



SACA Premier Cricket Competition Heat Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish a framework for managing and mitigating heat-related risks arising in South Australian Cricket Association Limited's (**SACA**) Premier Cricket Competition if/where matches are scheduled for, or played in, extreme heat conditions.

Cricket is a summer sport and it is inevitable that at times, matches will be scheduled for play during extreme heat conditions. SACA recognises the effect of extreme heat and the risks and dangers posed. With that in mind, SACA has developed this Premier Cricket Heat Policy to seek to protect the safety of Participants.

This policy sets out objective temperature thresholds for triggering match cancellations or abandonment of play (whether prior to or during a match) or adjustments to Playing Conditions (including as to match scheduling/timing, format, additional or extended breaks and other protective measures), where temperatures (or forecast temperatures) are very high or extreme.

Please also refer to, and follow, the SACA Premier Cricket Heat Management Guidelines (**Guidelines**), which supplement and are made under this policy, available at: <https://www.sacapremiercricket.com.au/heat-management-guidelines>.

As set out below, all Participants and SACA Premier Cricket Clubs (**Clubs**) will be responsible for adhering to this policy and the Guidelines and are also expected and required to take their own precautions and preventative measures for protecting health, safety and welfare in extreme heat conditions. All Clubs and Participants in the SACA Premier Cricket Competition must acknowledge the risks and dangers of participating in cricket in hot conditions and that they each have a fundamental responsibility and duty to take reasonable care in respect of Participant health, safety and welfare.

Scope

This policy applies to any and all:

- SACA Premier Cricket Clubs (**Clubs**);
- players;
- player support personnel (including, without limitation, coaches, team managers, scorers and other Club officials or volunteers);
- match officials (including, without limitation, umpires, other officials or administrators and any SACA officials),

involved in the SACA Premier Cricket Competition in any such capacity (**Participants**) and to all SACA Premier Cricket Competition matches.

Measurement

This policy adopts air temperature as the relevant measure in setting applicable thresholds for match cancellations, abandonment of play or other match adjustments. Air temperature is a measure of how hot or cold the air is and is the most commonly measured and used weather parameter (including where it is readily understood and accessible).

The Bureau of Meteorology (**BOM**) Weather App (**BOM App**) will be the official source of air temperature data for the purposes of this policy.

The BOM App displays the actual air temperature at a particular location. The temperature or forecast temperature (as relevant) for the relevant match location (or area closest to the relevant match venue) should be measured and assessed for the purposes of this policy.

The suburb and/or postcode of the relevant match venue should be entered and used within the BOM App to determine the temperature or forecast temperature (as relevant) for an accurate reading. Smartphone location settings should be enabled if/when using the BOM App on a smartphone. If in doubt, the default position will be the temperature or forecast temperature (as relevant) for Adelaide (5000).

Thresholds for activating match cancellation, abandonment or Playing Condition adjustments

The following table and commentary set out the applicable temperature(s) at which match cancellation or abandonment of play, or adjustments to Playing Conditions, will be activated in the event of extreme heat conditions.

COMPETITION GRADE/FORMAT	AIR TEMPERATURE ACTIVATING MATCH CANCELLATION OR ABANDONMENT OF PLAY
Men's and Women's First Grade One-Day Cup T20 Cup Men's Second Grade	42.0 Degrees Celsius
Women's Second Grade Men's Third and Fourth Grades	40.0 Degrees Celsius
Junior Grades (all)	38.0 Degrees Celsius

Monitoring

Advance monitoring

SACA will be responsible for monitoring forecast temperatures on the day prior to scheduled matches or match days for the purposes of any advance cancellation (as set out below).

SACA will check the forecast temperature for Adelaide (5000) at or following the BOM App 4.10pm update (or any equivalent late afternoon update substituted by BOM from time to time) to determine if the applicable threshold is reached or exceeded for a scheduled match or match day.

Match day monitoring

First Grade, One Day Cup, T20 Cup and Second Grade, Men's Third and Fourth Grades

On match day, if/where temperature conditions at a match venue may affect play, the appointed match umpire(s) will instruct both team captains and, if/where applicable, any official scorers involved in the relevant match to each monitor the BOM App using the relevant venue suburb for accurate readings. If/where a team captain is batting or fielding, they must nominate another player or team support personnel for their team who is off the field as the captain's delegate for this purpose. The BOM App should be checked by those persons at regular intervals and at least immediately prior to commencement of play, at every break and at any time during play.

Junior Grades (all)

On match day, if/where temperature conditions at a match venue may affect play, the appointed match umpire(s) will instruct both team coaches and any scorers to each monitor the BOM App using the relevant venue suburb for accurate readings. The BOM App should be checked by those persons at regular intervals and at least immediately prior to commencement of play, at every break and at any time during play.

