



FREDERICTON DISTRICT SOCCER ASSOCIATION

POLICY 015

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Subject: Inclement Weather
Effective: May 20, 2004

Revised:

1.0 PURPOSE

To ensure safety procedures are in place in the event of inclement weather.

2.0 APPLICATION

This policy applies to all FDSA coaches and officials, and to all FDSA-organized outdoor games and events, except for Fredericton-based NBSL games which are governed by SoccerNB rules.

3.0 DEFINITIONS

N/a

4.0 LEGAL AUTHORITY

Section 11 (g) of the FDSA Constitution.

5.0 GOALS / PRINCIPLES

- The safety of members, visitors and officials is of prime concern to the FDSA.
- In the event of inclement weather, parents have the right to remove their child from the field, even when a game has not been abandoned.

6.0 REQUIREMENTS / STANDARDS

- 6.1 FDSA coaches and officials must be aware of the weather forecast prior to a game, and should understand that these forecasts change as conditions change. They should also be aware that non-severe thunderstorms do produce lightning.
- 6.2 The decision to abandon play shall be made by the game officials, except that where no official is present (e.g. in mini games or at practices), this decision shall be made by the coach(es).
- 6.3 Notwithstanding section 6.2 above, if thunder is heard, or lightning is seen, play in that game shall be abandoned and all participants shall be directed to seek appropriate shelter, such as: a vehicle (windows rolled up); a building; or low ground.
- 6.4 Immediate medical help must be sought if any individual is struck by lightning.

7.0 GUIDELINES / RECOMMENDATIONS

- FDSA members participating in non-FDSA organized events (such as regional leagues) should also be aware of the safety standards and procedures contained in this policy.
- Hot weather will not normally be cause to abandon a game, but it may happen in extreme situations.
- In the event of hot weather, appropriate safety precautions should be taken such as ensuring children have sufficient water, shortening games or practices, taking extra breaks, use of wet sponges etc.

8.0 REFERENCES

Environment Canada Website: http://www.weather.ec.gc.ca/forecast/city_e.html?yfc
SoccerNB Rules & Regulations: <http://www.soccernb.org/>
Fredericton City Recreation Department Hotline: (506) 450 1881 (for pre-game field closure information)

9.0 CONTACTS FOR MORE INFORMATION

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PRESIDENT