

MLAX Weather and Practice Field Procedures

MLAX wants you to be able to practice as much as possible and appreciates the effort that coaches put forth to secure alternative practice times and places! Every year MLAX secures as many hours as possible at Golden Goal for the first 3 weeks of March. For Spring 2022, MLAX has secured over 40 hours at \$155 per hour or over \$6,000 of indoor time. This time will be allocated to teams based on weather circumstances and need. In addition, with the new turf at Stagecoach, hopefully we will be able to utilize that field early season much more than in the past.

If you are not able to practice outside, here is a summary of the potential options you have as a coach to secure practice time outside of your normal Golden Goal time allotments:

1) Secure time at indoor facilities down the hill (Golden Goal, APEX Center, Foothills, et al). These facilities typically charge ~\$150+ per hour. Once we are passed the first 3 weeks of March pre-booked times, these charges are NOT covered by MLAX. This is a team expense if you choose to reserve and practice at these facilities. Your team's appetite for this option is at your discretion. You are responsible for your own scheduling.

2) Secure time at local school indoor gym facilities in Evergreen or Conifer. These facilities are now charging \$25-35/hour and are hardwood floors or carpet (basically basketball courts). MLAX will cover up to \$150 per team per season. You are responsible for booking and paying for this time with the individual school and then you can submit a receipt to MLAX for reimbursement. Your team's appetite for this option is at your discretion (less cost, less productive for certain teams). All MLAX teams need to be very respectful of these facility's rules less we lose the opportunity to utilize them.

3) Move your practice to an alternative practice slot during the week.

Normally there are a number of slots available that are open for practice and we should take advantage of this! However, you absolutely need to clear any and all practice changes with Krista Emrich. A simple email to us will suffice and we will reply as soon as we can. In no circumstance should you assume that a slot is open without getting approval with us. We manage practice times to make sure all teams have room to practice. We will not allow "pre-booking" more than 1-2 days out and we will allocate based on "need". For example, a new team that has had no practice for the week will get preference over an experienced team that has had practice twice already.

All teams are allocated a certain portion of a field and have been given 2 goals with which to practice: Stagecoach: 3 slots – horizontal; Marshdale: 3 slots – horizontal; EMS: 2 slots – horizontal;

On any given day, a field that is normally open or only has 1 or 2 teams on it, may be filled up with up to 3 teams (Marshdale or Stagecoach can have a max of 3, EMS only 2). This is especially true on weather days. **Thus, assuming the new team has followed the proper procedures, you need to be respectful of teams that may come on to a field even if they are not normally scheduled there.**

Last, if you have a unique situation (scrimmage request, game reschedule, skills session, etc) you want to discuss outside of these options, we are always open to discuss and encourage you to do so!

These rules are in place to balance the need to practice with the reality that MLAX does not have unlimited capital. ***We WANT you to be able to practice, but we need to shuffle things around in an organized manner to prevent chaos.***