

WILLETTON BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (INC)

Hot Weather Policy

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1 General Guidelines

Willetton Basketball Association Inc. (WBA) has adopted the following guidelines regarding the playing of basketball in hot weather conditions, which relates to players and officials.

Irrespective of the predicted maximum temperature or competition, in hot weather conditions, stadium managers, coaches, team managers and referees should adopt the following as appropriate:

Stadium Managers and Duty Managers should:

- Take steps to maximise airflow and reduce heat build-up in stadia;
- Reiterate the 'rehydration message' over the PA system throughout games;
- Make an assessment of playing conditions and advise referees and coaches;
- Extend timeouts (per Cancellation and Modification of Games section) and / or
- Cancel or postpone games if playing conditions are considered unsafe.

Coaches should:

- Ascertain whether any players have known medical conditions which may be affected by heat;
- Ensure that players take adequate fluid during the game;
- Make substitutions as appropriate;
- Utilise available time-outs; and
- Not expect players to train when the weather conditions are considered extreme and unsafe.

Referees should:

- Call additional time-outs as decided by the stadium/duty manager;
- Extend the breaks between periods; and
- Keep rehydrated themselves.

Team Managers should:

- Ensure that players take adequate fluid before, during and after the game;
- Be alert and react to any signs of distress/potential distress in players; and
- Ascertain whether players have medical conditions which may be affected by weather conditions.

As well as the temperature forecast it is recommended that humidity be considered, as high humidity can create stressful conditions. Cognisance must also be given to extended periods of hot weather when cumulative dehydration can occur.

No-one should ever feel as though they must play or train if they believe it is unsafe or they are feeling distressed.

2 Cancellation and Modification of Junior Domestic Basketball Competitions

This section relates solely to the cancellation & modification policy for WBA Junior Domestic games and has been developed to alert Clubs, players, coaches, officials and parents/care-givers.

2.1 Forecasts by the Bureau of Meteorology

The Bureau of Meteorology publishes predicted **maximum** temperatures for **Perth city** three times when forecasting for a particular day:

- At approximately 4:30pm of the previous day;
- At approximately 4:30am of the forecast day; and
- At approximately 11:30am of the forecast day.

WBA will use the following forecasts when referring to a temperature in this policy:

- Saturday Junior games will use the forecast for Saturday published at 4:30pm on the Friday;
- All other Junior games will use the forecast published at 11:30am on the day of the game.
- It will be at the Association's discretion to decide on game cancellations.

At the time of printing, forecasts could be found at the following website:

<http://www.bom.gov.au/wa/forecasts/perth.shtml>

2.2 Modification of Games/ Cancellations

Venues with Fans

Venues with fans installed for hot weather conditions.

On days when the predicted maximum temperature is above 38°C, timing rules for all Junior Domestic games will be modified as follows:

- Referees to call a time-out at the half way point of each period, if one has not already been called; and
- Half-time will be extended by two minutes, and each half will be reduced by one minute.
- Everything will be done to maximise air flow to the stadium with fans and air conditioning where they exist.

WBA understands that the actual temperature on any given day may differ from the published temperature due to late changes.

Venues without Fans

Has no cooling facilities. If the BOM weather predicts temperature of 40°C and over for the following day, all afternoon (after 12pm) games will be cancelled. The office staff will contact teams via text message and/or email when games are to be cancelled.

On days when the predicted maximum temperature is above 38°C, timing rules for all Junior Domestic games will be modified as follows:

- Referees to call a time-out at the half way point of each period, if one has not already been called; and
- Everything will be done to maximise air flow to the stadium with fans and air conditioning where they exist.

Venues with Air conditioning

Games will go ahead as scheduled with the air conditioner being used.

3 Cancellation of WABL/NBL 1 Team Training

This section solely relates to the cancellation policy for WBA WABL and NBL 1 Team training. Coaches will be responsible for determining when training will be cancelled, however this policy has been developed as a guide.

On days when the forecast maximum temperature is 40°C or higher, WBA recommends that all WABL/NBL 1 Training will be cancelled or postponed, unless sessions are being held within an air-conditioned stadium with the temperature controlled below 40°C.