



Wet Weather Policy For Competition Matches.

This policy is intended to apply in situations where sportsgrounds are affected by wet weather, and the decision to play on grounds adversely affected will cause damage to the playing surface. For the purpose of this policy, damage is defined as impact on the field that is beyond normal wear and tear.

However, the contents of the NSFA wet weather message regarding field closures should be referred to in the first instance before the application of this policy is considered.

This policy allows for the implementation of a standardised process for all NSFA and KDFRA members assessing the suitability of grounds for play when impacted by rain. All users and stakeholders should assist to manage the impacts for others, address risk management and ensure safety for all users current and future.

The following points are intended as a guide only, as conditions vary from location to location due to variations in weather conditions, drainage or usage levels etc. Damage is likely to be caused to the playing surface of sportsgrounds if they exhibit any of the following characteristics:

- Surface water present
- Water rises to the surface when walking across the surface (indicates soil is at saturation point)
- Surface is slippery to walk on, or grass dislodged easily
- Heavy and/or consistent rains occurs immediately prior to or during training or play

All sportsgrounds will be inspected on Monday mornings by Council staff. A report detailing the condition of the fields will be submitted to the Manager Sport & Recreation immediately if there is any damage to the playing surface.

The outcome of adverse reports may result in Clubs/Associations being held financially responsible for any damage caused to sportsgrounds due to play during or after wet weather conditions. The cost of damage will be determined based on professional advice from Council Officers, and will incorporate two key components: the initial cost to repair the damage to enable use of the playing field to resume, and the long term cost of repairing the damage at the end of the season, to enable the following scheduled season use to occur.