

NSCCA HEAT POLICY

Version 2 - Final Copy in conjunction with ByLaw 19.12

Reference Documents

- Heat Policies of other cricketing bodies WASTCA, PSCA, WA Premier Cricket and Cricket Australia.
- Cricket Australia Heat Stress Risk Index tool/spreadsheet.

Considerations / Variables

- Centralised decision, based on clear guidelines.
- Timeliness and procedures of notifying clubs and umpires to abandon play.
- What have we done previously vs current community expectations / safety guidelines.
- WA Cricket information regarding heat stress awareness.
- Shortlisted options as follows;
 - i. Additional drinks breaks, but play on.
 - ii. Set temperature.
 - iii. Heat Stress Risk Index Tool.
 - iv. Playing reduced overs.

Potential issues

- Additional breaks not being adequate in extreme heat.
- Making a decision to call off play, then temp forecast reduces.
- Practical use of the HSRI tool variable conditions depending on geographical location.
- Reducing the overs adequate to address heat issue and changing formats suiting some sides over others.

Outcome

At the forefront of this policy was the desire to keep it as simple as possible and remove/reduce ambiguity in the decision making process. The sub-committee believe that applying a Set Temperature is best fit for the purposes of this policy. It provides clear, decisive guidelines that can be applied by the decision makers, provides adequate notice to all stakeholders and most importantly provides a level of Duty of Care to our participants.

While a possibility that forecasts may change on the day of play, this can often change right up until the scheduled start time so any decision made to abandon play under this policy should stand and play abandoned.

This policy should be a reasonable starting point for the NSCCA to have guidelines to adhere to, and can be developed year to year as deemed necessary by all stakeholders.



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ABANDON PLAY

In the event of extreme heat, the Association will decide by 5pm on the day prior to matches scheduled for the following day, if all games are to be abandoned.

The President shall use the Bureau of Meteorology website to determine the Perth Metropolitan forecast for the following day and should the forecast be 42 degrees or above, all matches will be abandoned.

Clubs will be advised of the cancellation by 7pm on the evening before the match. This will be done via email from the Association Secretary to the club contacts, as well as a post to the NSCCA facebook page.

In a Standard two day match, if the first day's play is abandoned under this Heat Policy, the second day of the match will be played as a Tim Park 40/40 Restricted Over match.

In a Standard two day match, if the second day's play is abandoned under this Heat Policy and no result has already occurred, the fixture is deemed to be a draw. For match results to stand at least 2 of the 3 matches in a grade must have achieved a first innings result on the first day. All individual points earned on the first day will stand.

In a Tim Park 40/40 Restricted Over match, if the match is abandoned under this Heat Policy, the game shall be declared a draw.

HEAT CAUTION

Under the above guidelines, should the temperature forecast be 35 degrees or above, additional drinks breaks will be allowed and timing determined by the Umpire if one is present, or as agreed upon by both Captains prior to the match commencing.

These are to be taken on field where possible and should not exceed 2-3 minutes for each additional break taken. Umpires may not refuse to allow batsman, or fielders a drink, but the unofficial drinks must not hold up play. Square leg umpires may hold drink containers, but they are for the use of both batsmen and fielders.

Clubs will be notified of this cautionary allowance in the same manner as notification to abandon play above.