

Appendix 5 – SACA Heat Policy

The SACA’s Extreme Heat Policy applies to all Players, Player Support Personnel and Match Officials (collectively known as Participants) involved in any SACA Premier Cricket competition.

In adopting the Policy, the SACA consulted with SACA Sports Science and Sports Medicine Manager, together with club officials and SACUSA.

Introduction

This policy aims to ensure that decisions made during conditions of extreme heat are objective and automatic for the benefit of players, umpires and administrators.

It is recognised that SACA Premier Cricket matches are not resourced with medical and emergency support to the extent of First Class matches and therefore it may be unsafe to continue play during conditions of extreme heat.

Application

This Policy shall apply to all SACA Premier Cricket matches.

- a. **Air Temperature** is a measure of how hot or cold the air is. It is the most commonly measured weather parameter.

	Match day -1 Abandonment of Play/ Adjustment of Playing Conditions (SACA)	Match Day Abandonment of Play
West End First (Division 1/2) West End One-Day Cup West End T20 Cup Women’s First Grade West End Second Grade	44.0 Degrees Celsius	44.0 Degrees Celsius
Women’s Second Grade West End Third and Fourth Grade	42.0 Degrees Celsius	42.0 Degrees Celsius
SACA Junior Boys (Under 14/15.5/17) Youth Premier League girls Ray Sutton Shield	38.0 Degrees Celsius	38.0 Degrees Celsius

The SACA reserves the right to use its absolute discretion to adjust/abandoned matches outside of these outlined forecasts based on:-

- The weather up to seven days prior to the commencement of the fixture
- The impact of other mid-week/representative cricket prior to the commencement of the fixture
- If the match has not commenced, SACA has the ability to change game format
- Ability to adjust a days start time, irrespective of match status (whilst acknowledging ground availability needs to be considered)

Advance Cancellation of an Entire Day's Play

The SACA has the power to cancel play, a day prior to the scheduled match, if the forecast temperature is expected to be, or exceeds, the threshold temperature prescribed for specific grades.

Smartphone App

The **BOM (Bureau of Meteorology) Weather App** is to be the official App for sourcing temperature data.

The App displays the actual air temperature at a particular location, smartphone location settings must be enabled. The "current location" is displayed within the **BOM (Bureau of Meteorology) Weather App**.

Additional Drinks Intervals and Extended Intervals

Prior to the commencement of play, the umpires will advise –

- a. a determination regarding increasing the number and duration of drinks intervals and allowing players and umpires to leave the field of play during drinks intervals; and
- b. a determination on whether to extend the duration of lunch and/or afternoon tea intervals.

Player Health and Welfare

The umpires (and/or coaches in junior grades where an umpire is not appointed) shall have the sole discretion to abandon play if they consider that, to continue play during prolonged or excessive heat, it would be dangerous to the health and welfare of any, or all, of the participants. To assist the umpires in exercising their discretion, they may –

- a. take into account any apparent signs of heat stress being displayed by any of the participants.
- b. refer to an air temperature thermometer, if properly installed in the shade at the match venue.

Amendment to Playing Time

By monitoring 7-day temperature forecasts and seeking to maximise opportunities for play during times of extreme heat, the SACA has the power to reschedule the start of play to 9.00am in any match, in order to maximise the opportunity for play during a cooler time of day.

The SACA will seek to provide clubs with ample advance notice that an amendment to playing time may be imminent. It is the responsibility of the home/host club to liaise with other ground users to check ground availability and alert the SACA to a potential ground clash (i.e. school or community cricket) as soon as possible.