



BARÇA
Academy

WEATHER POLICY

2020 / 2021



WEATHER POLICY

Weather conditions are the responsibility of the game officials, **BARÇA** Academy Austin Directors, and Coaches. Everyone should be aware of the potential dangers caused by different weather conditions, and we need to work together to keep the players and other participants as safe as possible. If the weather conditions warrant, coaches will discuss before the game/training starts what the procedures will be to ensure the players' safety. Club Directors, Coaches, and game officials will monitor weather conditions, including the National Weather Service's warnings and watches.

In ALL cases, **BARÇA** Academy Austin will keep the safety of its players, families, coaches, and all persons as the highest priority.

RAIN

Training sessions might be moved to turf if the grass fields are not playable

BARÇA Academy Austin operates in three different facilities:

- **Circuit of the Americas:** Grass (Mc Angus) and Turf (Turn 12 field)
- **Round Rock Multipurpose Complex:** Turf (for all the training sessions) and Grass
- **1849 Park:** Natural Grass

Because of the rain, the playable field conditions might be affected, and the facilities' managers will not let organizations practice in their fields. Pflugerville will determine by 4 PM (Monday-Thursday) if their fields are playable or not.

BARÇA Academy Austin has a backup plan if 1849 Park and COTA are not in good condition to train. Check the next slide to find out the plan:

**The training sessions at the Turf fields will be on unless the rain prevents soccer practice.*

RAIN

Training sessions might be moved to turf if the grass fields are not playable

- If at **12:00 PM**, there is a probability of rain and lightning equal to or greater than 60% verified by two different sources, all training sessions for the day move from:
 - 1849 Park to RRMC at that same time slot
 - COTA Mc Angus field to COTA Turf at the same time slot
- If at **2:00 PM**, there is a probability of rain and lightning equal to or greater than 50% verified by two different sources, all training sessions for the day move from:
 - 1849 Park to RRMC at that same time slot
 - COTA Mc Angus field to COTA Turf at the same time slot
- If between **4:00 PM** and **4:15 PM**, the City of Pflugerville closes the facility or if there is a probability of rain and lightning equal to or greater than 40% verified by two different sources, all training sessions for the day they move from 1849 Park to RRMC at that same time slot

RAIN

Training sessions might be moved to turf if the grass fields are not playable

- If between **5:15 PM** and **5:45 PM**, the City of Pflugerville closes the facility or if there is a probability of rain and lightning equal to or greater than 40% verified by two different sources, the last two shifts of the day's training move from 1849 Park to RRMC at that very moment.
- If between **6:45 PM** and **7:15 PM**, the City of Pflugerville closes the facility or if there is a probability of rain and lightning equal to or greater than 40% verified by two different sources, the last shift of training of the day moved from 1849 Park to RRMC at that very time.

SEVERE STORMS

Severe storms can produce high winds, heavy rain, hail, lightning, thunder, and tornados. If a severe storm approaches the playing area, the players' safety is the number one priority of coaches and referees and may require that the game be suspended while the shelter is sought. If the game is canceled, ALL participants MUST clear the field immediately and move into their cars or other safe, permanent shelter.

As a consequence of these storms, the facilities and fields might not be playable for the next hours or even days. In this case, the **BARÇA** Academy Austin will move the 1849 and the COTA (Mc Angus) training sessions to turf fields.

- 1849 Park to RRMC at that same time slot
- COTA Mc Angus field to COTA Turf at the same time slot

LIGHTNING & THUNDER

Lightning is the second leading cause of storm-related deaths (flooding is first). Lightning can strike up to 10 miles outside of a thunderstorm, literally a bolt from the blue. The danger from lightning can persist for 20-30 minutes or more after a thunderstorm has passed. The National Weather Service does not issue watches or warnings for lightning by itself. However, **BARÇA** Academy Austin uses a lightning detector that can advise storms and lightning up to 40 miles away.

If a person can hear thunder or see lightning, the danger is already present. A clear, sunny sky overhead with storm clouds nearby can still be dangerous.

LIGHTNING & THUNDER

Instructions in case of lightning

Suppose lightning is detected within 8-20 miles by the lightning detector. In that case, Club Directors and Coaches should use this information, along with local weather forecasts and radar patterns, to determine if training should be suspended. If there is any doubt, **BARÇA** Academy Austin will keep players, parents, and officials' safety, its highest priority. The play **MUST** be suspended until there is no danger detected for 30 minutes.

