

Draft Weather/Travel Policy

1404 Game Postponement Due to Weather Conditions

Inclement weather is a fact of life in Northern Alberta winters. It is expected that drivers will take adequate precautions and allow adequate time for travel in adverse weather conditions. Where weather conditions are extremely adverse, particularly in the case of lengthy travel (one hour or more each way) such that a visiting coach has a legitimate concern that the safety of the players and drivers are at risk, game cancellation may occur less than 72 hours before the game takes place. However, such an approach requires a good faith exercise of judgment of both the home and visiting coaches involved.

The following conditions **may** be considered as adequate reasons for game postponement/cancellation:

- Road closure,
- Weather temperature below -40C,
- AMA road conditions(eg: roadreports.ama.ab.ca) with yellow/red portions (signifying snow cover of road) for the anticipated trip that cover greater than 30 km of the trip one-way.

If cancelling for weather concerns for the trip to the game, the above should be in effect 1 hour before the scheduled departure time by the participating teams. Departure Time is:

- The required travel time as per Google maps (origin community to the destination rink); plus,
- 1 hour for warmup/dressing; plus
- Reasonable adjustment to account for traffic and weather conditions.

Teams considering possible cancellation for weather related reasons should communicate concerns with opposing teams and officials,, but must wait until 1 hour prior to Departure Time to confirm a cancellation based on weather conditions. Traveling coaches and managers are expected to be in constant contact with their teams until such time as the cancellation, if any, is confirmed. Both teams should ensure that officials are kept informed and notified.

Weather conditions for the anticipated return trip can also be considered as grounds for cancellation. Should the conditions for cancellation not be present at departure time, but are expected to be present during part of the trip, proper documentation as listed below must be recorded.

Where distance to a game(s) exceeds 100km one way, coaches and teams are expected to be more vigilant both in trip planning and in documenting conditions that could lead to cancellation because those games are often harder to reschedule, yet could have more risk for road travel. Proper trip planning for distance games includes providing adequate travel time for conditions, experienced drivers, and properly winterized vehicles.

The description of adverse weather above is not exhaustive. Both coaches, in coming to a decision, should apply common sense judgment. If a travelling coach is prepared to travel, the home coach does not have the ability to cancel the game for adverse weather.

In no circumstances should the travelling team abuse this policy. In the event that this policy is abused and games are being cancelled for less than extreme weather conditions, the league may investigate and levy sanctions for wrongful cancellation.

Regardless of this policy, parents, guardians, and drivers are responsible for deciding for themselves the safety of travel to and from the rink. If a driver, parent or guardian does not feel safe traveling to and from the rink for a game, don't take the risk.

WHEN POSTPONING A GAME FOR WEATHER CONDITIONS, TEAMS MUST DOCUMENT CONDITIONS (WEATHER REPORTS, WEBSITE SCREENSHOTS ETC.) AT THE TIME OF THE CANCELLATION, AND FOR WHAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE THE DURATION OF THE TRIP. THIS INFORMATION MAY BE REQUESTED BY THE BGL VICE PRESIDENT.