Advance cancellation of match or entire day's play

SACA has the power to cancel a match or a day's play a day prior to a scheduled match or scheduled day of play if/where the forecast temperature is expected to be, or exceeds, the threshold temperature specified for the relevant grade in the table above.

Advance monitoring will be conducted by SACA as set out above.

If/where SACA makes a determination to cancel in advance, based on the forecast temperature, SACA will provide advance notification to the relevant Clubs involved in any cancelled match(es) (by email sent to the nominated Club representative(s) on the evening prior to the scheduled match or match day).

Abandonment of play during match

If/where the temperature reaches or exceeds the threshold temperature specified for the relevant grade in the table above on match day and both team captains (and any scorer(s)) agree that the applicable temperature threshold has been reached or exceeded, whether prior to play commencing or during play, they must promptly notify the appointed umpire(s).

The authority and decision to abandon play due to extreme temperature conditions rests solely with the appointed umpire(s) for the relevant match or match day.

Adjustments to Playing Conditions

If/where there are high forecast or actual high temperatures for any match which are not forecast to, and do not, reach or exceed the temperature thresholds specified for the relevant grade in the table above, the Playing Conditions for the match may be adjusted (if/where determined by SACA and/or the appointed match umpire(s)), to mitigate heat-related risks implemented, including as follows:

Additional drinks intervals and extended intervals

Prior to the commencement of play, the umpires will determine and provide notification of:

- increase(s) to the number and duration of drinks intervals;
- permission for on-field Participants to leave the field of play during drinks intervals; and
- any extension of the duration of lunch and/or afternoon tea intervals.

Amendment to playing time(s)

SACA has the power to adjust playing times for matches and reschedule the start of play to commence at 9.00am in any match if/where monitoring of the seven (7) days forecast indicates temperatures may be high (but not reaching or exceeding the thresholds in the table above), to facilitate play occurring during a cooler time of the day.

SACA will seek to provide Clubs with reasonable advance notice that an amendment to playing time(s) may be imminent or has been determined, with to be sent by email prior to commencement of play.

In the event of any playing time(s) adjustment, it will be the responsibility of the home/host Club to liaise with other ground users to check ground availability and alert SACA to any potential availability issues or a ground clash (i.e. school or community cricket) as soon as possible.

Club responsibilities and requirements

Clubs must comply with this policy and implement, and encourage their Participants to follow, the Guidelines.

All Clubs should actively encourage their Participants to drink sufficient and regular fluids (for rehydration and to avoid dehydration) and to take reasonable care of their own health, safety and welfare, including by taking reasonable precautions in hot conditions. Clubs should provide or facilitate adequate and accessible water supply and other resources for cooling and, where possible, access to shaded areas during breaks.

Clubs should monitor any junior players regularly and closely, particularly if/where competing in a senior grade or competition and ensure the Guidelines are implemented.

Participant responsibilities and requirements

All Participants must read and familiarise themselves with this policy and the Guidelines prior to participating in the SACA Premier Cricket Competition.

All Participants are expected to take appropriate precautions when participating in any match in hot conditions and should take reasonable steps to take care of their own health, safety and welfare. Participants are expected to follow the Guidelines, including, without limitation, ensuring that they have available and consume sufficient and regular fluids and stay hydrated and adopt cooling measures where feasible, wear appropriate clothing, hats and attire, use appropriate equipment, take scheduled rest and drinks breaks and seek out shade where feasible.

Any junior players, particularly if/where competing in a senior grade or competition, should take additional care and precautions. Parents/guardians will be expected to monitor their child regularly and closely for any signs of heat stress or other heat effects (including at each break) and ensure the Guidelines are implemented by that player.

If/where a junior player is competing in a senior grade or competition, the team captain for that team will also be responsible for monitoring any junior players competing in their team for signs of heat stress or other heat effects and ensuring the Guidelines are implemented by that player.

Umpire responsibilities and requirements

All umpires must read and familiarise themselves with this policy and the Guidelines prior to participating in the SACA Premier Cricket Competition.

SACA will expect and require all umpires to have undertaken training on and to strictly apply, enforce and implement this policy (including fulfilling their outlined responsibilities and exercising their specified powers).

Umpires should proactively encourage, and issue reminders regarding, Participant compliance with the Guidelines.

First aid and medical assistance

Clubs and Participants should immediately take action and seek or administer first aid or medical assistance (as appropriate) if/where any Participant experiences, reports or shows any signs or symptoms of heat-related stress or injury or ill effects (or such signs or symptoms are observed or suspected) and report this to the appointed umpire(s), the relevant Club and, if/where serious, to SACA. Participants with any such signs or symptoms must immediately cease and withdraw from participation until further assessment (and any appropriate intervention) has occurred.

In an emergency immediately call 000 for emergency assistance. Any emergency situation should be reported to SACA.