



SURGE AQUATICS AT DAVENPORT WEATHER POLICY

The safety of our swimmers, families, and coaching staff is our highest priority. Because Davenport is an outdoor facility, practices may be modified, delayed, shortened, relocated, or canceled due to weather or environmental conditions. The coach on duty will evaluate current conditions and make decisions based on athlete safety, facility procedures, and the ability of the coaching staff to safely supervise all swimmers.

SEVERE WEATHER

Thunderstorms:

Thunderstorm protocol should be activated if:

- Lightning is seen.
- Thunder is heard.
- Hail is falling.
- Rain is so heavy that the coach on duty cannot clearly see the bottom of the pool from the deck.
- High winds, flooding, or other storm conditions make continued practice unsafe.

**Rain alone does not automatically result in practice being canceled. Practice may continue during light or moderate rain when no lightning or thunder is present, the bottom of the pool remains clearly visible, and swimmers can be safely supervised.*

Thunderstorm Protocol:

1. Immediately remove all swimmers from the water.
2. Swimmers should collect their belongings, when it is safe to do so, and move to the girls' locker room to shelter in place.
3. Swimmers must remain in the designated shelter area and follow all instructions from the coach on duty and facility staff.
4. Swimmers may not remain on the pool deck, underneath outdoor coverings, or near the water during a lightning delay.
5. If conditions are safe for travel, swimmers who drove themselves may be permitted to leave at the discretion of the coach on duty.



6. Younger swimmers may only be released to a parent, guardian, or authorized adult.
7. Practice may resume only after the required lightning waiting period has passed following the most recent lightning strike or sound of thunder and the coach on duty or facility staff have determined that conditions are safe.
8. Each additional lightning strike or sound of thunder restarts the required waiting period.
9. Depending on the length of the delay and the amount of practice time remaining, swimmers may return to practice or be dismissed for the day at the discretion of the coach on duty.

Tornado Watch:

Tornado Watch Protocol should be activated when a Tornado Watch is issued for the area. A Tornado Watch means conditions are favorable for the development of tornadoes. When a Tornado Watch is in effect, the coach on duty must have a charged phone nearby, remain aware of changing weather conditions, and periodically check for updated alerts.

Tornado Watch Protocol

1. All swimmers should be informed that a Tornado Watch is in effect.
2. Swimmers should be reminded of the Tornado Warning Protocol and the designated shelter location.
3. The coach on duty should continue monitoring official weather alerts throughout practice.
4. The coach may modify, shorten, or cancel the remainder of practice if conditions are worsening or if a Tornado Warning appears likely.
5. The coach should ensure that swimmers can be moved quickly and safely to the girls' locker room if a Tornado Warning is issued.



Tornado Warning:

Tornado Warning Protocol should be activated immediately when a Tornado Warning is issued for the area. A Tornado Warning means a tornado has been detected or indicated and immediate protective action is required.

The coach on duty must have a charged phone available and continue monitoring official alerts. Swimmers may not leave the facility during an active Tornado Warning unless they are released directly to a parent or guardian and the coach determines that leaving is safer than remaining at the facility.

Tornado Warning Protocol

1. Immediately instruct all swimmers to exit the water.
2. Swimmers should leave their belongings behind unless those belongings can be collected without delaying movement to shelter.
3. Move all swimmers immediately to the girls' locker room or the facility's designated tornado shelter.
4. Swimmers should move away from exterior doors, windows, glass, and open areas.
5. Swimmers must remain in the designated shelter area and follow all instructions from the coach on duty and facility staff.
6. Swimmers may not leave the facility on their own during an active Tornado Warning.
7. Parents and guardians should not attempt to enter the pool deck or remove swimmers from the shelter area without first communicating with the coach on duty or facility staff.
8. Once the Tornado Warning has expired and conditions have been determined to be safe, swimmers may return to practice or be dismissed for the day at the discretion of the coach on duty and based on the amount of scheduled practice time remaining.



Cold Weather:

Cold Weather Protocol should be considered when the outdoor air temperature or wind chill falls below 45°F. When cold weather conditions exist, the coach on duty will evaluate the overall environment, including:

- Air temperature
- Wind chill
- Pool water temperature
- Precipitation
- Ice or freezing conditions
- Swimmer age and ability
- Length and intensity of the planned practice
- The ability of swimmers to safely remain warm before and after practice

Competitive training pools are generally maintained between 78°F and 82°F. Pool water temperature must be considered together with the air temperature, wind chill, precipitation, and length of exposure.

