

Oriole Opener Inclement Weather Policy

There will be a Tournament Director at each location; the Director will contact all coaches at that site. The Tournament Director will determine how to proceed in the case of inclement weather. All updates will be posted on [Oriole Opener Tourney Page](#)

Umpires are basically instructed to suspend games at the first sign of visible lightning or hazardous weather, such as extreme winds or rain downpours. Each umpire will note the inning, outs, count, bases occupied, etc. See Tournament Rules for the lengths of the Official game.

In case of lightning, the Umpire will suspend play for at least 30 minutes prior to resuming activity. The minimum 30-minute waiting period will be reset each time additional lightning is observed. In case of extreme weather, look for information or signs available for people to know where they can go for shelter.

NO LIGHTNING SAFETY GUIDELINES CAN GUARANTEE ABSOLUTE SAFETY. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EVERY PERSON TO BE AWARE OF WEATHER CONDITIONS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO BE SAFE. USE COMMON SENSE AND GOOD JUDGMENT. PLAN AHEAD AND MAKE SAFETY YOUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY.

Teams are to remain within proximity of the playing field and not assume the game has been postponed or canceled. Games will begin as soon as possible following such weather. A 5-minute warm-up time should be allotted if more than 30 minutes have elapsed since the play was stopped. Otherwise, extended warm-up pitches and around the horn are allowed only. As if an inning was to begin.

If there is a series of rains – the Field Director will determine when fields will be ready for play. It is possible that games may need to be played into the evening, if possible, or rescheduled very early in the morning. Be sure to check the Association website [Oriole Opener Tourney Page](#) for updates. It is suggested that all teams be available to play within their scheduled times. If the games get backed up some teams may only get 5 minutes to warm up before being required to play.

St Louis Park Fastpitch reserves the right to change the format and structure of the brackets to complete the Tournament. This change could be anything from taking teams that have played and using those games as seeding and going to single elimination or using pool standings and assigning teams to move forward. Or it could be any format that assures the completion of the Tournament, such as shortened games. These decisions will be determined based on where the schedules are and the field types available. St Louis Park Fastpitch will make every attempt to keep the Tournament on schedule.

In the case of overnight/early morning rain, teams must show up at the fields unless it is dangerous. If possible, all teams will be asked to play within 5 minutes of their scheduled time. If playing on time is not possible, teams will be expected to be ready to play as soon as fields are deemed playable.

REFUND POLICY

- If weather causes the Tournament to be washed out, (no Games Played) there will be a \$25 withholding for administration fees.
- If only one game is completed, there will be a 50 % reimbursement.
- If at least two Official games by rule are played, or are available for play, no reimbursement will be offered.