



Bloomington United Field Closure Policy

Date Approved: 5/22/24

At Bloomington United, the safety and well-being of our players, coaches, and families are our top priorities. Therefore, in the event of adverse weather conditions, field closures may be necessary to ensure everyone's safety. This policy outlines the criteria for field closures and the communication process to inform all members promptly. This policy pertains to all developmental and competitive programming, including practices and games, hosted at Bloomington United Fields.

Criteria for Field Closure:

- Field closures may occur due to inclement weather conditions such as heavy rain, lightning, thunderstorms, extreme heat, or any other situation deemed unsafe for play. Closures may also happen due to unfavorable field conditions after a weather event.
[Weather FAQ](#)
- Decisions regarding field closures will be based on the recommendations and notifications provided by the City authorities responsible for managing the fields.

Communication Process:

- The City will notify Bloomington United of field closures by 3:00 pm in the event of adverse weather conditions and/or unfavorable field conditions.
- Upon receiving notification from the City, Bloomington United will promptly communicate field closures club-wide and cancel games and/or practices for that day.
- Coaches and Team Managers are responsible for monitoring PlayMetrics messages from the Club regarding weather updates or changes to ensure their teams are aware of the field closures.
- In case of uncertainty about field conditions, Coaches and Team Managers can reach out to the Director of Coaching and/or the Executive Director, to confirm field closures.
- Parents are encouraged to reach out to their Team Manager for the current status of practices and games.

By adhering to this Field Closure Policy, Bloomington United aims to prioritize the safety and well-being of all participants while ensuring clear and effective communication during adverse weather conditions.

Weather FAQ

Rain

- Club will monitor radar and cancel training/games ahead of time if highly probable (90% or above) torrential rain will occur during events.

- Games and Training should continue in light rain.
- Coach discretion whether to train in moderate rain. (**Coaches are expected to monitor radars, and not preemptively cancel training for low probability of inclement weather.**)
- Coaches should take into consideration the temperature of training when making decisions.
- Coaches should cancel training if torrential rain occurs during their session.

Thunderstorms

- Club will monitor radar and cancel training ahead of time if highly probable (90% or above) thunderstorms will occur during events.
- If visible lightning during your training session, either cancel, or wait 30 minutes between strikes before resuming play.
- Most Games will be played and called/canceled on field by the referee in the event of storms.
- Home games may be canceled ahead of time at discretion of the Club if there will be inevitable storms during the event.

Heat

- Heat index of 105 or higher, expect training to be canceled by the Club.
- Heat index of 104 or lower, coach holds training at own discretion .
- TCSL will cancel games according to their own policies.
- In less than 105 degree heat index expect matches to be held, but potentially shortened with quarters instead of halves, or water breaks between the halves.

Air Quality

- Air quality is >150 (“Unhealthy”), training and matches will be canceled by the Club.
- Air quality is 100-150 (“Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups”) the Club will leave training up to coach discretion, but player attendance is not mandatory. Games will be situational and communicated by the Club.
- For Moderate Air Quality <100 (Unhealthy for Unusually Sensitive Groups) training will resume as normal

Weather Resources

- Detailed reports on current/future weather (Heat Index, Storms, Air Quality, etc.):
 - [National Weather Service](#)
 - [Bloomington, MN Weather Forecast | AccuWeather](#)
- Weather Radars:
 - [NWS Radar \(weather.gov\)](#)
 - [Minnesota Weather Radar | AccuWeather](#)
- **Air Quality**
 - [AirNow - Current Air Quality](#)
 - [Air Quality Basics](#)
- **TCSL Weather Policies:** [TCSL Rules \(section 5\)](#)
- **US Soccer's Heat Safety Training Guidelines:** [Heat Guidelines](#)