

# **Extreme Weather Policy**

March 2020

#### **Overview**

Netball is traditionally an outdoor sport and as such, it is the recommendation of Netball SA that all netball activities should proceed unless conditions are severe. When severe weather is forecast, SUNA Management shall monitor weather reports from local authorities as well as conditions at the venue to determine whether matches should proceed or be cancelled.

## **Hot Weather & Fire Danger**

All matches will be cancelled if the actual temperature reading on the day of competition for each respective age group as reported at 4.00pm at SUNA is:

34.0 °C + for 9 & Under and 11 & Under Competitions

36.0 °C + for 13 & Under, Intermediates and Seniors Competitions

When matches are not cancelled during hot weather, SUNAs Duty Supervisors will monitor temperatures and then may offer longer break times and extra drinks breaks. This will be communicated prior to matches commencing to both match umpires and coaches and also announced over the PA system at SUNA.

In the event of a Catastrophic Fire Danger forecast for Mt Lofty ranges, all matches shall be automatically cancelled by SUNA Management.

### **Wet Weather**

Matches may be postponed due to:

- Short periods of intense hail, or strong winds
- Short periods of localised thunderstorm or lightning activity
- Excessive water on courts

Matches may be cancelled due to:

- · Prolonged periods of extremely heavy rain or high-speed winds
- Prolonged localised thunderstorm or lightning activity

Matches will not be cancelled if it is cold and/or raining.

## **Procedures for Cancelling/Postponing Matches**

In the event SUNA Management determines that all matches be cancelled due to extreme weather forecasted;

- Club Presidents and Secretaries will be emailed by 4.30pm and
- Information will then be announced via the SUNA website and Facebook page

If, immediately prior to matches commencing or during the course of play, conditions become unsafe due to extreme weather, SUNAs Duty Supervisors may postpone or cancel matches as required and make any announcement over the PA system.

In the event of hail or lightning at the SUNA venue, all play must stop for 30 minutes once SUNAs Duty Supervisors determine that there is a significant risk to patrons. An announcement will be made over the PA system for everyone to safely and promptly seek shelter.

If individual Coaches consider that the conditions are unsafe to play due to extreme weather but matches have not officially been postponed or cancelled;

- The two Coaches of the opposing teams for any match (other that during Finals) may declare a mutual forfeit (scores will stand (home scoresheet), gate fees will not be refunded and no forfeit fee shall be applied)
- Alternatively, the two Coaches of the opposing teams may mutually agree to reschedule any match (or part thereof) within 7 days and in consultation with SUNA Management
- In the event that during any match, the Coach of only one team feels conditions are unsafe to play, this team may forfeit the match in its own right and normal forfeit procedures shall apply.

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Revised/Updated LB and Endorsed by SUNA Board: 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**Review Date: Annually**