



Regina Minor Football 2000 Inc.

Regina Minor Football Severe Weather and Air Quality Policy

Background

Severe weather (including, lightning, heavy rain, high winds, tornados and air quality) commonly occurs during the football season which may cause significant harm to players, fans, fields and/or equipment. Safety is the top concern for the RMF with respect to all participants and spectators involved in football. With that in mind the RMF will adopt the following policy to ensure consistency is applied to all situations of severe weather and that all participants are kept safe.

1. Games
 - a. If lightning is seen from the field, thunder is clearly heard, the Air Quality Index is 8 (see Table below) or higher, the head referee will pause the game.
 - b. The head referee will consult with RMF game day staff and board members (if present), and the group will monitor cloud movement and the Air Quality Index and check the Environment Canada radar report.
 - c. If the radar shows that the severe weather is not approaching the field, and if the severe weather clouds are not moving toward the field, or if the Air Quality Index is below 8, the game will be resumed, and the officials and RMF staff will continue to monitor the weather situation.
 - d. If the radar shows that severe weather is approaching the field, or the weather clouds are moving toward the field, or the Air Quality Index is 8 or higher, the game will be suspended.
 - i. Teams will be sent to the dressing rooms
 - ii. Fans will be instructed to vacate the stands and return to their vehicles or to the washroom building
 - iii. The head referee and RMF staff will continue to monitor the weather situation on the Internet and in the sky, and when the severe weather passes or air quality are no longer a threat, the teams will be called back out and the game will be resumed.
 1. If the game has been delayed more than 15 minutes, and if scheduling may be significantly affected, RMF staff may decide to alter the playing time remaining so that the game is completed as close to the scheduled time as possible.
 2. If the weather shows no sign of passing or the Air Quality Index continues to be High, the game will be stopped.
 - a. If the game was in the first half when play was suspended, RMF will attempt to reschedule the remaining time if possible.
 - b. If the game was in the second half when play was suspended, the game will be considered complete at that point and will not be rescheduled.



Regina Minor Football 2000 Inc.

2. Practice

- a. If lightning is seen from the field, thunder was clearly heard, the Air Quality Index is 8 or higher or other indications of severe weather is present, the coach will pause the practice.
- b. The coach and the designated first aid person and/or team manager will monitor cloud movement and Air Quality Index and check the Environment Canada radar report.
- c. If the radar shows that the severe weather is not approaching the practice field, and if the severe weather clouds are not moving toward the practice field, and the Air Quality Index falls below 8, the practice will be resumed and the coaches, first aid person/manager will continue to monitor the weather situation.
- d. If the radar shows that the severe weather is approaching the practice field, or the weather clouds are moving toward the practice field, or the Air Quality Index remains High the practice will be suspended.
 - i. All team members should take shelter in the field shack, in vehicles, or any other available shelter.
 - ii. If the weather clears, the coaches may resume practice, keeping in mind that if a significant amount of rain fell the field should not be used so that it does not get damaged.
 - iii. If the weather shows no sign of passing, or if the field has become saturated, the coaches, first aid people and manager should work together with parents to ensure that all players get home safely.

Background Information: Health Canada Air Quality Index

Use readings from: [Real-Time Air Quality Map](#) | [PurpleAir](#) Data Layer – Canadian AQHI

Health Risk	Air Quality Health Index	Health Messages	General Population
Low	1-3	Enjoy your usual outdoor activities.	Ideal air quality for outdoor activities.
Moderate	4-6	Consider reducing or rescheduling strenuous activities if you are experiencing symptoms.	No need to modify your usual outdoor activities unless you experience symptoms such as coughing and throat irritation.
High	7-10	Reduce or reschedule strenuous activities outdoors. Children and the elderly should also take it easy.	Consider reducing or rescheduling strenuous activities outdoors if you experience symptoms such as coughing or throat irritation.
Very High	Above 10	Avoid strenuous activities outdoors. Children and the elderly should also avoid outdoor physical exertion.	Reduce or reschedule strenuous activities outdoors, especially if you experience symptoms such as coughing or throat irritation.