

# EXTREME HEAT POLICY

## PREAMBLE

This policy aims to make similar decisions in the future more objective and automatic for the benefit of players, umpires and administrators.

It is recognised that Country Cricket programs 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 immediately apply to all Country Cricket programs matches for this season and ongoing seasons including:

- McDonald Female Country Championships (Under 16 and Under 19)
- McDonald's Country Championships (male)
- McDonald's Country Colts
- Bradman Cup
- Plan B Country Bash (male and female)
- NSW Youth Championships
- State Challenges

## TEMPERATURE THRESHOLD

Where a temperature threshold is stated, the following measurement shall apply.

The **"Feels like"** or effective temperature is a measurement of how hot or cold it really feels like outside. The "Feels Like" temperature relies on environmental data including the ambient air temperature, relative humidity, and wind speed to determine how weather conditions feel to bare skin. The "feels like" temperature may vary from the air temperature depending on the level of humidity and wind.

## 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 as well as the "feels like" temperature at a particular location. Smartphone location settings must be enabled. Alternate weather apps may be used if the BOM App's data is known to be inaccurate & unreliable.

## ADDITIONAL DRINKS INTERVALS AND EXTENDED INTERVALS

Prior to the commencement of play, the umpires, captains and Carnival/Match Referees shall conduct a heat safety briefing:

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

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## ABANDONMENT OF PLAY

### Single Day Matches

In the event that either the Air temperature or the "Feels Like" temperature reaches or exceeds 42 degrees Celsius; play shall be suspended immediately. Play can only recommence when both the Air temperature and "Feels Like" temperature drops below 38 degrees. If the BOM forecast indicates that there is no likelihood of a drop in temperature play shall be abandoned for the day. The Match Referee, however, may show discretion as to how long play will be suspended and as to when the match can restart in the event of a favourable BOM forecast.

### Carnival Matches

In the event that either the Air temperature or the "Feels Like" temperature reaches or exceeds 42 degrees Celsius; play shall be suspended immediately. Play can only recommence when both the Air temperature and "Feels Like" temperature drops below 38 degrees. The Carnival Manager in consultation with the Match Referee may extend playing hours or rearrange match times and match formats to maximise the opportunity of play. If the BOM forecast indicates that there is no likelihood of a drop in temperature play shall be abandoned for the day.

## PLAYER HEALTH AND WELFARE

Notwithstanding above, the umpires shall have the sole discretion to abandon play if they consider that, to continue play during prolonged or excessive heat, would be dangerous to the health and welfare of any, or all, of the participants.

## LOSS OF PLAYING TIME (DUE TO EXTREME HEAT)

Playing hours may be reviewed to allow additional "make up" time. This will be determined in consultation with the Carnival Referee and Country Cricket NSW.

## ADVANCE CANCELLATION OF AN ENTIRE DAY'S PLAY

Country Cricket NSW may determine to cancel a day's play in the event that the forecast temperature, at 4:00pm on the day before scheduled play, is 45 degrees or more.

## AMENDMENT TO PLAYING TIME

By monitoring 7-day temperature forecasts and seeking to maximise opportunities for play during times of extreme heat, Country Cricket NSW may determine to instruct teams to commence play at a cooler time of day, for example 8.30am.

Country Cricket NSW will seek to provide competing Zones with ample advance notice that an amendment to playing time may be imminent.

All participants in every match are to strive to maximise opportunities to play.

## INCREASED DRINKS BREAKS, EXTENDED INTERVALS AND CESSATION OF PLAY Forecast temperature exceeding 37 degrees

Prior to the start of play on any match day, the Carnival Referee along with the umpires and captains shall conduct a heat safety briefing -

- (a) to determine increasing the number and duration of drinks intervals, and;
- (b) to determine whether to extend the duration of interval between innings.