A logo of a football ball and castle

Description automatically generatedA logo for a football team

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**BRECHIN COMMUNITY CLUB WEATHER POLICY**

**BCC Weather Policy**

The purpose of the policy is to outline the responsibilities and actions to be taken when attending training or matches during sever weather conditions.

This policy applies to all coaches, players and officials taking into consideration travel requirements, safe working temperatures and adherence to local weather advice when warnings may be issued. Where work is planned to take place off-site, this policy will also apply.

**Implementing our policy**

These guidelines have been implemented to ensure that every BCC player plays within a safe environment during the season.  BCC will always monitor the forecast, temperature with wind-chill factor, field conditions and driving conditions when making any cancellations due to inclement weather.  Our club will always make a decision we feel is in the best interest of the safety of all players, parents and coaches.

**Cold Weather Protocol**

In order to prevent cold weather injury and provide for the safety of BCC players, the following protocol will be followed:

* BCC players should arrive at training and match play with proper attire including warmups, hats, and/or gloves.
* If the wind chill temperature falls **below -6 degrees c,**all outdoor team training sessions will be cancelled for U18 age groups.
* If the National Weather Service issues a Wind Chill Advisory, outdoor team training sessions will be limited to no more than 45 minutes (matches can be a day-of decision).
* If the National Weather Service issues a Wind Chill Warning, all outdoor team training sessions will be cancelled for U18 age groups.

**Warm Weather Protocol**

BCC will follow guidelines similar to those put in place by the National Weather Service pertaining to outdoor activity in severe warm weather.

* If the **Heat Index is between 40-43 degrees c**, all outdoor team training sessions will be limited to 60 minutes with water breaks every 15 minutes
  + Matches can be a day-of decision
  + Coaches have option to cancel at their discretion.
* If the **Heat Index is greater than 43 degrees c**, all outdoor team training sessions will be cancelled.

**Weather warnings**

The met office will issue guidance that should be followed by BCC in the occasion of bad weather.

**Yellow Warning:** Yellow warnings can be issued for a range of weather situations. Many are issued when it is likely that the weather will cause some low level impacts, including some disruption to travel in a few places. Many people may be able to continue with their daily routine, but there will be some that will be directly impacted and so it is important to assess if you could be affected. Other yellow warnings are issued when the weather could bring much more severe impacts to the majority of people but the certainty of those impacts occurring is much lower. It is important to read the content of yellow warnings to determine which weather situation is being covered by the yellow warning.

**Amber Warning:** There is an increased likelihood of impacts from severe weather, which could potentially disrupt your plans. This means there is the possibility of travel delays, road and rail closures, power cuts and the potential risk to life and property. You should think about changing your plans and taking action to protect yourself and your property. You may want to consider the impact of the weather on your family and your community and whether there is anything you need to do ahead of the severe weather to minimise the impact.

**Red Warning:** Dangerous weather is expected and, if you haven’t already done so, you should take action now to keep yourself and others safe from the impact of the severe weather. It is very likely that there will be a risk to life, with substantial disruption to travel, energy supplies and possibly widespread damage to property and infrastructure. You should avoid travelling, where possible, and follow the advice of the emergency services and local authorities.

**Good practice guidelines/advice to parents**

Whilst the club have a strict Child Welfare policy, it is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to ensure that a child is dressed accordingly for the weather conditions when your child plays football, whether it be for training or a match. Football can be played in very cold / wet conditions and your children need to be suitably dressed. Please take note of the following points:

• We recognise as a club that it is difficult during cold weather for players on the touchline so we will as a club endeavour to rotate substitutes where possible, so players are not stood still in cold or wet weather for prolonged periods.

• As a minimum, your child should come to training and matches during winter months with a coat/training jacket to wear above their kit. Under kit thermals are also highly recommended.

* All children should be prepared for training/games with a suitable drink in all weathers.

Further BCC information and policies can be found on our website - <https://brechincommunityclub.co.uk/>