



Advice for dealing with Late Postponements



Bad Weather – there is an obvious increased possibility of matches being called off/unfit grounds etc. at this time of year. Please take a moment to re-acquaint yourself with the following advice:

- If a late decision (3 hours or less before KO) on the fitness of the ground is needed once teams have turned up, it is the responsibility of the team captains to decide on whether the pitch is fit and safe for play
- If they both agree to play, do not comment on the conditions of the pitch, and start the game; if at any point during the game (from 1st minute) the referee feels that player safety is put at risk, the game should be abandoned immediately, and score/time/details etc. should be included on the match card, if appropriate, or the Match Organiser advised
- If they disagree, the Referee needs to get one captain (the one who doesn't want to play!) to say, "in our opinion the pitch is not fit" or something similar - put the onus on the team to clarify why they do not want to play. As soon as they say this, the Referee can call the game off because the pitch is unsafe/players safety etc.
- In all cases it is advisable that the referee says nothing about the pitch conditions until both Captains are present.

