



EXTREME HEAT & WET WEATHER POLICY

This Policy is supported by Netball Victoria and VicSport guidelines.

1. A common sense approach is to be used when applying this weather policy.
2. The weather policy will be located in the Competition Office for consistent application and applied to promote player participation.
3. In the event of extreme weather conditions, all teams must still report to the Association's venue UNLESS OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION from the Association is received otherwise.
4. In order to qualify players, score sheets must be correctly filled in.
5. The Umpire Supervisor and the Competition Manager on duty will determine whether matches for a time slot should be cancelled.
6. If a decision cannot be reached, any Executive Committee member or ordinary voting committee member shall make the final decision.
7. The Umpire Supervisor and the Competition Manager on duty must consider the following Policy guidelines.
8. Teams will be advised prior to the commencement of games if quarters are to be shortened due to weather factors.

EXTREME HEAT POLICY

In the case of extreme heat, prior to each match commencing, readings will be recorded from Bureau of Meteorology – Viewbank station and the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature Chart (WBGT) will be consulted to incorporate the humidity and determine the relative temperature.

1. Go to <http://www.bom.gov.au/products/IDV65079.shtml> to locate the Thermal Comfort Observations for Victoria.
2. Review the Bureau of Meteorology Viewbank figures which is the closest weather station the DDNA courts. Locate the WBGT (Sun) which is the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature figure for Viewbank.
3. In the event that the WBGT exceeds 30°C, an environmental assessment shall be undertaken and consideration will be given to:
 - a. Reducing the quarters
 - b. Allowing longer breaks between quarters
4. In the event that the WBGT is 34.0°C:
 - a. matches in progress shall be suspended at the end of the current quarter
 - b. Play will not resume until the WBGT is less than 34.0°C
 - c. New matches must not commence until the WBGT is less than 34.0°C

Nothing in this by-law policy should be taken that a workable and sensible decision cannot be made to assist the comfort of players, umpires and officials during a match despite the numbers. Measures can be undertaken to minimise heat effects:

- Including the provision of hats, appropriate sunscreen, damp/wet towels, spray bottles, drinking water and seeking shade outside of playing time.
- Players should commence their hydration plan 24 hours in advance of their scheduled match time.

WET WEATHER POLICY

The following non-exhaustive factors shall be taken into consideration:

1. Coverage of courts by water
2. Heavy rainfall
3. Medium to heavy rainfall accompanied by wind, hail or sleet
4. Threat of or actual lightning; and
5. Dust storm

Matches cancelled are done so in the interests of safety.

1. Matches will not be cancelled due to cold weather
2. When playing any sport, players are voluntarily exposing themselves to a variety of risks for the sake of participation. YOU must decide whether the risks you choose to take are ACCEPTABLE risks for you/your child.
3. If players/coaches wish to forfeit their match they are free to do so. If both teams agree no points will be given. If only one team wishes to forfeit then the other team will receive the points for the game.
4. If parents do not want their children to play for whatever reason, they have that option. “Peer pressure” is less relevant than your child’s perceived safety.
5. Decisions will always be a balance between the enthusiasm of players who generally want to play and their health and safety, which is paramount.
6. At no stage do spectators, parents, players or team officials need to approach the Competition or Umpire Supervisors regarding the weather. Announcements will be made by the Competition Manager over the PA system and media updated in a timely manner.