



Edmonton Ultimate Players Association

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Weather Policy

Latest revision: 2023/05/26

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Purpose:

EUPA wants all of its members to play the appropriate number of games in their season; however, keeping in mind our members' safety and the City's Rainout Policy, the fields are subject to closure and games are subject to cancellation. This document outlines the various scenarios where an event may be impacted by the weather.

Scope:

The EUPA Weather Policy applies to all EUPA events held outdoors. For the purposes of this document, the term "Captain" refers to the following:

1. Team Captains in team leagues.
2. EUPA Ambassadors in hat leagues.
3. EUPA Youth Coaches in youth programming.

Application:

Prior to the start of the event - cancellation:

If EUPA is cancelling an adult program or event, the organization will reach out to captains or participants **2 hours prior** to the start of the event.

If EUPA is cancelling a youth program or event, the organization will reach out to the guardians of participants **2 hours prior** to the start of the event **or at 4pm**, whichever is earlier.

The following conditions will result in EUPA cancelling events:

- 1. Field closure**
 - a. Games are cancelled if the venue closes the fields (City of Edmonton or other).

2. Air quality

- a. Games are cancelled if the Air Quality Health Index (AQHI+) as measured by the station in closest proximity to the venue is 7+ (PM 2.5 greater than 59.9 µg m-3) 2 hours prior to the start of the event.¹

3. Natural disasters and other unforeseen circumstances

- a. Other inclement weather events and major catastrophic circumstances.

At the venue - cancellation:

If EUPA has not cancelled the event, games proceed as scheduled. However, circumstances at the field may be unsafe for play.

1. Grass field damage

- a. The city asks all users to be cognizant of conditions that may damage the field. If any of the following conditions are present, games must not proceed.
 - i. The field is saturated (i.e. visible puddles, squishes when you walk, large muddy areas).
 - ii. It's raining and the field becomes saturated during play.
 - iii. The field has frost or is frozen

2. Other safety issues that may lead to cancellation at the field

- a. Dangerous, immovable objects on the playing area
- b. Criminal activity
- c. Dangerous wildlife
- d. Tornadoes

At the venue - suspending the game:

If EUPA has not cancelled the event and teams are ready to play or have already begun the game, the following scenarios will lead to a suspension of play which can be initiated by either captain. Unless otherwise outlined, play will be **paused for 15 minutes before resuming**. EUPA recommends that everyone go to their vehicles or nearby shelter. After the first pause, if **both captains agree**, the game may be paused for an additional 15 minutes or cancelled. If captains cannot agree and one team leaves the field, the team that leaves will receive a forfeit, but may appeal the result. The game is automatically cancelled after 3 consecutive 15 minute pauses.

1. Temporary weather conditions

- a. Poor air quality
 - i. Air Quality Health Index (AQHI+) as measured by the station in closest proximity to the venue is 7+ (PM 2.5 greater than 59.9 µg m-3).²

¹ Follow this link <https://airquality.alberta.ca/map/>, then click "Stations" for the reading closest to the field.

² Follow this link <https://airquality.alberta.ca/map/>, then click "Stations" for the reading closest to the field.

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- b. Hail
 - c. Lightning (an automatic **30 minute pause** applies)
 - i. The 30/30 rule: If thunder occurs within 30 seconds of lightning at your location, players must seek shelter in a safe location and remain there for 30 minutes after the most recent occurrence.

What to do if your game is cancelled by captains at the field:

Captains must notify EUPA Staff after any cancellations. Games that are cancelled will not push back the league's schedule. By default, a score of 0-0 will be submitted for games that are cancelled for any reason. If a game has started and 5 points have been played prior to a captain's cancellation, captains submit their scores for the game. If fewer than 5 points have been played, captains may choose to use a score of 0-0 by default, or submit their score if **both** captains agree.

Captains may, at their discretion, reschedule games on their own time and submit their scores to the League. EUPA will assist in finding fields if needed for rescheduled games. Captains can contact EUPA Staff for more information in this situation.

Appeals process

If a team receives a forfeit for unilaterally cancelling a game, they can fill out [this form](#) to appeal to the EUPA Executive Director to request to have the result changed.

Captains' Clause

Note that **one team cannot unilaterally cancel** a game due to the weather. If the fields are open, both teams are expected to play. If one team does not show up, they are in default. However, if **both captains communicate in advance**, they can jointly agree to cancel or postpone a game. EUPA **requires** that captains hold off the decision to cancel until **2 hours before the event** is scheduled to begin, to allow EUPA to provide official cancellation notice if deemed appropriate and for teams to accurately evaluate the conditions close to game time. Note, if teams decide to cancel, they are encouraged to engage in alternative social activities.