

Wind & Adverse Weather Guidance

RI-GD-002 | Version 2.0 | APPROVED

Document Ref	Version	Status	Issue Date	Review	Owner
RI-GD-002	2.0	APPROVED	August 2026	Annual / material change	Rugby Inflatables

Purpose

To provide clear controls for wind, rain and other adverse weather affecting the safe setup and outdoor use of inflatable equipment.

Scope

Applies to outdoor Rugby Inflatables hires. It supports the risk assessments, supervision procedure and emergency procedures.

Weather safety principle

- Outdoor inflatables must not be operated in strong winds or weather conditions that make use unsafe.
- The maximum wind speed is 38 km/h (24 mph), unless the inflatable manufacturer specifies a lower limit.
- Outdoor hires are supplied with an anemometer and wind-recording guidance.
- Heavy rain, thunderstorms, flooding or other deteriorating conditions may require use to be stopped.
- Rugby Inflatables will not set up or continue operating equipment where conditions are considered unsafe.

24 mph is a maximum - not a target

Use must stop at 38 km/h (24 mph), or sooner where a lower manufacturer limit applies or conditions such as strong gusts, rain, ground deterioration or instability make continued operation unsafe.

1. Before travelling / setting up

- Review the current forecast and expected conditions for the hire period.
- Consider wind, gusts, rain, thunderstorms, extreme heat and other conditions that could affect safe operation.
- Where severe weather is expected, Rugby Inflatables may discuss an indoor alternative, delayed setup, earlier collection, rescheduling or cancellation.
- Final setup remains subject to the actual conditions and site assessment on arrival.

2. Site assessment on arrival

- Assess the site and surrounding exposure before inflating the equipment.
- Check that the ground and anchorage remain suitable for the expected conditions.
- Consider nearby buildings, trees and open areas that may influence wind conditions or introduce additional hazards.
- Do not inflate where Rugby Inflatables considers the conditions unsafe.

3. Wind monitoring during the hire

- Keep the supplied anemometer and wind-recording guidance accessible throughout an outdoor hire.
- Measure wind conditions regularly and whenever conditions noticeably change.
- Take readings in a position that reasonably represents the wind affecting the inflatable.
- Continue monitoring throughout use; a forecast does not replace on-site wind measurement.
- Record readings in accordance with the supplied guidance.

4. Wind limit & gusting conditions

- Stop use if wind reaches 38 km/h (24 mph), or the lower manufacturer limit where applicable.
- Do not wait for the inflatable to visibly move, lift or become unstable before acting.
- Strong or unpredictable gusts may require use to stop even where an individual reading is below the maximum.
- Rugby Inflatables may apply a more cautious decision where the site, equipment or conditions justify it.

5. What to do when wind becomes unsafe

- Stop play and calmly evacuate all users.
- Prevent anyone from re-entering the inflatable.
- Follow the Rugby Inflatables handover/weather instructions for making the equipment safe.
- Do not move, reposition or interfere with anchorage points.
- Contact Rugby Inflatables if assistance or further instruction is required.
- Only resume use when conditions are safely within the permitted limit and the equipment remains safe.

6. Rain & wet conditions

- Monitor the bouncing surface, entrance, exit, slide and safety mats during rain.
- Stop use immediately if surfaces become wet enough to create a slipping hazard.
- Heavy or persistent rain may require use to stop and the equipment to be made safe.
- Electrical equipment and connections must be protected from unsuitable weather and standing water.
- Dry relevant surfaces and reassess conditions before allowing use to resume.

7. Thunderstorms & severe weather

- Stop inflatable use where thunderstorms or other severe weather create an unsafe condition.
- Move users to a suitable safe or sheltered area and follow the venue/event emergency arrangements.
- Do not allow anyone to shelter inside or beneath an inflatable.
- Do not resume use until the severe weather has passed and the equipment/site have been reassessed.

8. Ground deterioration / flooding

- Stop use if heavy rain, waterlogging or flooding affects the stability of the setup, anchorage or electrical equipment.

- Keep users and the public away from affected electrical connections.
- Do not attempt to reposition anchorage or equipment yourself.
- Contact Rugby Inflatables where site conditions deteriorate during the hire.

9. Extreme heat

- Hot weather is managed under RI-GD-001 - Extreme Heat Guidance.
- Pause or stop use where inflatable surfaces become excessively hot or users show heat-related symptoms.
- Weather decisions should consider the combined effect of heat, direct sunlight and user welfare.

10. Resuming use after adverse weather

- Do not resume simply because rain or wind appears to have eased.
- Confirm wind is within the permitted limit and conditions are stable.
- Check that the inflatable, mats, surrounding ground, anchorage and electrical arrangements remain suitable.
- Where equipment has been made safe or a fault is suspected, contact Rugby Inflatables before resuming if instructed to do so.

11. Weather-related decisions & records

- Rugby Inflatables' safety decision on whether equipment can be set up or operated is final.
- Record significant weather decisions, wind readings and any period where use is stopped where required by the hire guidance.
- Report any weather-related movement, damage, electrical issue or incident to Rugby Inflatables.
- Follow RI-EP-001 Emergency Procedures where adverse weather results in an emergency.

12. Roles & responsibilities

Role	Responsibility
Rugby Inflatables operator	Review forecasts and actual conditions, assess the site, refuse or stop setup where unsafe, complete the handover and apply the relevant equipment/manufacture limits.
Responsible hirer / nominated adult	Maintain supervision, monitor weather and wind during the hire using the supplied guidance, stop use when required and prevent interference with equipment or anchorage.
Rugby Inflatables event staff	Where present, monitor conditions, stop activity when limits or unsafe conditions are reached and escalate weather or equipment concerns.

13. Related controlled documents

- RI-SOP-001 - Method of Work: Inflatable Setup & Collection
- RI-SOP-002 - Supervision & Safe Operation of Inflatables
- RI-EP-001 - Emergency Procedures
- RI-GD-001 - Extreme Heat Guidance
- RI-RA-001 - Bouncy Castle Risk Assessment
- RI-RA-002 - Bounce & Slide Combo Risk Assessment

Document approval

Prepared by	Approved by	Approval date	Next review
Rugby Inflatables	Macaulay Peel - Owner	08 August 2026	August 2027

Revision history

Version	Date	Change	Status
2.0	August 2026	Created by consolidating the existing wind/adverse-weather controls from the Rugby Inflatables handbook, risk assessments and approved supervision procedure. Covers the 24 mph maximum, anemometer monitoring, rain, storms, site deterioration and safe resumption.	Approved