

# Hot Weather Guidelines

as amended January 2019



1. All persons involved in the organisation of games should be aware of the effect that extremes of weather can have on persons playing or attending basketball and put in place adequate contingencies for the minimising of risk to persons, particularly when high temperatures are expected.
2. All persons participating in games should be aware of their own limitations, medical conditions, dehydration and any other factors which may increase the effects of extreme temperatures.
3. Where high temperatures are expected, organisers of games should know the extremes or temperature which can occur in the particular venue.
4. Where high temperatures are expected, game organisers should make reasonable attempts to ensure:
  - 4.1 Full knowledge of availability of first aid equipment and personnel accessible by all persons attending;
  - 4.2 Referees and other officials are aware of the symptoms of heat stress and are instructed to be on the alert to notice any such symptoms;
  - 4.3 Players are made aware of the need to hydrate regularly before and after the game;
  - 4.4 Facilities are available for players and other persons to externally cool themselves with water, fans or other facilities including hydration;
  - 4.5 Adequate supplies of ice and ice packs are available for use where appropriate; and
  - 4.6 Proper advice is available to coaches and players on the effects of heat, symptoms of heat stress, the need for proper hydration and the facilities that are available to prevent or treat heat stress.
5. A thermometer should be available at the stadium on game days where high temperatures are expected. On days where the forecasted temperature is predicted to be 30 degrees Celsius or higher, competition managers should monitor the on court temperature accordingly. If the stadium is in sections, the temperature must be taken in each section.
6. When the on court temperature reaches 30 degrees Celsius, competition managers should consider implementing, and where the on court temperature reaches 35 degrees Celsius, must implement the following mitigation strategies:
  - 6.1 Referees to call a time-out at the half way point of each period, if one has not already been called;
  - 6.2 Half time breaks to be extended by a minute;
  - 6.3 Water stations and ice are to be made available;
  - 6.4 Competition managers may reduce game times if deemed necessary;
  - 6.5 Air-conditioning to be turned on in venues that have this capability;
  - 6.6 Competition managers to monitor internal temperature gauges.

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7. When the on court temperature reaches 40 degrees Celsius, games should be abandoned.
  - 7.1 Subject to any rule or ruling by a competition manager:
    - 7.1.1 If a game is abandoned before it commences or before or at half time, it is counted as a draw;
    - 7.1.2 If a game is abandoned after half time, the game score stands as a final result.
8. Games may be postponed or cancelled by competition manager in on court temperatures under 40 degrees Celsius if playing conditions are deemed unsafe.