



## USTA Kentucky League Championships Emergency Care Guidelines

Friend at Court (FAC) will be used as a guide for all League Championships in Kentucky. These can be found on pages 167 – 171 of the 2019 FAC. Changes or delays due to heat and/or other weather related conditions will be the ultimate decision of the Championship Referee and the Championship Committee along with the Tournament Director.

Each Site Box will contain the following:

- A basic First Aid Kit
- Plastic bags to be used for ice in case of an emergency
- Latex exam gloves to be used by anyone who may come in direct contact with blood
  - o Practical example of use would be someone holding pressure with a towel\* to stop bleeding
- Emergency phone numbers
  - o Nearest Hospital Name/location/phone
  - o 911
    - When to call 911? An **emergency** is any situation that requires immediate assistance from the police, fire department or ambulance.
- Entrance to be used to best access the tennis courts

Supplies that will be on hand – provided to each Site Director and Volunteers

- \*Towels
  - o Each site will be given 2 towels to be used if the need occurs for an emergency
- Ice
  - o Site Directors and their volunteers are responsible for starting the day with a large bag of ice set aside for emergencies only. As needed Volunteer Coordinator will see that ice is replenished at all sites throughout each day.
  - o To be used for strains/sprains and any heat illness where needed

Where water is not provided on court, bottled water will be available at the site desk. Volunteers will be responsible for making sure additional bottles are requested in a timely manner if needed.

### Weather Related Issues

*Most important! Be sure to have a fully charged phone. It is recommended Site Directors and Volunteers enter phone numbers from Site Schedule to know when the Referee or Tournament Director are trying to reach you. Keep phone on (low) or vibrate to know when to answer.*

## RAIN

If rain is imminent, radar indicated, Site Directors/Volunteers would be expected to begin packing their site supplies, keeping out only the line-up card for matches on court. This is to prepare for torrential downpour and to not be caught out in the open. If located in park, pull car as close as possible to load supplies and to be ready to get out of rain.

- Play will stop one of two ways:
  - o Referee on site will stop play when they determine it is no longer safe
  - o Players will stop play when they no longer feel it is safe
    - It takes only one player on a court to not feel safe to stop play
  - o Once play stops at your site
    - Call the Referee to notify that play has stopped
    - Referee, Tournament Director and Championship Committee will be checking radar to determine if play will be kept outside or moved indoors
    - It is very important to keep your phone handy and answer calls during this time as it may be one of the above trying to reach you with instructions
    - **Instruct players to keep the balls, they will resume with same balls**
    - **Be sure to get score from all courts, write on the back of scorecard down to who was serving and game score.**
- Play will resume once the Referee determines courts are safe to begin play
  - o This may be communicated via phone working with the Site Director, Tournament Director or another tournament official.

If rain causes play to move indoors:

- Volunteer Coordinator along with Tournament Director will be asking Site Directors and Volunteers to move to indoor facilities as needed.
- You may be asked to communicate with players, DO NOT LET THEM LEAVE SITE IF THERE IS A PLACE TO STAY DRY. If there is no protection and they need to go to cars, be sure to communicate that they will be getting message via texting service, to check phones. THIS OF COURSE ONLY IF THEY HAVE REGISTERED TO RECEIVE TEXT as directed on registration.
- If moved to indoor facility take all supplies unless directed to do otherwise
  - o Balls
  - o Court board
  - o Site box
  - o Emergency Ice
- You will be instructed as determined what matches will be sent to your facility.
  - o This takes time, patience is very important as this is worked through, again keep phone handy and charged as you will be called with pertinent information

## THUNDERSTORMS AND LIGHTNING

- If lightning is sighted and thunder then occurs in 30 seconds or less, instruct everyone on site to seek appropriate shelter.
  - o Notify the Referee this has occurred and note the time.
  - o The referee will instruct on the 30/30 rule which is as follows:
    - Dividing the number of seconds between lightning and thunder by 5 gives the distance of lightning in miles. (example, a flash-to-bang count of 30 seconds means a distance of 6 miles)

- The referee will instruct all sites once the all clear has been given to resume play. This will come no sooner than 30 minute following the last lightning strike.

### **HEAT INDEX**

- If the Heat Index is at or above 104 based on the National Weather Service for the area in which a championship is being held the following options will be considered by the referee in this order.
  - A schedule allowing 2 hours per match versus the normal 1.5 hours will be implemented. This may be done at the beginning of a championship if the forecast warrants a concern. The Championship Committee will determine along with the Referee and the Tournament Director if this is a step to be implemented and at what time.
  - Stopping play during the hottest part of day, this however will be determined by number of courts, courts with lights and total number of matches to be completed.
  - No-ad scoring
  - Shortened format
    - Two sets to 4, set tie-break at 4 all with match tie-break at one set each
  - 8 Game Pro Set
    - One set first to 8 by 2 games with no-ad scoring
  - Other options at the discretion of the Championship Committee, Referee and Tournament Director