

# Neon Cricket Wiltshire County Cricket League

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## League Policy – Weather Interference before and during a match

This document details the league policy on the commencement and cessation of play due to the weather.

### Decision Makers

Before the match starts, the home team shall have sole responsibility for deciding whether the ground is fit for play.

Once the match starts, the following shall have responsibility for deciding whether play starts / stops / resumes:

- If there are two non-playing umpires, then they shall have joint responsibility.
- If there is one non-playing umpire, then they shall have sole responsibility,
- If there are no non-playing umpires, then the captains shall have joint responsibility.

Where there is joint responsibility, play shall only start / stop / resume when both agree.

For the purposes of this policy, the match starts when the umpires call the captains together for the coin toss. The coin toss shall not happen without the agreement of the home team that play can start.

### Reasons for Not Playing

Play may be stopped or continue to be stopped for the following reasons:

- Play must not take place if it is dangerous for play to take place.
- Play may be stopped to allow the pitch to be covered to give a better chance of more play taking place in the match overall.

Play must not be stopped in order to protect the square / ground for future matches.

Play must not resume unless it is safe to do so.

There is no absolute requirement for rain to completely stop in order for play to resume. However, it is highly unlikely that while rain continues to fall, however light, the ground will be dryer (and therefore safer) than when play stopped.

There is also no requirement to stop play at any level of rainfall. Play may be stopped due to rain at one point in the match, and then continue to be played with the same level of rainfall, later in the match, or vice versa. The determining factor is safety due to the ground and ball being wet, not the level of rainfall.

### Thunder and Lightning

If there is any danger from lightning then play must not take place and players must take shelter indoors or in vehicles.

The following shall be taken into consideration when deciding whether it is safe to play:

- As soon as lightning is seen or thunder is heard, play must stop.
- Play should not resume until 30 minutes after the last lightning is seen.
- Play should not resume until 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard.
- Lightning can strike before rain starts and after rain stops falling. Therefore the lack of rain must not be used to infer that it is safe to play.
- However, should there no longer be any rain-clouds overhead or nearby, then play may resume.

## **Calculation of Par Score**

In a weather-affected match, the par score should be calculated using the WCCL Website's Duckworth Lewis Calculator, or another Duckworth Lewis Standard Edition Calculator. Please ensure that you do not use Duckworth Lewis Professional Edition, or DLS. In the event of any discrepancies between different calculators, the WCCL Duckworth Lewis Calculator score shall take precedence.

## **Overs per Bowler**

The number of overs available to each bowler is one fifth of the total number of overs in the innings, rounded up. For instance, if there are 36 overs available, then each bowler shall bowl a maximum of 8 overs. So, five bowlers may bowl 8, 8, 8, 8 and 4 overs.

The number of overs available to each bowler is calculated at the start of the innings. If an innings is reduced in length after the innings has commenced, the number of overs available to each bowler is not reduced.