



WEATHER POLICY

Croquet SA - Hot Weather Policy - quick guide

To be used in conjunction with the full weather policy below

Temperature	Sessional events (e.g. Pennants)	Non-sessional events
32-34	Play first 2 sessions but finish by 1.30pm	Finish by 1.30pm
35-36	Play first session but finish by 11.00am	No play between 11.00am and 7.00pm (no matches started that are not likely to finish by 11.00am)
37 and over	No play	No play
<i>Note: a Tournament or Event Manager may allow play, but only if actual temperature is clearly less than forecast</i>		

INTRODUCTION

Croquet SA has developed this Policy to guide decision-making regarding adverse weather conditions that may affect croquet players.

POLICY

This Policy outlines the conditions under which adverse weather affects the continuation of Croquet SA events and the steps to take should an event be adversely affected by weather conditions.

APPLICATION

This Policy governs all Croquet SA programmed play, whether played at Hutt Road or a club.

While this policy is for events organised by Croquet SA, all clubs are encouraged to adopt this policy for club play.



RELATED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are relevant to this Policy:

- Definitions
- ACA Adverse Playing Conditions Policy

DEFINITIONS

“Event Co-ordinator” means the person listed as the event co-ordinator listed under the “officers” section of the Croquet SA website for the relevant discipline.

“Tournament Manager” means:

- For Croquet SA pennants, tournaments and development activities, the Events Coordinator, or their nominee(s). In the case where the Events Co-ordinator position is vacant, the President of Croquet SA or their nominee.
- For Croquet SA events played at clubs, the club President or their nominee.

PROCEDURE

Responsibilities

The Tournament Manager is the person with the prime responsibility for the administration of this policy. Venues, officials and players all share the responsibility of maintaining the health and safety of all persons present at the Venue.

Venue Responsibilities

Players and organisers are responsible for ensuring that:

- shade and preferably a cool space (fans or air conditioned room) is available on warmer days,
- cold water and if possible, ice is provided for player hydration and for the soaking of neck cloths on days of extreme heat.
- Shelter on days with excessive wind or rainfall

Tournament Manager Responsibilities

The Tournament Manager is responsible for monitoring environmental conditions and making decisions regarding cancellation, postponement (in consultation with the Event Co-ordinator if play is to be postponed to another day) or modification of play.



These decisions should be based on:

- the extent to which environmental conditions may affect player health,
- the opportunity to move play to a time when the environmental factors are less severe,
- the availability of mitigation strategies – shelter, cool water, ice, cool spaces, acclimatisation and fitness of players and officials,
- available modifications of the game rules (eg additional drink breaks and longer change over periods); and
- if appropriate, consultation with the players.

The Tournament Manager (in consultation with the Event Co-ordinator if applicable) must review the weather forecast on the day prior to play (the 4pm Bureau of Meteorology forecast) and if it is likely that the Tournament will be cancelled or games postponed because of forecast weather conditions, inform the players or teams captains that the event has been cancelled / games postponed to avoid unnecessary travel.

Officials Responsibilities

All officials are encouraged to observe any change in the environmental conditions and any apparent change in the health of players. Any change should be advised to the Tournament Manager who, if there is an apparent change in the health of a player, is to check with the affected player.

Players Responsibilities

Players have the prime responsibility for their own health.

They should ensure that:

- they maintain a suitable and adequate level of nutrition and hydration before and during the event
- they have suitable and adequate clothing and equipment for all likely conditions, including for:
 - extreme cold (gloves, jumpers, beanie),
 - high wind (wind proof shell clothing),
 - rain (waterproof clothing), and



- high temperature (hat, suitable clothing, wettable neck scarf, sun screen.)

If a Player becomes aware of a detrimental change in their health status, they should immediately inform an official or Tournament Manager, and seek appropriate relief / first aid / medical treatment.

Players should also be aware of any apparent adverse effects of environmental conditions on other players and bring them to the attention of officials.

Adverse Conditions

If play is suspended for any of the adverse conditions listed below or a player informs the Tournament Manager that they are unable to play because of the adverse conditions, the Tournament Manager is to reschedule the non-completed games to a time when the adverse conditions are not a factor such as early morning or evening. If time does not permit, the event is to be cancelled and for Croquet SA tournaments the relevant Event Co-ordinator will determine whether sufficient games have been played to declare a winner, or whether to refer the matter to the relevant Committee for a decision. If the Event Co-ordinator has a conflict of interest, then the matter must be referred to the relevant Committee.

A player or team must not be penalised for failing to start or complete a game because of adverse weather conditions.

Hot Weather:

To assist Players and Venue Managers in determining whether the forecast for Hot Weather may be a factor, they should go to the Bureau of Meteorology website www.bom.gov.au/sa/forecasts/adelaide.shtml at 4.00pm the day before.

For Hutt Road games the Adelaide Metro area forecast is to be used. For suburban or country clubs, a forecast for the relevant area may be used.

A Tournament or Venue Manager may allow play to continue only if the actual temperature is clearly less than forecast.

For Pennants and other competitions played on a sessional basis:

- When the forecast temperature is over 32° but not over 34°, the first two sessions can be played, provided they finish no later than 1.30 pm.
- When the forecast temperature is over 34° but not over 36°, the first session can be played, provided the session will be finished by 11:00am.



- No daytime games should be played when the forecast temperature is over 36°, unless the Tournament Manager is satisfied that appropriate risk mitigation strategies can be employed.

For events not played on a sessional basis:

- When the forecast temperature is over 32° but not over 34°, games will be played, but they should finish no later than 1.30 pm.
- When the forecast temperature is over 34° but not over 36°, no play is suggested between 11.00 am and 7.00 pm. Games that are not likely to finish before 11 am should not be started.
- No daytime games should be played when the temperature is over 36°, unless the Tournament Manager is satisfied that effective risk mitigation strategies can be employed.

Thunderstorms

Play is to be suspended during thunderstorms or when lightning is observed 30 seconds or less before the thunder is heard and is not to be resumed until 30 minutes after the thunder and lightning are separated by more than 30 seconds.

Torrential Rain/Hail

Whilst croquet play can continue during rainfall, play is to be suspended during torrential rain or when hail is falling, with the Tournament Manager or Event Organiser being the person responsible for deciding that the rainfall is 'torrential'.

Excessive Surface Water

If surface water is excessive, including if excessive force is required when striking balls, play is to be suspended.

High Wind

Play is to be suspended if extremely high winds present a danger to players from wind-borne debris, or if stationary balls are being moved an appreciable distance.