

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
- 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, smoke, lower temperatures, etc.)
- Please do not call the office regarding the weather call – if the website is not yet updated, a decision has not yet been made
- The ESSC will look to cancel games on days where the weather is extremely poor or ESSC believes 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. 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



Regular Season Rain-Out Scenarios

- When games have been called 'ON', 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
 - Slo-Pitch and Kickball leagues: half of the game is defined as 4 complete innings; in the event of a rain-out cancellation, the score of the last completed inning 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 the playoffs.
 - The ESSC will try their best to facilitate a reschedule, but it is not always possible. If it is not possible, **no credits/refunds will be issued**
- **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 to the team choosing not to play, and no default refund will be awarded to the team that felt it was safe to continue play
 - Spirit Ratings will be awarded in full
 - The ESSC will not issue credits 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 that conditions are playable, but 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 to the team choosing not to play, and no default refund will be awarded to the team that felt it was safe to continue play
 - Spirit Ratings will be awarded in full
 - The ESSC will not issue credits 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:

○ **Spring and Summer Leagues:**

- The ESSC will always attempt to facilitate a reschedule using the following methods:
 - Extending the season by one week
 - Running a double-header week (single-opponent sports)
 - Running multiple three-match weeks (double opponent sports)
- The ESSC is often able to accommodate reschedules for 1-2 games per season that were called off due to poor weather.
- After the 2nd or 3rd cancellation, it can be impossible for a reschedule to occur based on a variety of factors (e.g. facility availability, daylight hours). **In these cases, refunds or credits will not be issued.**

○ **16-week Leagues:**

- The ESSC will always attempt to facilitate a reschedule using the same methods listed above.

○ **Fall Leagues:**

- The ESSC will attempt to facilitate a reschedule using the same methods listed above.
- During the Fall season, the ESSC will usually only be able to accommodate 1 reschedule for games that were called off due to poor weather
- If the ESSC is unable to reschedule missed games, **refunds or credits will not be issued.**
- Exception - 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 credits to teams for any remaining games that cannot be played

Rain-Out Reschedules

- If games were called '**OFF**' by the ESSC, resulting in a re-schedule, the Club will update the online schedules when applicable and update teams as soon as possible
 - Please do not contact the office regarding reschedules – if the website is not yet updated and team captains have not been contacted, a decision has not yet been made
- 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
 - The ESSC reserves the right to reschedule teams at its own discretion. Please note that rescheduling is not guaranteed and will be subject to facility availability, league



constraints, and whether ESSC determines the reschedule to be for valid reasons.

Extreme Weather Conditions

○ Thunder and Lightning

- If you hear thunder (or see lightning), captains should decide to pause / delay the game and move off of the playfield to a safe location (e.g. 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 calling the game 'OFF':
 - 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 '**ON**' anytime that the Air Quality Health Index is at a '**10**' or **lower** at the time of the weather call.
- If the Air Quality Health Index is above a '10' at the time of the weather call, games will be called 'OFF'
 - At this level the Government of Canada encourages the general population to "reduce or re-schedule strenuous activities outdoors."
 - **This cancellation threshold is not subject to change**
- 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 on days where the index is at 7 or above
- The ESSC encourages teams to discuss with their opponents if they would like to make modifications to the game format (e.g. more breaks with shortened playtime, subs, etc.)

○ High Temperatures

- The Club will **not** call the games 'off' due to heat waves and high temperatures.
- The ESSC encourages teams to discuss with their opponents if they would like to make modifications to the game format (e.g. more breaks with shortened playtime, more frequent substitutions, etc.)
- The ESSC understands that some players are more at-risk than others due to extreme heat, and encourages players to find a sub on days they may be uncomfortable playing

○ 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

