

South Central Soccer Club Tournament

Security

Severe Weather Rules/ Procedures and Resumption of Game Play

NO LIGHTNING SAFETY GUIDELINES WILL GIVE YOU 100% GAUARNTED TOTAL SAFETY, BUT THESE STEPS WILL HELP YOU AVOID INJURY.

Severe Weather Rules/ Procedures

General:

- In the event of severe weather it will be at eh discretion of the referee on the field in cooperation with the on-site tournament executive committee to halt play. Should there be a stoppage of play the SCSA Tournament Executive Committee will determine if the game shall be replayed, deemed complete, or continued.
- In the event of severe weather, SCSA will issue a warning via horn/ siren over loudspeaker, and by displaying the red flag on the flag pole. Additionally all field marshals will be notified to clear fields.
- If there is a possibility of severe weather, the referee and assistant referees should discuss these guidelines in their pre-game meeting and insure that all officials have a clear understanding of their respective duties. Referees should clearly identify what assistance they expect in detecting and bringing to their immediate attention any dangerous weather conditions that may not be directly visible to them. A brief word to the coaches regarding steps the referee will take to ensure player safety in threatening weather conditions would be useful.

Lightning:

- When you see lightning, please notify the field marshal.
- If lightning is spotted and confirmed, play will be halted. A member of the SCSA tournament staff will sound the alert to clear the fields and suspend play.
- Play will be suspended for 15 minutes following each lightning strike. If lightning is not spotted after 15 minutes, the all clear will be given when it is safe to return to the field of play. Upon return to the field of play, referees will determine playing conditions of fields.
- Avoid the most dangerous locations:
 - Wide-open areas, including fields.
 - Tall isolated objects, such as trees, poles, of light post.
 - Unprotected open building
 - Metal fences and metal bleachers.
- If you cannot avoid these locations, crouch down on the balls of your feet, with your head tucked into your chest and hands over your ears.
- If someone is hit by lightning, when safe to assist a person, locate someone with medical expertise in handling persons who are victims of cardiac arrest.

Severe storms or tornadoes:

- Obey local rules and heed warnings. Clear the field and seek proper shelter immediately – see above.

Hail:

- Stop the game, clear the field, and see proper shelter – see above.
- If no lightning is spotted the game may resume as soon as the referee feels it is safe to continue

Rules:

- Team will be allowed back on the fields after all clear signal is given. This will be by means of a horn, loudspeaker announcement, and removal of red flag.
- Unfinished games due to any cause may be continued in their entirety if either team is at neither fault nor play as begun in the second half if time permits.
- If play is stopped during the second half and play cannot be resumed within 15 minutes and if neither team is at fault, the Tournament Committee may deem the game complete
- However if play is stopped at any time due to one of the teams being at fault, it shall be at the discretion of the tournament executive committee whether the game is to be replayed or declared a forfeit

What this means: if games are stopped because of severe rain or lightning:

- Games stopped in the 1st half may be resumed and played to completion if time permits.
- Games stopped in the 2nd half may be considered complete and do not need to be finished. If the game is at halftime and in a tie, will be considered to have ended in a tie. If the game cannot be finished due to weather and the game is the championship game, a winner will be determined by a flip of the coin. The home team shall call the coin toss.

Other Factors affecting decisions by the SCSA Tournament Executive Committee related to games stopped prior to completion

- How much time remains to complete the game(s)
- The effect on the remainder of the game schedule
- Availability of referees
- Field conditions
- Ability to change the remaining games to be played to complete preliminary round play at the site on the weekend.
- Games times may be adjusted to accommodate schedule. This is at the sole discretion of the SCSA Tournament Executive Committee

SECURITY

If anything should happen on the field i.e. Coaches yelling at referees, parents yelling at referees and or players, parents yelling at each other. Someone is smoking, using a grill, dog on the field; please notify the closest field marshal.

Field marshal will notify the sheriff – on site of which field and the officers on duty will come out and take care of the situation.

At no time are you to ever put yourself in an uncomfortable situation, the Sherriff – on site are there for these reasons.