

Flooding

Flood alert/warning received

What to do to minimise the impact of flooding following a flood alert / flood warning



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Issues to consider

- A flood alert (yellow) means flooding is possible and you should prepare for flooding by putting your flood plan into action
- A flood warning (amber) means that flooding is expected and immediate action required
- A severe flood warning (red) means that severe flooding is expected and there is the potential for loss of life
- The time available may be very limited and fast action now can limit damage, reduce the cost to your club and enable you to get your facilities back into operation as quickly as possible
- Your insurance company will expect you to take all reasonable precautions to minimise damage wherever possible and it is important to remember that even the best policies do not cover all the costs incurred.



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Actions

Where a plan has not been developed there are key actions that need to be taken to minimise risk and the impact of the flooding. However, be very careful and ensure that safety is your primary concern.

- 1. Put your club flood plan into action (if you have one)**

The club flood plan is very important as it has been carefully considered and is specific to your facilities. Key members of the club will know their role and the actions that need to be taken and when. For efficiency and safety reasons it is important that the plan is followed in full.
- 2. Turn off your gas, electricity and water supply**

Turning these off will reduce the risks of electrocution and leaks which are often a serious problem during flooding.

Make sure you do not turn off the power supply to any emergency flood water pumps, for example in cellars.
- 3. Move valuable equipment and supplies away from the risk of flooding**

This could be by taking them upstairs or by just putting them on a table to get them above the anticipated flood level. Ideally if time and alternative storage is available you should move them to a new location that is safe and secure and away from the flood waters.
- 4. Move machinery and outdoor sports equipment away from the risk of flooding**

Moving machinery and equipment can be difficult and dangerous due to their potential size and weight. Do not attempt to move them if the right equipment and trained people are not available. Accidents can easily occur if the lifting/moving is not properly planned. However, if it can be safely moved you can save a significant amount of money and disruption after the flood. Remember it only takes 0.6 m (2 ft) of flood water to float a car and a water damaged mower will be expensive to repair.
- 5. Put sand bags and flood protection devices in place**
- 6. Check the requirements of your insurance company**

Check now the requirements of your insurance company for reporting flood damage. Your insurance broker will be able to help you interpret what is required. Time taken now to understand what is required will enable you to make a better claim for any loss incurred as a result of the flood.

If possible, and safe, take photographs to record the condition of any facilities at risk.

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Further help and information

Further help and advice can be found on the following flood information sheets produced by Sport England and the governing bodies of sport.

- **How to plan ahead** – What to do to minimise the impact of future flooding of your sports facilities
- **Developing a club flood plan** – Making sure everyone knows what to do in a flood.
- **Flood resilient design** - How to make sports facilities more resilient to flooding
- **After the flood – buildings** – How to recover from a flood safely and quickly
- **After the flood – pitches and courts** – How to recover from a flood safely and quickly.

Seek professional advice

We strongly recommend that you seek professional advice from a building surveyor, architect or other independent professional if you are considering flood protection and or recovery solutions for your property and facilities.

There is no formal assurance scheme for flood surveyors, but the following professional institutions hold lists of members who have undergone internal vetting and adhere to a common code of conduct:

- Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)
<http://www.rics.org/uk/>
- Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)
<http://www.architecture.com/Home.aspx>

Check with your local Environment Agency office if you plan to take measures which could affect the flow of a river or divert flood water to other properties. Call them on **03708 506 506** and ask to speak to someone in the Partnerships and Strategic Overview team in your local area.

Check with your local Environment Agency office if you plan to take measures which could affect the flow of a river or divert flood water to other properties.

This guidance is one of a series of information sheets that have been developed by Sport England, the England and Wales Cricket Board, the Football Association, the Rugby Football League, the Rugby Football Union, The Lawn Tennis Association and England Hockey to provide simple advice to voluntary clubs on minimising the impact of flooding on their sports facilities and to enable them to plan and act safely and effectively.

These sheets are not intended to replace experienced expert advisors from the local authority, Environment Agency or specialist consultant.



Alternative Languages and Formats:

This document can be provided in alternative languages, or alternative formats such as large print, Braille, tape and on disk upon request. Call the Sport England switchboard on 08458 508 508 for more details.

National Governing Bodies Main Offices:

England and Wales Cricket Board	020 7432 1200	http://www.ecb.co.uk/
England Hockey Board	01628 897500	http://www.englishockey.co.uk/
Lawn Tennis Association	020 8487 7000	http://www.lta.org.uk/
Rugby Football League	0844 477 7113	http://www.rfl.co.uk/
Rugby Football Union	0871 222 2120	http://www.rfu.com/
The Football Association	0844 980 8200	http://www.thefa.com/

User Guide:

Before using this guidance for any specific projects all users should refer to the User Guide to understand when and how to use the guidance as well as understanding the limitations of use.

Click here for **'User Guide'**

Click here for current **'Design and Cost Guidance'**

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Further Information:

To find out more about Sport England and to get the latest news and information about our various initiatives and programmes, please go to www.sportengland.org