If lightning is detected by the lightning detector any closer than its setting of 8-20 miles, play **MUST** be immediately suspended, and the field should be cleared for no less than 30 minutes from the last detection of lightning.

BARÇA Academy Austin recommends that participants seek immediate shelter in their automobiles or designated severe weather shelter if there is one nearby. Smaller, open structures, tents, trees, isolated areas, etc., should be avoided. Cars with windows rolled up, or buses can provide adequate shelter. Do not stay in open, unprotected areas.

Games should not be restarted for at least 30 minutes after the last lightning strike is seen or detected or roll of thunder is heard.

LIGHTNING & THUNDER

Cancelation procedure in case of lightning

- Strike before 4:00 PM, players, families and coaches need to stay at their cars.
- Strike before 4:30 PM, players, families and coaches need to stay at their cars. If there is not a family member, players need to seek immediate shelter.
- Strike before 5:00 PM, delay until 5:30 PM. Same procedure as point 2.
- Strike at 5:30 PM, cancel the first turn and assess for the second turn.
- Strike before 6:00 PM, players, families and coaches need to stay at their cars. If there is not a family member, players need to seek immediate shelter.
- Strike before 6:30 PM, delay until 7:00 PM. Same procedure as point 5.
- Strike at 7:00 PM, cancel the second turn and assess for the third turn.
- Strike before 7:30 PM, players, families and coaches need to stay at their cars. If there is not a family member, players need to seek immediate shelter.
- Strike before 8:00 PM, delay until 8:30 PM. Same procedure as point 8.
- Strike at 8:30 PM, cancel the third turn.

** Also, the practice may be canceled under our technical or program directors decision if the weather forecast seems bad in the near future.*

HOT WEATHER

Heat is a problem when it prevents the body from cooling itself down. The hotter the body gets, the more likely it is to increase fatigue levels, develop cramps, and increase the possibility of heat exhaustion and heatstroke. The hotter and more humid the weather, the faster these problems can develop. Temperatures as low as 65 degrees, with a relative humidity of 100%, can be severe.

The next bullet points will help **BARÇA** Academy Austin determine the severity of the heat and plan accordingly.

HOT WEATHER

Games/trainings need to be adjusted when:

- 89°: Normal Play.
- 90°-99°: Mandatory two-minute water breaks per half with running time.
- 100°-105°: Mandatory two-minute water breaks per half with running time. Each half may be shortened by 5 minutes. Mandatory training breaks every 20 minutes.
- + 105°: Mandatory two-minute water breaks per half with running time. Mandatory shortening of halves by 5 minutes. Mandatory training breaks every 20 minutes and **MUST** shorten training session duration.
- Cold Weather

COLD WEATHER

For fall play, the cold becomes a factor. Field conditions will be affected by freezing temperatures, rain, freezing rain, and occasionally sleet and snow. The ground may become frozen and be unsafe for play. Climate means either ambient (still air) or wind chill index. **BARÇA** Academy Austin will check weather patterns and forecasts frequently for temperature and weather conditions.

The next cold index chart will help **BARÇA** Academy Austin determine the cold weather's severity and plan accordingly.

COLD WEATHER

Games/trainings need to be adjusted when:

- More or 50°: No Change
- Less or 49°: Allowable Additional Clothing:
 - Thermal underwear
 - Long sleeves
 - Long pants
 - Additional socks
 - Gloves
 - Nike hats without straps
- Less or 40°: Game/practice might be shortened (games 5 minutes per half).
- Less or 35°: Game/practice might be suspended.
- If the wind chill is below 35°: Directors might decide if to cancel or keep the training sessions/games on.

COMMUNICATION

The communication for any inclement weather condition will be shared with the **team managers** and through **RainedOut** (only cancellations will be sent through rainedout).

RainedOut

For weather cancellations, **BARÇA** Academy Austin uses the RainedOut platform. Families need to register with RainedOut to receive this notification.

To sign up, follow the steps below:

1. Visit the following link: [RainedOut](#)
2. Find "BARÇA Academy Austin 2019"
3. Follow the 3 steps
 1. Sign up: <enter mobile phone # or email address>
 2. Validation code: <code will be sent to mobile # or email address>
 3. Choose the facility alerts you want to receive.
4. You are all set

The link to RainedOut can also be found in the **BARÇA** Academy Austin website, at the tab [FIELD STATUS](#).



CONTACT US

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THANK YOU!



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