



## **Softball Napanee Inclement Weather Policy**

The intent of the Softball Napanee Inclement Weather Policy is to establish parameters in prioritizing player safety, ensuring effective communication while maintaining good relations with teams, umpires and maintenance crews.

### **1. General Safety Guidelines:**

The safety of all players, coaches, officials, and spectators is the top priority. Softball Napanee, in consultation with the Town of Greater Napanee and the umpire assignor, will monitor weather conditions and make decisions taking into consideration the player safety, forecast and conditions of the playing surface.

If severe weather has occurred, is imminent or ongoing, games and practices will be delayed, rescheduled, or canceled as necessary.

### **2. Lightning & Thunder Policy:**

The program follows the 30-30 Rule:

If thunder is heard, or lightning is seen, suspend play immediately. Play may not resume until 30 minutes after the last observed lightning strike or thunder sound.

Players and coaches must leave the playing field (including the benches) and must seek shelter in a safe location or inside a fully enclosed vehicle.

Metal equipment (bats, fences, bleachers) should be avoided.

### **3. Rain Policy**

#### **Light rain**

Games/practices may continue unless field conditions become unsafe.

#### **Heavy rain**

If the field becomes unplayable (standing water, mud, poor visibility), the game/practice will be postponed or canceled.

The decision to cancel or continue play is at the discretion of the Town of Greater Napanee Recreation staff and Softball Napanee umpires. The decision on playability will be communicated with coaches and umpires.

Once a game is canceled due to weather or forecast, there shall be no contact with the Town of Greater Napanee or Softball Napanee to discuss whether changes will allow play. Softball Napanee and the Town of Greater Napanee will endeavour to make the decision as late as possible to ensure accuracy of their decision.

#### **4. Extreme Heat Policy**

If the heat index exceeds 35°C, Team officials are encouraged to consider rescheduling the game. If teams do agree to play, the following shall be considered:

- Mandatory water consumption every 15-20 minutes.
- Coaches are to encourage players to hydrate before, during, and after activity.
- Coaches require at least two substitutes (11 players) to ensure a break from the exposure.

#### **5. Communication & Notifications**

Cancellation or delay updates will be communicated via email or text to the coach of the team.

Cancellation by the Team is to be communicated with opposing teams, Softball Napanee, players/coaches through TeamSnap and text/call or email to the umpires at least 1 hour before game time.

Cancellations inside 1 hour will incur costs of cancellation.

#### **6. Make-Up Games:**

If a game is postponed due to weather, it will be rescheduled based on field availability. It is the responsibility of the home team to attempt to reschedule the game with the opposing team's coach/manager.

If a game is canceled after 4 full innings have been played (or 3.5 innings with the home team ahead), it will be considered a completed game.

## 7. Contact List for Cancellations

Contact Name	Organization	Phone	Email
Alison Nicholson	Town of Greater Napanee	613-856-2254	<a href="mailto:anicholson@greaternapanee.com">anicholson@greaternapanee.com</a>
Karen Mills	Softball Napanee	613-530-0550	<a href="mailto:millsy@live.ca">millsy@live.ca</a>
Dave Herrington	Umpires Assignor	613-449-7229	<a href="mailto:dave_herrington@hotmail.com">dave_herrington@hotmail.com</a>

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