



City of
Peterborough

**Community Services Department
Recreation Division**
500 George Street North
Peterborough, Ontario
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(705) 742-7777 ext. 1829

Outdoor Sport Fields / Rain - Cancellation Policy

PURPOSE

For the City of Peterborough to effectively communicate to users when rectangular fields and ball diamonds are deemed unplayable due to inclement weather in City of Peterborough.

OBJECTIVES

1. To protect and maintain field turf on sports fields
2. To reduce the risk of injury to the user

STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

The temporary cancellation of any rental program on any field and/or diamond owned and/or scheduled by the City of Peterborough as a result of a current and/or prolonged period of inclement weather is at the sole discretion of the staff of the City of Peterborough. Officials residing over the activity may not scrutinize the decision of staff under any circumstances. In the event of cancellation due to inclement weather, the assigned Recreation Division staff will make the required user fee adjustments upon confirmation by the league contact or email tjohnston@peterborough.ca

CONSIDERATION FOR CANCELLATION

Field restrictions will remain in effect for as long as it takes for inclement weather conditions to cease, and when City of Peterborough staff are confident that play on that particular field or diamond can commence without the contribution of significant field damage.

FIELD CONDITIONS

Field cancellations are assessed by any of the following criteria

- Visual ponding, sponging of water on turf surface
- Drainage characteristics of the field
- Existing conditions and maintenance requirements

- Amount of precipitation that has occurred and the amount expected to fall in the future

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- The time of year and the cumulative amount of stress on the field.
- What kind of damage could occur to the field if the field were to remain open

ALTERNATE VENUES AND SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Alternate venues may be considered by assigned Recreation Division staff in critical situations where the initial rental has been forced into a cancellation. However, this relocation is solely based on appropriateness, availability and field conditions, and is at the sole discretion of the City of Peterborough. Alternate venues will not be considered for practice or regular season play.

COMMUNICATION OF CANCELLATIONS

City of Peterborough staff will advise the identified league contact persons by email and telephone of all EXTREME cancellations and delays no later than 12:00 p.m. Monday to Friday that day based on current and anticipated field and weather conditions. Weekend cancellations will be made by 4:30 p.m. by City of Peterborough Recreation Division staff.

Cancellations and delays daily will be determined by sport officials (i.e., referees, umpires, etc.) at the field. An immediate delay will be forced in the event of lightning, and/or heavy rainfall. All delays will remain in effect until the officials determine no lightning can be seen, heavy rainfall has stopped, and the field shows no signs of saturation. It is the opinion of the official at this time that the field is safe for play. **Should the official not feel the field is safe for play it is the responsibility of the official to cancel play until further notice. *Officials and Leagues will be accountable if play is continued and field damage occurs because of this play.***

If a game has been cancelled due to the weather, the league contact person must call the assigned City of Peterborough Recreation Division staff no later than two weeks following the cancellation for a rental refund/credit.

USER RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER CANCELLATION SITUATIONS

It is the responsibility of the league contact person to ensure that all officials, coaches and the media receive timely notification of the cancellation. The City of Peterborough will not accept failure to communicate as an excuse of non-compliance by coaches and officials, nor will it be held responsible for any inconveniences created by communicated cancellations.

COMPLIANCE OF CANCELLATION ORDERS

It is expected that all patrons, players and officials occupying a specific field for a rental respect the decisions of City of Peterborough staff and refrain from use of the facility for the period of the cancellation. Upon review of reported instances of user groups failing to comply to a cancellation, the City of Peterborough reserves the right to cancel the rental agreement for the duration of that rental agreement with refund.

Users will not be charged for the duration of the cancellation, if such cancellations are respected as deemed by staff.