The coach should not rely on a single combined air-and-water temperature formula when determining whether conditions are safe. Instead, the total environment should be evaluated. If the pool water temperature falls below its normal operating range, or if the combination of cold air, wind, precipitation, and water temperature increases the risk of excessive heat loss, practice may be modified, shortened, relocated indoors, or canceled.

The coach on duty may:

- Continue practice as scheduled.
- Modify the practice plan.
- Reduce the amount of time swimmers remain inactive on deck.
- Eliminate or shorten outdoor dryland activities.
- Shorten the duration of practice.
- Move practice indoors when an appropriate indoor facility is available.
- Cancel practice if conditions are determined to be unsafe.



Practice will generally not be conducted when:

- The outdoor air temperature or wind chill is below 35°F.
- Freezing precipitation is present.
- Ice creates an unsafe environment on the pool deck, walkways, parking areas, or surrounding roads.
- The pool water temperature is outside the facility's safe operating range.
- The combination of air temperature, wind chill, water temperature, and exposure time creates an unacceptable risk to swimmers or coaches.

Swimmers should arrive with warm clothing, shoes, and a towel so they can cover up immediately after leaving the water.

Extreme Heat:

Extreme Heat Protocol should be considered when the heat index reaches 100°F or higher. During periods of excessive heat, the coach on duty will evaluate environmental conditions, including:

- Heat index
- Air temperature
- Humidity
- Sun exposure
- Pool water temperature
- Availability of shade
- Swimmer age and ability
- Planned practice intensity
- Length of exposure

Pool water temperature should also be monitored during periods of extreme heat. Water that becomes excessively warm may reduce the body's ability to release heat and may increase the risk of heat-related illness during strenuous training.

To reduce the risk of heat-related illness, the coach on duty may:



- Increase hydration opportunities.
- Increase recovery periods between sets.
- Reduce training intensity.
- Modify the planned workout.
- Reduce or eliminate outdoor dryland activities.
- Limit time spent standing on the pool deck.
- Move swimmers into a shaded or indoor area when available.
- Shorten the duration of practice.
- Move practice indoors when an appropriate indoor facility is available.
- Cancel practice if conditions are determined to be unsafe.

Practice will generally not be conducted when:

- The heat index exceeds 105°F.
- The pool water temperature is outside the facility's safe operating range.
- The combination of heat, humidity, direct sunlight, warm pool water, and planned training intensity creates an unacceptable risk to athlete safety.
- Coaches cannot provide adequate hydration, recovery, shade, or supervision.

Swimmers should arrive with a filled water bottle and should immediately notify a coach if they experience dizziness, nausea, headache, confusion, chills, unusual fatigue, muscle cramps, or any other signs of heat-related illness.

OTHER FACILITY-IMPACTING CONDITIONS

Practice may also be modified, delayed, shortened, relocated, or canceled because of:

- High winds
- Hail
- Flooding
- Unsafe road conditions
- Poor air quality
- Power outages



- Facility equipment failure
- Water-quality concerns
- Facility closures
- Any other condition that limits the coaching staff's ability to safely supervise swimmers

Communication:

Families will be notified of known cancellations or schedule changes as soon as reasonably possible through the team's normal communication channels. Weather conditions can change rapidly. Some decisions may need to be made shortly before practice or after practice has already begun. Unless an official cancellation has been communicated, families should assume practice will proceed as scheduled.

Families should continue monitoring team communication whenever severe weather is possible. Families should always use their own judgment when determining whether local weather or road conditions are safe for travel. If practice is shortened or canceled after it has begun, families should remain available to pick up their swimmers promptly.

Coach's Authority:

No written policy can account for every possible weather or emergency situation. The coach on duty has the authority to continue, modify, delay, relocate, shorten, suspend, or cancel practice whenever conditions are believed to present an unreasonable risk to swimmers, coaches, families, or facility staff. All weather-related decisions will be made in coordination with facility procedures when applicable. Decisions made by the coach on duty and facility staff are final.