**NCREF Match Cancellation/Referee Pay Policy**

North Chapter Soccer Referee Association does not have an official guarantee of referee pay for matches that cancel any time before the match start time. Referee pay is dependent on agreements between respective leagues, and clubs, and can be different between each. Contact the appropriate club assignor if you need more information about referee pay.

Most clubs that have contracted with NCREFs will pay the referee crew full pay if a match cancels within 24 hrs of match start time. Again, the appropriate club assignor will know if their respective club follows this common courtesy. Leagues and/or clubs are not required to pay for matches cancelled more than 24 before start time.

Referees are generally paid if a match cancels within 24 hrs for these reasons:

* Cancelled at field due to no teams showed or only one team showed, coaches’ decision at the field to not play, dangerous field/playing conditions as determined by the referee (See below), Air Quality Index (AQI) was below 150 before match start; and then increased above 150 during match, and forfeits.
* A Home, or Away team, cancels due to coach scheduling issues or team cannot field enough players.
* An Away team cannot travel due to their own environmental conditions, but the home field is playable.

Referees are generally NOT paid fees if a match cancels within 24 hrs for these reasons:

* Natural disasters in our local area: floods, earthquakes, major wind storms, major lightning/thunder events (forecasted), major snow storms occurring the night before.
* AQI (Air Quality Index) above 150 on airnow.gov before match start time.
* Covid Protocol reported by any team.
* Loss of field due to cancellation by City Parks, County Parks, or School District which owns the facility/field. This type of loss is not a club decision and they have no part in the facility management. Snow, wind, and rain weather events, or last-minute school functions/miscommunications do occur through no fault of the sponsoring club.

Determining dangerous field/playing conditions at the field? These considerations will help you decide whether a match should be played or allowed to continue:

* Large holes in playing surface, or sprinklers, where high risk of ankle injury is a concern. Do not play.
* Police activity near the facility where a major crime is happening and safety is a major concern.
* Lightning or thunder? Seen or heard – follow the 30-30 Rule.
* Large objects on fields that came down during wind storms and cannot be moved? Do not play or continue to play.
* Large puddles of standing water (more than 3 feet in diameter) that affect player safety (slipping), affects goalkeeper movement, or interferes with ball movement? Do not play or continue to play.
* Snow covered fields? Watch players in their warm-up or during play. If they are slipping and falling, do not risk player injury (safety) and start or continue a match. If you cannot see the touchlines, goal lines, or penalty area due to snow cover; you cannot enforce the Laws of the Game…Do not play or continue to play. If the ball collects too much snow as it is being played, then game play is adversely affected…Do not play or continue to play.
* PLEASE…DO NOT ALLOW PEOPLE (PARENTS) TO SHOVEL SNOW OFF TURF PLAYING SURFACES! Shoveling snow off turf surfaces increases the risk of tearing the turf and also removes the rubber/cork particles that are supposed to be in place to increase life expectancy of the turf. This is a mandatory policy from all facility owners. i.e. City Park, County Park, School District.