

Field Closing Guidelines

Rainy Days/Wet Fields: All sport fields in the Town of Sudbury are closed to use by anyone during the months of late November – beginning of April. Do not allow participants to play in any unsafe conditions. Report such conditions to the Park & Recreation office 978-443-1092 ext 3259 or to the Parks Department 978-443-2209 Ext.1430 To prevent damage and for safety reasons, the fields are not to be used in rain or wet conditions. **If there is any question as to whether or not a field can be played on, you should call the Park & Recreation Office Field Closing Hotline 978-639-3234**

Guidelines for cancellation of activity on Town/School fields:

- 1 If a footstep leaves an impression in the turf or if the grass is removed easily with a cleat, this is considered a wet field.
- 2 Standing puddles of water on the field
- 3 Footing is unsure and slippery
- 4 Ground is water logged and squishy
- 5 Grass can be dislodged from the ground easily
- 6 Lighting
- 7 Unsafe facility conditions-glass, exposed stones and rocks, etc.
- 8 The use proves to be destructive or detrimental to quality of turf.
- 9 Frozen Field
- 10 Periods of forecasted severe weather warnings

*Any teams caught playing on the field may forfeit the right to play on that field for the remainder of the season. Please call Park & Recreation Department to report 978-443-1092 ext 3259

Field Open- Youth Group Field Coordinators Responsibilities: Although field may be open for play as of Friday, noon, weather and field conditions may deteriorate by game time. In these situations, it is the responsibility of field user coordinator to determine whether or not to resume play. The Park & Recreation Department also has the right to close fields. Additionally, it is the responsibility of all coaches to avoid high use areas near the regular goal mouth areas when using fields for practices, and not to practice on wet fields. Experience has shown that most turf damage occurs with field overuse or use during inclement weather. Thus, it is in everyone's interest to ensure that fields are not used when play damages the playing surface. In order to meet the demand for high quality fields and ensure a safe playing field, both weather and field conditions are monitored on a daily basis to ensure that scheduled games do not, cause abnormal damage to the field surface, jeopardize further scheduled use of fields and compromise personal safety of league players or general public.

Closed or Restricted Areas: A field closed area is at the discretion of the Director of Park & Recreation, Parks Department or the Director's designee. Any section or part of any park, facility or field may be declared closed to the public at any time and for any interval of time, either temporarily or at regularly scheduled maintenances intervals.

If there is any question as to whether or not a field can be played on, you should call the Park & Recreation Office Field Closing Hotline 978-639-3234
(Weather Hotline- special announcements) or check with your individual youth group hotline. Change in status due to changing weather conditions will be put on the message by 1:00pm for daily evening play and by 8:00am for weekend play. The hotline will be updated as condition change. Knowledge of a group playing on and damaging turf will result in the immediate cancellation of that permit. Please call the Park & Recreation Office 978-443-1092 ext 3259 to report immediately. **Refunds will not be issued for inclement weather but rescheduling is an option.**