

# **SUSPENDED/INTERRUPTED GAME PROCEDURES**

## **(Rule 4 Section 4, Officials Training Manual Rule 4 Section 4)**

02/10/2024

Once the officials arrive on the field, they have the authority to determine whether or not to begin the game or to interrupt or suspend a game due to weather and/or dangerous field conditions. The official's decision is final.

A guideline for resuming a game after a lightning/thunderstorm is to wait 30 minutes after the last visible sign of lightning and/or audible sound of thunder. School regulations and guidelines governing waiting time will take precedence.

When bad weather conditions hamper the ability of the player(s) to see clearly while wearing eye guards, consider stopping play until conditions improve.

A game is considered legal and complete if 75 percent of the playing time has elapsed. The score at this time is the final score. If the game is tied, leagues should determine their own tie-breaking procedures.

If less than 75 percent of the playing time has elapsed, it shall be continued from the point of interruption, unless the opposing coaches mutually agree to terminate the game. The score at this time is the final score.

Any game that has been interrupted has the potential to be suspended and resumed on another day. It may have a new set of officials. At the point of interruption, work with the scorer (from both teams is recommended) and timer at the time of interruption to determine the information needed to restart play and record it in both scorebooks.

The MOST IMPORTANT is to document WHERE AND HOW THE GAME WILL BE RESTARTED.

The restart will be similar to the restart after a time out. If there is a goal, the game restarts with a draw or a free position; players may substitute. Otherwise, note the location of the ball on the field where the restart will occur, team in possession, free position or alternate possession (for which you will need to note the number of the two players involved). These players may not be substituted for, unless they are not in attendance when the game is resumed.

If there are any cards being served, note the player and the time left on the card.

Have the scorekeeper record which period the game is in (quarter or overtime) and the time remaining on the clock.

The following should already be in the score book:

- Game score,

- Card information (player and which type of card, including green cards),

- Time outs taken, and

- Alternate possession status.

Verify that the information in the scorebook matches the information that the referees have for cards, time outs, and alternate possession. Provide this information in an e-mail to the assigner ([assigner.wlua@gmail.com](mailto:assigner.wlua@gmail.com)).

If the player and ball location information is not available to the officials when the suspended game is resumed, then the play would be started with a center draw if there was no possession or with possession at the draw circle by the team in possession at the time of suspension.