



## City of Murrieta

### Community Services Sports Field Rain Closure Policy

Use of sports fields when wet or saturated may cause extensive field damage resulting in extended field closure and costly renovations.

The following procedure applies to period of rainfall, over-watered fields, and/or in the event of an irrigation break.

#### **FIELD USAGE:**

- The City of Murrieta rainout hotline 951-461-6101 and the Field Conditions website ([www.MurrietaCA.gov/fields](http://www.MurrietaCA.gov/fields)) is updated whenever there is a change in field status. In the event of any rainfall prior to your use, please call the hotline to determine whether the fields are playable after 2:00 p.m.
- City and school district sports fields are closed anytime during a heavy rainfall and are usually closed for a minimum period of 48 hours.
- Additional closure time may be needed if there have been heavy rains and the fields are saturated.
- Artificial turf fields will be open thirty (30) minutes after it stops raining and so long as there is no standing water on the field or icy conditions.
- Failure to abide by these policies will result in forfeiture of field reservation deposits, loss of use of the fields, and/or a fine of up to \$100 per person per violation.

#### **SPORTS FIELD SPACE REGULATIONS:**

##### **A. Closure of facilities-Authority.**

The Parks Maintenance Superintendent, Parks Maintenance Supervisor, and/or Park Rangers shall have the authority to close any park facility or portion thereof and require the exit of all persons therein when he or she determines that conditions exist in said facility or portion thereof which presents a hazard to the facility or to public safety. No person shall use, enter on, or remain in any facility, or sports field that has been posted as closed under this authority.

##### **B. Field use.**

No person shall use an athletic field which is posted as being close, whether the closure is for excess rainfall or for field maintenance or other reason.



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#### **C. Playability.**

League and team representatives are responsible for ensuring that conditions are safe before allowing players to take the field. Players should not take the field if playing conditions pose a safety concern or if excess damage could be caused, regardless of the posted status.

**Field closures due to weather will be posted on the Field Usage Hotline: (951) 461-6101 and the Field Conditions website ([www.MurrietaCA.gov/fields](http://www.MurrietaCA.gov/fields)).**

#### **CITY OF MURRIETA CONTACT LIST:**

Irrigations Breaks:

- Parks Department: (951) 461-6124 (weekdays)
- Murrieta Police Department: (951) 304-COPS (2677) (weekends)

#### **INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY:**

Please always remember that playing on a field under any of the conditions listed below can damage the field and make it unplayable for everyone for the rest of the season. All play on any park sports field is prohibited whenever:

- The field is closed for renovation or repair;
- Water is standing on the field;
- Soil is frozen;
- Soil is wet and "spongy";
- The ground is muddy and soil clumps or clings to shoes;
- Steady rain is falling;
- A lightning/electrical storm is occurring;
- The field is deemed unplayable by Parks Maintenance Superintendent, Parks Maintenance Supervisor, and/or Park Ranger.