



Cancellation & Postponing Games Policy

This policy is intended to ensure all players and umpires are aware of WCNL rules, procedures and expectations in relation to games being cancelled or postponed. All matches are to be played on the date stated on the fixtures which are posted on the WCNL website.

The Fixtures Secretary is responsible for updating or amending any fixture dates as and when necessary. WCNL recognise there are some circumstances in which fixtures need to be rearranged and therefore this policy has been designed to address all those circumstances and give players and umpires an understanding of the mechanisms, responsibilities and expectations that are in place.

Upon entering the WCNL, clubs/teams are adhering to the WCNL rules and are expected to fulfil all games as per the fixtures.

Postponing games due to severe weather conditions prior to fixture

In recent years the committee has had to intervene on more regular occasions to postpone matches due to take place on outdoor courts due to severe weather. **Severe weather** is categorised and varies from heavy rain fall, icy conditions and extreme heat. Committee decisions are made for the safety and welfare of the players and umpires.

In these circumstances the committee will make the decision to postpone at the earliest opportunity and no later than 6.00pm on the day of the fixture (where practically possible.)

Notifications will be posted on the WCNL Facebook.

Where possible. the committee will notify individual team captains.

HOWEVER, IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF TEAM CAPTAINS (OR A NOMINATED TEAM PERSON), PLAYERS AND UMPIRES TO ENGAGE WITH FACEBOOK.

The postponed game will be rearranged by the WCNL Fixture Secretary. The new dates will be posted on the WCNL website and affected teams will be notified.

Fixtures already commenced

This applies where games have commenced and weather conditions (or other relevant conditions) are such there is an impact to the safety of players and umpires. The umpires must stop the game and call the captains to discuss the safety of the environment.

If there is agreement by all then the match is termed abandoned. If there is no agreement the final decision rests with the umpires.

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If the game is abandoned before the commencement of the third quarter the following must be adhered to:

- Team captains **MUST** send to the fixtures secretary the signed copy of the score card
- Indicate on the card the game was abandoned and in which quarter the game was stopped and the score at the time
- The score card must be signed by the captains and umpires
- The WCNL fixture secretary will inform both captains of the new date the fixture is to take place on and the WCNL website fixtures will be updated
- If the two teams are unable to fulfil or agree the new fixture date the following needs to happen;
 - i) Both team captains to notify the Fixture Secretary in writing, via text or email etc.
 - ii) Both teams will be awarded no points for that fixture

If the game is abandoned after the commencement of the third quarter. The following will happen:

- Scorecard is to be completed in full with players names and score
- The team captains and umpires **MUST** sign the scorecard
- The scorecard to indicate the game was abandoned and in what quarter

The score at the point the game is stopped will be viewed as the final score. Games which are abandoned once the third quarter has commenced will stand at the point the game is concluded (see rule 10.1)

Teams wishing to postpone a fixture due to any other reason

WCNL expect all teams will fulfil their fixtures and it is only in extreme circumstances a team should seek to rearrange a fixture. If a team is unable to fulfil the fixture for extreme circumstances the following steps must be taken;-

- The team wishing to postpone must contact the captain of the other team and notify them in a timely manner and **PERSONALLY (ie NOT** by leaving a message)
- If unable to contact the other team in a timely manner, then a member of the cancelling team **MUST** turn up at the venue and notify their opposition - rule 10 will be imposed
- Both team captains will send in the signed scorecard clearly indicating the game was cancelled and which team cancelled the game
- Both team captains are to notify the fixture secretary regarding the cancellation and the captains of both teams agreed for the game to be re-arranged
- The teams are then to agree a date for the rearranged game prior to the end of that season
- NO games can be carried forward into the new season
- If teams cannot agree the date of the rearranged fixture by the end of the season of which the original game should have been played in, the original team unable to fulfil the original fixture must concede and will be deducted 5 (five) points
- Both teams will be charged for the court that has not been used – the team cancelling the fixture will be liable for all costs associated with this fixture (see rule 10.1.1 – this is a financial arrangement between the two teams)
- Umpire costs remain an arrangement between the teams and their umpire
- Both team captains are to inform WCNL Fixture Secretary of the date, time and venue of the re-arranged fixture

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IF A TEAM CONCEDES MORE THAN 25% OF LEAGUE MATCHES WITHIN ONE SEASON. THE COMMITTEE WILL THEN NEED TO DISCUSS WHETHER ANY PENALTIES NEED TO BE IMPOSED. WCNL WILL NOT INCUR ANY FINANCIAL PENALTIES AS A RESULT OF TEAMS NOT FULFILLING FIXTURES.