



Marin Bocce Federation

Weather & Rainout Policy

League Play – All Seasons

1. Cancellation Announcement Deadlines

All cancellation or play-confirmation decisions must be communicated by the deadlines below (and in Section 8). Decisions cover both active rain and unplayable court conditions (e.g., watering pooling on courts).

Morning Leagues

- Primary announcement: The night before play (by approximately **8:00 PM**) when there is inclement weather and changing forecasts
- Same-morning confirmation: If weather forecast/conditions are borderline or have changed, a final decision will be issued no later than **7:30 AM** on the day of play

Evening Leagues

- Final cancellation or confirmation decision: **4:30 PM** on the day of play (two hours prior to the 6:30 PM start time). With inclement weather, the default is to always try to allow play (unless there is severe weather, e.g. lightning, hurricane conditions).

2. Communication Channels

Weather decisions will be communicated through the following channels:

- **Weather Hotline: (415-419-3553)** A dedicated phone number that players and captains can call to hear the current play/cancel status. This number is widely known and has been in use for many years. Senior Staff person (Ed Schmitz or designated backup) will update the hotline message, when there are questionable weather conditions.
- **Captain Email Notification:** An email will be sent to all team captains at the time of the decision. Captains are responsible for relaying the decision to their team members. Senior Staff person (Ed Schmitz or designated backup) will send this email.

Note: Because MBF does not have updated contact information for all individual players, team captains serve as the primary point of contact for their teams.

Captains are expected to communicate weather decisions promptly upon receiving notifications.

3. Rainout Makeup Policy – pertains to Evening Leagues only*

***NOTE:** Morning leagues play an end-of-season tournament instead of any rainout makeup matches.

One Guaranteed Makeup Per League Per Season

Evening leagues are guaranteed one rainout makeup match per season. Given the limited time between seasons and the compressed league schedule, only one makeup week is factored in; two is difficult due to tightness of schedules between seasons.

Second Rainout: Standings-Based Resolution

If a second rainout occurs in a single season, the affected match will not be rescheduled. Instead, final standings will be determined using each team's points-per-game average up to that point in the season. This approach ensures fairness when teams have played an unequal number of matches. [See also Section 4: "Mid-Match Rainouts" should rain occur during a match.]

Minimum matches threshold: Standings-based resolution will only be applied if all teams have completed a minimum of five matches. If this threshold has not been met, the Board will convene to determine the fairest resolution on a case-by-case basis.

Three or more rainouts: In the unlikely event of three or more rainouts in a single season, the Board reserves the right to determine the appropriate resolution.

4. Mid-Match Rainouts

Staff person on duty to make an announcement before start of play (AM or PM) about moving to an abbreviated "official match" should rain start, continue or courts become unplayable. It is critical staff be familiar with this policy so that it is clearly and consistently communicated to all players when weather situations arise so that fairness can be achieved in the determination of team standings.

If play has begun and inclement weather (rain or unplayable conditions) are likely to or do occur mid-match, the following rule applies:

- All teams will play an abbreviated match -- 1.5 games, the second game being played to 6 points, ie. the winner of that game is the first to reach 6 points. This will constitute an official match to be counted in the standings. No additional points or games will be counted, even if teams choose to play more than 1.5 games. This keeps it fair and equitable for all teams in both upper and lower divisions within their league.

NOTE: Captains/scorekeepers must clearly mark on the scoresheet which team reached the 6th point first, so it is clear which team is the winner of that game (see sample scoresheet below).

Abbreviated Match - Sample Scoresheet: