

Haslet Sports Association Weather Policy

The safety of our players, coaches, officials, and families is our top priority. This policy outlines how we respond to extreme weather conditions, including heat, cold, and lightning. All coaches and officials are expected to follow these guidelines strictly.

Heat Policy

We follow the National Weather Service heat safety guidelines, using the Heat Index (temperature + humidity) to determine conditions:

- Under 90°F (Heat Index): Normal play with water breaks every 30 minutes.
- 90°F–99°F: Mandatory water breaks every 20 minutes. Monitor athletes closely.
- 100°F–104°F: Shortened practices or games, water breaks every 15 minutes. Reduce physical intensity. No equipment-heavy drills (e.g., catcher's gear or full pads).
- 105°F or above: All outdoor activities are suspended.

Additional guidance:

- Encourage light clothing and sunscreen.
- Cold towels and shade should be available when possible.
- Coaches must monitor for signs of heat illness (dizziness, confusion, fatigue)

Cold Weather Policy

We use actual temperature and wind chill to assess safety:

- Above 40°F: Normal play.
- 32°F–40°F: Allow extra layers. Frequent warm-up breaks.
- 20°F–31°F (including wind chill): Shorten sessions. Require gloves, hats, and layers. No extended standing or idle time for players.
- Below 20°F: All outdoor activities are suspended.

Additional guidance:

- No wet clothing.
- Coaches should watch for signs of hypothermia and frostbite.

Lightning Policy

Haslet Sports Association follows a strict safety policy when lightning is present to protect all players, coaches, officials, and spectators.

- All outdoor activities must stop immediately when lightning is detected within 10 miles of a practice or game location.
- Everyone must seek safe shelter in a fully enclosed building or vehicle. Dugouts, tents, trees, or open-sided structures are not considered safe.
- A 30-minute clock begins after the last observed lightning strike or sound of thunder.
- If thunder is heard at any point during the 30-minute delay, the clock resets.
- Play may only resume after 30 consecutive minutes have passed without any thunder or lightning.

Coaches and officials should use reliable weather apps or lightning detection tools to monitor conditions. If in doubt, always choose the safer option and delay or cancel the activity.

Enforcement and Oversight

- Head coaches and on-site officials have the authority to stop play for safety.
- The Board or commissioner reserves the right to cancel or reschedule games based on weather conditions.