

Lightning and Rain Policy of the Carrollton Booster Club

One thing is certain, both lightning and rain will cause delays and cancellations of baseball and softball games as well as soccer matches. Rain is an inconvenience, lightning is a danger. Accordingly the following policies are established to protect the safety of players, fans and officials.

In the event of lightning, a determination will be made by the Director of Facilities, or his designee, concerning the suspension of games. If it is determined that lightning in the area warrants a suspension of games a public announcement will be made over the loudspeaker system suspending all games at the playground. When games are suspended for lightning all persons should immediately seek shelter in cars or other suitable structures. Coaches, Commissioners, coordinators and parents should cooperate completely when a lightning decision is made, by the Director of Facilities or a game official. Second guessing this decision is not allowed.

A determination to resume play or to cancel games will also be made by the Director of Facilities, or his designee. Coaches, coordinators, parents and players must abide by the decision of the Director of Facilities, or his designee. A game official also has the authority to suspend play in any situation where lightning or other safety concerns exist. A game official does not have the authority to insist play continue if the Director of Facilities or his designee has determined a game should be suspended for lightning.

In the event of rain without lightning, an initial determination will be made by the director of facilities, or his designee, as to whether the entire day of games will be cancelled or not. This information should be communicated to coordinators by e-mail and posted on the web site no later than one hour before game time. (4:30 for baseball/softball, 7:00 a.m. for soccer or week-end baseball/softball. Parents should expect all games will be played unless they receive notice of cancellation. Parents and coaches should also check the web site facilities page for field status. A closed field means games are cancelled, as well as no practices allowed. A posted red flag means all fields are closed. Coaches and coordinators who ignore a closed field status may lose practice privileges.

On many occasions rain occurs later than 4:30. In that event, the Director of Facilities, or his designee, in consultation with the Commissioner of the sport involved, or the Commissioner's designee, and the coordinator of the league will make a determination (on a field by field or league by league basis), as to whether the games will be delayed or cancelled. The coordinator will inform the coaches of the decision as to whether play will resume as soon as practicable. In the event some, but not all games on a field are cancelled, the earlier game will be cancelled and a subsequent, and often later decision will be made on the later game(s).

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