3:00 pm during the week and 7:00 am on the weekend. We are aware that timely decision assist with carpool schedules and long commutes, so we will do our best to stick to this schedule.

We sometimes wait until these times to decide in hopes conditions will improve and allow us to play. And sometimes we do end up having to make a call during training sessions if the weather prediction changes for the worse so please be aware and understanding of these situations where we may have to make an on-the-spot decision for our players' safety.

Fields Status and Cancellation Policy

We rely primarily on updating the website during the day to communicate cancellations or any weather-related information. Fields are marked "closed" if weather conditions are not safe for players, and we cancel soccer-related activities. No one is allowed to play on a "closed" field.

All families are encouraged to check the website every day before heading out to any training session or game. This is your first stop to find out whether training sessions are "on" or "off" for the day. Find the Field Status on our website. We work very hard to ensure training sessions and games get played.

When to look for additional info, in addition to, checking the website

If we need to make a cancellation, change, or delay after 3 PM during the week or 7:00 AM on the weekend, we will not only update the online field status, but also inform your coaches and/or team managers so that they can send a communication to their teams. We strongly encourage everyone to check our website and anticipate a correspondence from their coach or team manager, because the weather changes quickly, and decisions are often made close to scheduled training or game times. In many cases, we are able to hold some training sessions or games even when other training sessions or games are cancelled. Atlanta's weather is such that, storms could cancel the early sessions but be fine for later sessions or vice-versa. In the event that weather allows us to open some fields at



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particular times, but close others, we will send out an email to the coach or team manager for them to communicate this to the teams affected families (i.e., all 5:30 - 6:30 pm training sessions are on as scheduled, but 6:30 pm and beyond training sessions are cancelled for the night). The club will do its utmost to relay the information to the appropriate teams in a timely manner. Please sign up for text message alerts as an option for "one field" only, as signing for all or multiple will result in getting more than 1 message every time fields are closed or opened.

Lightning Policy

If thunder/lightning strikes, even if it "sounds far away," all players, coaches, parents, and refs should evacuate the field immediately and stay off the field until 30 minutes has elapsed from the most recent thunder/lightning strike.

A safe structure at Murfreesboro Soccer Club is defined as the inside of a standing building, like bathrooms. Everyone who is not inside a building should be sent to their vehicle. A vehicle is considered safe if it is fully enclosed with a hard metal roof, rubber tires, and completely closed windows. Persons should not touch the sides of the vehicle! Convertibles or "soft-top" vehicles, and golf carts do not provide a high level of protection and cannot be considered safe from lightning.

Lightning Safety Rules

- Keep an eye on the sky. Look for darkening skies, flashes of lightning, or increasing wind, which may be signs of an approaching thunderstorm.
- Listen for the sound of thunder. If you can hear thunder, go to a safe shelter immediately.
- Postpone activities immediately. Quickly go inside a completely enclosed building, not a carport, open garage or covered patio. If no enclosed building is convenient, get inside a hard-topped vehicle.
- Be the lowest point. Lightning hits the tallest object. Crouch down if you are in an exposed area.
- Stay away from trees.
- Avoid leaning against vehicles.
- Avoid metal! Drop metal backpacks, stay away from clothes lines, fences, exposed sheds and electrically conductive elevated objects

What if someone is struck by lightning?

- Call for help. Call 9-1-1 or your local ambulance service.
- Give first aid. If the victim has stopped breathing, begin rescue breathing.
- Give CPR. If the heart has stopped beating, a trained person should give CPR.
- Check for burns. Being struck by lightning can cause burns, nervous system damage, broken bones, and loss of hearing or eyesight. People struck by lightning carry no electrical charge, you can examine them without risk of getting shocked.