



Hot Weather Policy

Effective March 2023

Murray Bridge Basketball Association has adopted the following guidelines regarding the playing of basketball in Hot Weather conditions which relates to players and officials.

On days of predicted hot weather, if the **forecasted temperature on the Bureau of Meteorology website (www.bom.gov.au) is 38°C** or higher, all games and trainings will be cancelled for that day. A message will also be placed on the MBBA Facebook page and an email to MBBA clubs to notify of the cancellation.

If the forecast temperature is **35°C** or higher, time rules for all 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
- The quarter, half and three quarter time breaks are to be extended by one minute.

Irrespective of the predicted maximum temperature, the stadium co-ordinator, coaches, team managers and referees should adopt the following as appropriate, in cases of hot weather:

Stadium Co-ordinator:

- Should take steps to maximize airflow and reduce heat build up in stadium
- Make an assessment of playing conditions and advise referees and coaches
- Cancel or postpone games if playing conditions are considered unsafe

Coaches:

- Should ascertain whether any players have a known medical condition that may be affected by weather conditions
- Ensure that players take adequate fluid during the game
- Make substitutions as appropriate
- Utilise available time-outs

Referees:

- Should call additional time-outs
- Extend the breaks between games

Team Managers:

- 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
- Ascertain whether any players have a known medical condition that 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.

Stadium Management has the ability to postpone or cancel games if they believe the conditions are considered unsafe.

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