NCCA Rain Impact Guidelines

This is NCCA Executive Guidance, not a standing rule.

This guidance explains rain-impact coordination. It does not amend the applicable Standing Rules or Constitution. For Winter T20 matches, the 2026 NCCA Winter T20 Standing Rules take precedence over this guidance in any conflict or ambiguity.

Use this procedure when rain is forecast for the match weekend, including Friday night; when drizzle occurs on match morning; or when earlier heavy rain may have left the ground unplayable. The home captain coordinates calls and inspections, both captains participate, and the designated umpire(s) assess playing conditions as described below.

Step 1 Coordinate by 7 PM on the day before the match

The home captain should call the visiting captain and designated umpire(s) no later than 7 PM on the day before the match. Discuss whether to request rescheduling, where permitted, or review conditions again on match morning.

Request rescheduling only where the applicable Standing Rules permit it and the required approval is obtained. Agreement on a call does not itself reschedule the fixture.

If a morning review is needed, arrange a telephone call no later than 90 minutes before the scheduled start (for example, 8 AM for a 9:30 AM start). The visiting captain and designated umpire(s) must make themselves available.

Inspection evidence If an inspection occurs before either call, the person inspecting should collect photographs and videos showing the pitch, bowlers' run-ups and outfield, and share them with both captains and the designated umpire(s).

Step 2 Inspect at least 150 minutes before the scheduled start

If the previous evening's call agreed to a morning review, the home captain must inspect the ground no later than 150 minutes before the scheduled start (for example, 7 AM for a 9:30 AM start). Assess and report the conditions, including the pitch, bowlers' run-ups and outfield. Photographs and videos are strongly recommended. Share the findings before the morning call.

Step 3 Review by telephone at least 90 minutes before the scheduled start

The home captain must call the visiting captain and designated umpire(s) no later than 90 minutes before the scheduled start and report the inspection findings. All parties must be available. Discuss the following options, subject to the applicable Standing Rules and required approvals.

Proceed to play Both captains and the designated umpire(s) must mutually agree to proceed. Apply the applicable Standing Rules for any weather delay, shortened match or interruption. Agreement to attend does not establish that the ground is safe for play.

Meet for a ground review Agree by telephone on a meeting time. Both captains and at least one umpire must attend. If play can proceed, apply the applicable Standing Rules for any delay. If rescheduling is sought, the home captain submits the request for the required approval. If the teams cannot agree whether to play or abandon, the umpire(s) assess the ground and weather and make a decision binding on both teams. This playing-conditions decision does not itself approve a new date or venue.

General guidance

Safety comes first, followed by the ability to complete the match and then the quality of play. A forecast or telephone agreement does not override the umpire(s)' assessment of playing conditions.

Discuss decisions by telephone to avoid missed messages. Afterwards, the home captain should circulate a written record to the visiting captain and designated umpire(s), noting the call time, participants, inspection findings, decision, any review time and any approval still required.

If an issue arises, provide the Match Secretaries or relevant committee with the sequence of events, contact attempts, written record, photographs and videos. Follow the applicable Standing Rules for dispute reports and appeals.

If the parties cannot be reached by telephone, the fixture remains scheduled for its designated day and time; no cancellation or reschedule is implied. This scheduling fallback is not a direction to play in unsafe conditions. See the clarification items below for unresolved communication scenarios.

Winter T20 application

For Winter T20 only, use the 2026 NCCA Winter T20 Standing Rules, particularly Preamble, Start Time, Delayed Start, Rescheduling Games, Reporting of Results, Dispute Resolution and Points. Do not apply summer rules to Winter T20.

Rescheduling authority and timing The Match Secretaries may reschedule games when a majority of league games on a weekend are abandoned or canceled by natural causes or force majeure. Their decision is discretionary. The rules also allow an agreed new date and venue to be approved by Wednesday, provided the new date is at least a week from the original schedule and before the last game for that group in that division. A late rain call does not waive these requirements.

Venue and start time A proposed venue change must comply with the applicable notice and approval provisions. The Rescheduling Games provision specifies an approved ground for the division within 45 miles driving distance, notice to all parties by end of Thursday, objections by Friday noon and Match Secretaries' approval by Friday at 6 PM. The Ground provision also specifies two days' notice and the exact venue at least 24 hours before the start. The Delayed Start provision requires both captains to agree to a change of starting time at least 24 hours beforehand, with the home captain notifying the umpires, opposition and Match Secretaries. Weather delays remain subject to the weather-interruption provisions.

Play and results Apply the Standing Rules' minimum of five overs, equal-opportunity and DLS provisions as applicable. Matches without the required opportunity for one or both teams to bat for five overs are No Result matches under those rules. No Result carries 10 points each. Abandonment, No Result and approval to reschedule are distinct decisions; this guidance creates no alternative result or points allocation.

Reporting The home team must enter a basic scorecard for a rained-out game in the official scoring platform. Complete scorecard edits and required reporting by the Wednesday following the game, as required by the Standing Rules. Refer uncertainty about the correct status to the Match Secretaries rather than treating a rescheduling request as approval.