



# **Procedure for Wet Weather Matches**

February 2025

## 1. OVERVIEW

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The following procedure formalises the way North West Sydney Football (**NWSF**) will administer competitions when wet weather results in the closure of a significant number of football fields used for local competitions on a weekend.

## 2. AUTHORITY PER THE COMPETITION REGULATIONS

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Within the NWSF Competition Regulations there are various rules that relate to wet weather matches, including for MiniRoos, and premierships and championship matches for competitive Football (Juniors and Seniors).

In summary,

- the Football Management Committee (**FMC**) has the discretion to determine the replaying of washed-out matches.
- The MFC has the discretion to determine how a Championship series will be structured or concluded if it is affected by wet weather.

In practice, the FMC's discretion is exercised via this Procedure for Wet Weather Matches.

## 3. COMPETITIONS CALENDAR

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Each year, NWSF consults with the clubs in developing the Competition Calendar

The Competition Calendar incorporates wet weather weekends following the final scheduled rounds of the competitions for all 6 team competitions, 8 team competitions, and the Premier and Super League competitions.

The Competition calendar does not have wet weather weekends for 10 team competitions (other than PL / SL) due to the additional rounds required to complete the home and away schedule for those competitions.

## 4. WET WEATHER PROCEDURE – PREMIERSHIP MATCHES

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### 4.1 Play if the field is open

Where a field is open and payable, the general principle applied is to play matches as scheduled.

With the construction of all-weather fields, previous practices that included cancelling all football matches when a set percentage of fields became unplayable, are no longer fit for purpose.

### 4.2 Use of wet weather weekends

Where wet weather results in the closure of natural grass fields, any other field that remains open (including the all-weather fields and any available natural grass fields) will be played as scheduled.

Following is the process applied where there is significant disruption due to wet weather

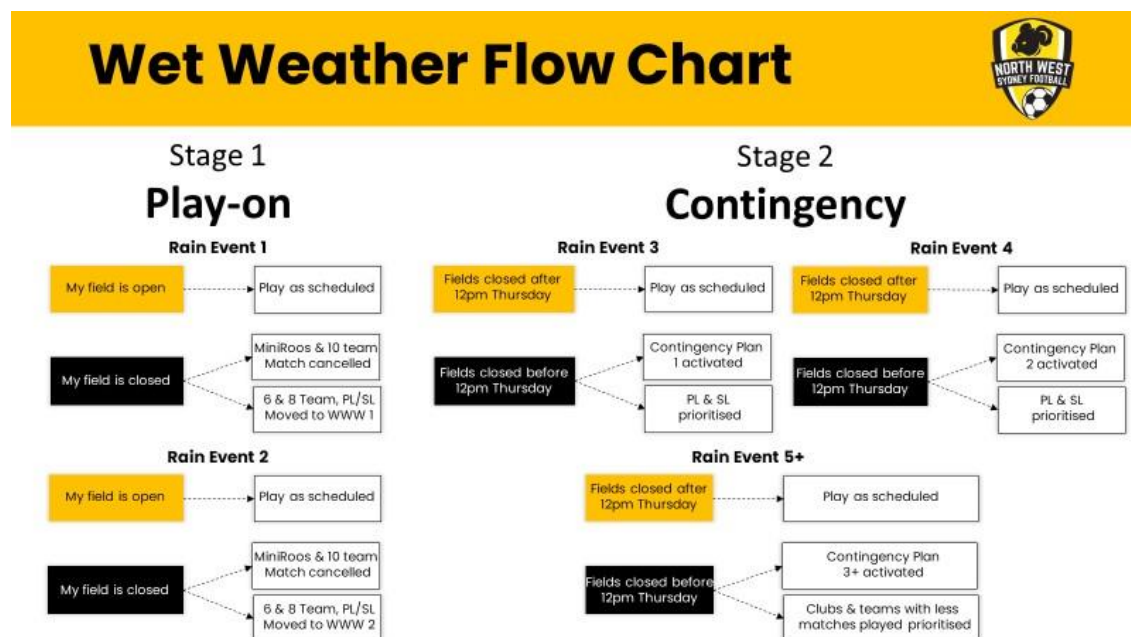
Rain Event	Action
1	Matches on fields that are open are played as scheduled. All matches not played due to wet weather will be; a. Rescheduled to the first available wet weather weekend; or b. Not replayed (for MiniRoos and competitions that do not have wet weather weekend in the calendar)
2	Matches on fields that are open are played as scheduled. All matches not played due to wet weather will be; a. Rescheduled to the second available wet weather weekend; or b. Not replayed (for MiniRoos and competitions that do not have wet weather weekend in the calendar)

Rain Event	Action
3	<p><b>Where a decision on fields being closed is not known until after 12:00 pm Thursday before the weekends matches;</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Matches on fields that are open are played as scheduled</li> <li>b. Matches on fields that are not opened may be rescheduled at the discretion of the FMC (except for MiniRoos whose matches are cancelled).</li> </ul> <p><b>Where a decision on the fields being closed for the weekend is known before 12:00 pm on a Thursday before the weekend, a contingency plan is implemented that prioritises</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Premier League Women</li> <li>• Premier League Men 1 First Grade</li> <li>• Premier League EM 2 First Grade</li> </ul>
4	Rain event 4 is processed in the same way as rain event 3.
5+	<p><b>Where a decision on fields being closed is not known until after 12:00 pm Thursday before the weekend's matches;</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. Matches on fields that are open are played as scheduled</li> <li>d. Matches on fields that are not opened may be rescheduled at the discretion of the FMC (except for MiniRoos whose matches are cancelled).</li> </ul> <p><b>Where a decision on the fields being closed for the weekend is known before 12:00 pm on a Thursday before the weekend, a contingency plan is implemented that prioritises</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teams that have played the least number of matches</li> <li>• Clubs who have otherwise had a reduced number of teams play matches compared to others</li> </ul>

### 4.3 Rescheduling washed out matches

Where matches have been washed out and cannot be rescheduled to a wet weather weekend, the FMC will, having consulted with the NWSF office regarding available fields, decide on whether the match should or should not be rescheduled.

## 5. WET WEATHER PROCEDURE FLOW CHART – PREMIERSHIP MATCHES



## 6. WET WEATHER PROCEDURE – CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES

### 6.1 Where rain shortens the Premiership season

For all competitions other than Premier and Super League, where rain results in the season being shortened, the FMC will decide the format of the Championship series, depending on time available.

### 6.2 Where rain impacts the Championship series – Semi's and Final's

Where rain interrupts the Championship series with semi finals and finals, the FMC will decide how the series will proceed, depending on time available.

### 6.3 Where rain impacts a Round Robin

Where rain interrupts the Championship series or Pennant Competition Round Robin, the rain affected round will be rescheduled prior to any subsequent round, until the washed-out Round is played or until the remainder of the Round Robin is cancelled.