



Wet Surface Guideline

Outdoor Courts and Fields – Wet Surface Guideline

Please be advised that when booking or using Loyalist Township facilities including outdoors courts and fields, it is the responsibility of the Permit Holder to ensure that all facility users in connection to the Agreement adhere to the following protocols.

Outdoor courts are defined as pickleball courts, tennis courts, basketball court/nets, and park paved spaces, including all areas pertaining to playing surfaces.

Outdoor fields are defined as soccer fields and ball diamonds, including all areas pertaining to the playing surface.

In the interest of maintaining high quality playing outdoor courts and fields and, in an effort, to prevent injury, Loyalist Township will enforce the following guideline and procedures when outdoor courts or fields become saturated.

Guideline

Loyalist Township recognizes the preservation and maintenance of its outdoor courts and fields to the highest industry standards benefits customer groups and preserves important Township assets. In order to preserve these spaces and to promote their use, the Township is committed to protecting the outdoor courts and fields against non-permitted or unauthorized use. The Township will not allow play on outdoor courts and fields when there is visual ponding of water on the surface or if the space is saturated.

*The definition of a saturated space is one where the soil or concrete cannot absorb any additional moisture and water runs off the surface or pools. The easiest method to determine if a space is saturated is to walk on the playing surface. If the water is pushed around the foot, then the space is saturated.

Procedure

The Recreation Clerk will ensure that all outdoor courts and fields customer groups receive the Wet Surface Guideline.

When conditions warrant the closing of outdoor courts or fields due to excessive rainfall, the Supervisor of Parks and Facilities or designate will contact the Recreation Clerk to advise that the outdoor courts or fields are unplayable.

The Recreation Clerk will inform the Permit holder by e-mail.

If the closure happens prior to 3:00 p.m. The Township will contact the permit holder to advise them of the closure. After 3:00 p.m. the customer groups are asked to follow the Wet Surface Guideline.

If a customer group arrives at an outdoor court or field where there is evidence of surface water or the space is saturated as per the above definition, the customer group will be asked not to play on the space by League Administrators, Game Officials and/or Township staff.



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In situations where Township staff are not present, the League and or Game Officials will ensure the Wet Surface Guideline is adhered to.

Several factors should be considered, including the safety of the participants, the possibility of liability through accident or injury, and the unnecessary expense of outdoor court or field repairs and maintenance including an extended outdoor court or field closure to make necessary repairs.

If a group ignores the “UNPLAYABLE” conditions, the following consequences may occur:

- I. The permit holder will be required to pay for all damages to the outdoor court or field arising from abuse to the facility where the permitted group is proven responsible.
- II. The permit holder will be held liable and responsible for accidents or injuries incurred because of unsafe conditions.
- III. The permit holder will have their permit suspended or revoked for any future use of an outdoor court or field controlled by Loyalist Township.

Once Loyalist Township has closed an outdoor court or field, the Township will remove that booking from the customers contract and if appropriate will place a credit on the customer's account.

If the permit holder has not utilized an outdoor court or field due to unplayable conditions, they **must** contact the Recreation Clerk via email at bookings@loyalist.ca by noon **the following day**. Where use of the outdoor court or field was scheduled for the weekend, the Permit holder **must** notify the Recreation Clerk by **noon the following Monday**.

Zero tolerance

Loyalist Township is committed to providing a respectful work environment, free from discrimination, harassment, and violence. All citizens, customers, and employees deserve a safe, healthy, supportive environment that is based on respect for the dignity and rights of all. We will not tolerate discrimination, harassment, or violence by anyone. Incidents may result in removal from the premises.