

Severe Weather Recommendations AVIT

Thanks for joining us for the annual Apple Valley Invitational Soccer Tournament! Given the volatile weather conditions we've been experiencing in MN and the country this spring, we wanted to provide some recommendations to help you keep your team safe in the event of severe weather.

The health and safety of soccer players and their fans is most important to us. We have consulted with the Apple Valley Police Department and the City of Apple Valley to develop our plans. We will make every effort to monitor, respond quickly and carefully to adverse weather and field conditions and rely on the Tournament Rules that have been established for severe weather. We will communicate as clearly as possible to coaches and managers using 2 way radios, smartphones, social media and the tournament web page on www.vusc.org.

Coaches, managers and parents are responsible at all times for player and fan safety and security. Each family and team should take precautions they are most comfortable with beyond what the City recommends.

- If civil defense sirens sound in Apple Valley, play will be stopped and teams will be told to take shelter. Tournament rules for severe weather will take effect.
- If lightning is spotted by tournament committee member or referee, play will be stopped. Tournament rules for severe weather will take effect.
- Volunteer field marshals equipped with 2-way radios will relay communication with tournament HQ. Volunteers at Quarry Point Park will either be connected by radio or by cell phone with the tournament director.
- The Apple Valley Police Department has informed us that sheltering in your car is NOT the safest place to be in a tornado. They suggest:
 - Leave the vicinity of the tornado before it is imminent.
 - Seek shelter in a sturdy building, away from windows and doors. Possible locations to shelter near the soccer complexes:
 - Apple Valley Teen Center near Tournament HQ
 - Eastview High School – North entrance facing 140th street
 - Target store on Pilot Knob Road north of Quarry Point Park
 - If no other shelter or escape path is available, seek a low lying area and lay down.

Please help keep youth soccer safe and fun, despite the weather!

AVIT Tournament Weather Rules

Excerpted from the [official Tournament Rules](#)

Teams are expected to play regardless of the weather. However, in the event of inclement weather, the Tournament will follow MYSA Weather Guidelines.

If it is determined that unsafe weather conditions exist, the referee assignor, referee, or tournament director may halt matches. However, teams should remain in the vicinity for game resumption. Only the Tournament Director may cancel or reschedule a game. If a match is halted, then the following rules will be in effect:

- 1) If the weather delay is from 1 to 15 minutes:
 - a) All games will resume from the point of stoppage
 - b) However, if there is less than 5 minutes to completion of the match, then the referee will declare the game complete
 - c) If the teams are tied with less than 5 minutes to go, then the referee will call the game a tie. However, if the game is a final, then the game will resume with a shoot out.
- 2) If the weather delay is from 16 to 30 minutes:
 - a) If the match is in the first half, the match will begin with the second half and the second half will be 15 minutes in length
 - b) If the match is in the second half, the referee shall declare the game complete. If a final is tied, then the match will go directly to a shoot-out.
- 3) If the weather delay is more than 31 minutes:
 - a) If the match is in the first half, the match will begin with the second half the second half will be 15 minutes
 - b) If the match is in the second half, then the referee shall declare the game complete. If a final is tied then the match will go directly to a shoot out.
 - c) The referee assignor will adjust times so that all teams will be able to complete their games. This may mean moving a game to another field and/or shortening the duration of the remaining games.
- 4) Team coaches or managers must check with headquarters to receive final instructions.
 - a) **Do not leave the playing area unless told to do so by the referee assignor, referee, or the tournament director.** The referee assignor will be in communication with the field marshal via phone. Stop by headquarters before dismissing your players

If your team is not present at the resumption of play, your team will forfeit the match.