

# FIH Operating Procedure

Procedure Name:	Inclement weather related incidents	No: FIH_4	Approved
<b>Personnel</b>		<b>Impacted</b>	
	Event Director	√	
	TD	√	
	Broadcast	√	
	Sport Manager	√	
	Host LOC	√	
	Media	√	
	Athletes	√	
	Technical Officials	√	
	Sponsors	√	
	Spectators	√	
<b>Procedure Application</b>	Event Period: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

## Procedure Statement/Rational

To provide an agreed baseline to assist decision making in relation to impact of extreme weather, specifically thunder and lightning, intense rainfall and extreme heat at an FIH hockey event.

## Procedure

The Host NA must provide regular weather reports to the Technical Delegate in the case of suspected inclement weather. These reports should be provided from the time the Technical Delegate arrives at the venue until the end of the event. Where incidents such as extreme rainfall and thunder and lightning are predicted these should be provided on a more frequent basis, the timing of which will be agreed by the Technical Delegate and Sport Operations Manager.

## Lightning and Thunder

FIH procedure is to halt activity on field of play if timing between lightning and thunder is less than 20 seconds

Thunderstorm Risk:

- High Risk: When a thunderstorm is occurring, or is expected to occur at the venue within the hour
- Moderate Risk: When thunderstorms are developing in the vicinity, but are not expected to affect the venue within the next hour.
- Low risk: When thunderstorms are developing in the vicinity but are not expected to affect the venue within two hours

## Procedure Implementation

On determination that lightning and thunder is a moderate risk the following actions should be taken:

- Half hourly updates on weather position provided by the host

## FIH Operating Procedure

---

- Host to prepare for spectator safety, including evacuation if necessary, as outlined in the event Health & Safety plan as prepared by the host.
- FIH Technical Delegate to advise on likely course of action in relation to field of play and any affected related facilities, e.g. video tower
- Agreement between FIH Technical Delegate, Sport Operations Manager and LOC Host to reconvene to update discussion at appropriate timescale in relation to onset of weather. FIH Broadcast and FIH Event Director to be kept up to date.

On determination that thunder and lightning is high risk the following actions should be taken:

- Quarter hourly updates on weather position provided by the host
- Agreement on evacuation plan for spectators to be outlined by host.
- Technical Delegate to agree with Sport Operations Manager the timescale for taking decision in respect of field of play.
- TD to take decision on halting play and to notify all parties.
- If dope testing is being carried out at this time, ensure special transport to move athletes, facility and samples to the main hotel.
- Invokement of the FIH delay, postponement and cancellation procedure.

### **Post Incident Procedure**

- Play will not recommence until at least 20 minutes after the timing between thunder and lightning has extended to more than 20 seconds.
- If the match has to be rescheduled for completion, FIH will decide on the timing of the rescheduling having followed the FIH Delay, Postponement and Cancellation procedure.

### **Intense Rainfall**

---

Both the Rules of Hockey and FIH Tournament Regulations are silent about how to and who determines when a pitch is unfit for play. There is no definition at which point that a pitch is too filled with water to make it unplayable.

### **Procedure Implementation**

When heavy rainfall is forecast, the Technical Delegate will stay at the Technical Table and be in contact with the match umpires via the reserve umpire. If the umpires are of the view that the pitch has become unplayable, they will stop the match and consult with the Technical Delegate.

If the Technical Delegate deems the pitch unplayable, the match umpires will be contacted via the reserve umpire and instructed to stop the match.

The Technical Delegate should inform the Sport Operations Manager and Event Director as soon as possible if this situation is likely to occur or immediately following this decision if it is not foreseen in advance.

### **Post Incident Procedure**

- The FIH Delay, postponement and cancellation procedure should be followed.
- Play will recommence when the Technical Delegate decides that the pitch has become playable. This may be possible when it is still raining.

# FIH Operating Procedure

---

## High Temperatures

---

There are two aspects to this part of the policy. The first relates to when a match is played in the FIH World Event format, namely played in 4 periods of 15 minutes.

The second is when a match is played in the format specified in the Rules of Hockey, namely 2 periods of 35 minutes.

The provisions of this aspect of the policy will apply when the temperature in the team bench area (where the players are most readily able to reduce body temperature) is at 36°C, ten minutes before the start of a match or the second half of a match, i.e. the third period in the 4 x15 format or the second period in the 2 x 35 format. However, the threshold figure may be reviewed and lowered in locations where high relative humidity (more than 75%) prevails.

Measurement device should be stationed at the technical table as this has same conditions with team benches and does not interfere with the teams. The officials and if available, the Medical Officer will evaluate the measurements at half time/between quarters.

In case of high temperatures the host should provide special items for the goalie, such as cold drinks and ice, which are placed behind the goal. The goalie is permitted to take his/her helmet off while the play is on the other side of the field.

In both cases, the hosts shall provide two fans for each team bench and one for the Technical Table.

### Procedure Implementation

1. FIH 4 quarters of 15 minutes format
  - Team Managers will be advised before the start of the first or third period as appropriate that the policy is being implemented.
  - Breaks at the end of the first and third quarter will be extended to four minutes in order to allow players to rehydrate.
  - Where possible this rehydration should take place in the shade.
  
2. Two halves of 35 minutes format.
  - Team Managers will be advised before the start of the first or third period as appropriate that the policy is being implemented.
  - Breaks of four minutes will be taken at the end of 17½ minutes in order to allow players to rehydrate.
  - Where possible this rehydration should take place in the shade.
  - The match will be restarted by a centre pass taken by the team that started the period.
  - If at the end of 17½ minutes a Penalty Corner is in operation, the Penalty Corner will be completed in accordance with the Rules of Hockey for when this occurrence takes place at the end of a period.

## FIH Operating Procedure

---

### Procedure Approval

Name	Position		Date
David Luckes	Sport & Development Director	<i>D Luckes</i>	12 October 2015
Sarah Massey	Events and Marketing Director	<i>S Massey</i>	12 October 2015

### Document Creation and Date Last Modified

Author	Position	Version	Date Last Modified
Martyn Gallivan		V1	27/7/2015
Hilary Atkinson – minor amendments		V2	12/10/2015
Hilary Atkinson – minor amendments		V3	14/1/2016