

INF Extreme Heat Policy – for Approval by INF Board

Key Interfaces: Teams, Broadcast, Event Management

BACKGROUND

In the event of higher than recommended temperatures being experienced inside the venue on match day, the Extreme Heat Policy will come into play. This can occur due to air conditioning ceasing to operate in the venue or an existing inadequate cooling system.

As recommended by experts, when the court area reaches an ambient temperature of between 31 and 35 degrees Celsius or, when venue cooling is deemed to be inadequate, event management must implement an extension of breaks and provisions of fans, ice and water. When the court area reaches an ambient temperature above 35 degrees Celsius, event management are recommended to implement the Match Delay or Postponement Contingency Plan found in Section 1.10.4 of the INF Event and Commercial Operations Manual.

All persons involved in the organisation of games must be aware of the effect that extremes of weather can have on persons playing or attending netball and put in place adequate contingencies for the minimising of risk to persons, particularly when high temperatures are expected. Where high temperatures are expected, organisers of games must also know the extremes of temperature which can occur in the particular venue.

PREVENTATIVE ACTIONS

1. Ensure air-conditioning is operational and effective inside the venue in the lead up to the match.
2. Ensure adequate industrial fans are on stand-by should a hot day be predicted in the week leading up to the match.
3. All venues to be fitted with a thermometer.
4. Temperatures inside the venue to be monitored in the days leading up to the match and on an hourly basis on the day of the match.

COMMAND LEAD

INF Technical Delegate

CHAIN OF COMMAND

Netball Competition/Event Operations Manager

Team Managers

Venue Operations

RESOURCES REQUIRED

Venue Operations engineer on site to fix any air conditioning malfunctions

Industrial fans on stand by

Adequate ice and water available at the venue

Full knowledge of availability of first aid equipment, first aid and medical personnel.

EXPECTED IMPACT ON STAKEHOLDERS

- Quarter time breaks extended by 1 minute each. i.e. $\frac{1}{4}$ time – 5 minutes and $\frac{3}{4}$ time 5 minutes (Half time to remain at 12 minutes). A break of 5 minutes can cause a significant reduction in core temperatures.
- Players are encouraged to call an injury time if they are feeling unwell due to heat.
- Broadcast & Media service levels disturbed due to change in timings.

7. Action Required: Pre-Match

Step	Action	Responsibility
1	INF Technical Delegate and Team Event Operations Manager inspect thermometer at court location 2 hrs prior to the game.	INF TD
2	If the temperature gauge still shows 31 degrees Celsius or above at 1 hr prior to the game agree to implement Policy.	INF TD
3	Advise Venue Operator / Event staff of the following equipment repair or replacement; Air conditioner Industrial fans	Event Operations Manager

8. Action Required: Extreme Heat Policy

Step	Action	Responsibility
1	Advise Netball Operations Management that the temperature on the court has reached 31 degrees Celsius and therefore the ¼ and ¾ time match breaks will be extended.	INF TD
2	Advise Match Officials & UAP /Official bench /Teams /Broadcast and Media that there has been agreement to implement the Policy.	INF TD/Event Operations Manager
3	<p>TD and Event Operations Manager ensure appropriate provisions are available for Teams, Match Officials & UAP, Technical Officials, workforce and spectators through the following:</p> <p>Teams/match officials will be offered the option of fans being placed in change rooms until the match begins and for use at half time to reduce player's/match official's core temperature.</p> <p>Teams/match officials reminded to hydrate regularly before and after the game and the facilities available for them to do so.</p> <p>Team/match official ice requirements to be checked and added to if required.</p> <p>Match officials and Official bench will be briefed on change to match timings.</p> <p>Adequate bottled water on hand for all Technical officials, volunteers, statisticians, spectators and work force.</p> <p>If high humidity in the venue is also experienced the following actions should be administered to ensure players perspiration is managed as it can contribute to a rapid rise in their core temperature:</p> <p>Ensuring athletes towel down at every break in the game</p>	INF TD/ Event Operations Manager

	<p>Players encouraged to change their uniform during the major break – replacing the wet uniform significantly improves heat loss</p> <p>Air-flow around the court as per above (industrial fans)</p>	
4	<p>Advise Sports Presentation Coordinator of the decision to change the break times.</p> <p>MC/courtside announcer to advise spectators of the course of action to be taken</p> <p>MC to remind spectators to keep hydrating while watching the game.</p>	Event Operations Manager
5	<p>Replace damaged equipment as soon as possible.</p>	Venue Operator / Event staff

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