

FEATHER RIVER RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT GUIDELINES FOR FIELD USE DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER

PURPOSE

District parks and athletic fields have been designed, and are maintained, for the enjoyment and use of District community members. The purpose of this document is to guide the use of District athletic fields, to prevent injuries and damage to the playing surface brought upon by inclement weather and/or unsafe playing conditions. An effective field maintenance program is essential for safe, quality fields and sport complexes. User groups are asked to help us by accepting and adhering to these rules. Groups who use the District's athletic facilities are expected to assist in protecting their participants and fields during periods of rain or inclement weather.

PREVENTITIVE ACTION

Permits for games, practices and other field uses may be cancelled when conditions could result in injury to participants, or damage to the fields. Permits may also be canceled when the health and safety of participants are threatened due to impending conditions, including but not limited to, heavy rains, air quality alerts, or pesticide application.

PROCEDURE

The General Manager or designated representative shall have the authority to close any or all fields within the Feather River Recreation and Park District. During inclement weather, District staff will assess the playability of District owned fields to determine if scheduled use will be allowed.

CRITERIA FOR ESTABLISHING FIELD PLAYABILITY

The following information is the District procedure for determining use of fields in wet conditions. This described procedure will apply to all sports and activities taking place on a grass field, turf area, or infield.

Baseball and Softball Infields

Infields will be deemed unsafe/unplayable when any of the following conditions are present:

- Standing water within the base paths.
- Feet slip while walking in the infield.
- Depth of footprint is greater than 1 inch.
- When any of the above conditions are present within the pitching area and/or home plate area.

Soccer, Multi-Purpose, Baseball and Softball Outfields – Grass

Outfields and turf areas will be deemed unsafe/unplayable when any of the following conditions are present:

- Standing water within much of a single playing position/area.
- Feet suction to the ground when walking within much of a single playing position/area.
- Footprints are filling with water in much of a single playing position/area.
- Depth of footprint created is greater than 2 inches in much of a single playing position/area.
- Grass may easily be dislodged from the playing surface during play/activity.

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USER GROUPS RESPONSIBILITY

- If it has rained within the preceding 24 hours, groups using public fields must check the District website Parks and Facilities webpage (see “Facility Conditions <https://www.frrpd.com/facility-conditions>) to receive updated information on field playability. Generally, only same-day information will be provided, except in the case of extreme conditions or scheduled maintenance. District staff will make a determination of playability and field conditions. The determinations/decisions are not negotiable.
- The District may declare fields subject for reinspection. These fields can be evaluated by the individual user group at game time for playability. The user group must use the same playability criteria used by District staff.
- In the event the field conditions on the District website have not been updated (or are unavailable), groups are expected to make educated and responsible decisions regarding field condition playability, keeping in mind the current and future quality of turf facilities. Decisions regarding playability must be made using the above criteria for field playability.
- Groups failing to follow the guidelines of this policy will be subject to cancellation of existing reservations as well as loss of future use. Fields considered too wet and/or muddy by city staff will be monitored for misuse.
- Groups witnessing misuse of fields by other scheduled or unscheduled users are advised to contact the Feather River Recreation and Park District (530-533-2011.)
- Use of fields during wet/inclement conditions may result in a minimum fine for and/or loss of future scheduled uses. It is the rental organization’s responsibility to ensure that all coaches and parents understand and enforce this policy.

I have read, understand, and will comply with the Feather River Recreation and Park District Sports Field Inclement Weather Guidelines

Name of Organization _____ Date _____

Print Name _____ Signature _____

Position Held with Organization _____