

## Weather Policies (Heat and Smoke)

### Background

At Basketball ACT, we want everybody to enjoy the game of basketball in the safest environment possible. Although nobody can control the weather, the following policies have been put into place to help manage and maintain the safety of all participants. The 'three-phase' approach towards the Air Quality Policy and Heat Policy allows participants to enjoy the game of basketball under a safer, altered game structure.

At all time these policies are in effect:

- All decisions related to the implementation of the policies below will be made by the Member Services Officer (MSO);
- MSOs will have access to handheld air quality readers and will take readings from inside the stadium to determine air quality for the purpose of implementing the various phases of the air quality policy;
- MSOs will have access tot thermometers and will take readings from inside the stadium to determine temperature levels for the purpose of implementing the various phases of the heat policy;
- At any point during competition time, the MSO can stop games from progressing if they deem it unsafe to proceed due to poor air quality, heat, adverse weather or court conditions, game results will be determined in accordance to Section 7.6 of the Competition Rules and By-Laws;
- If a game is abandoned because of poor air quality, heat, adverse weather or court conditions, game results will be determined in accordance to Section 9 of the Competition Rules and By-Laws;
- Game fees will not be refunded for weather-effected games.

## Air Quality Policy

Basketball ACT's air quality policy has been developed to ensure that participants are playing the game in a safe environment. Through the implementation of three phases of modifications to game structure based on air quality readings taken prior to (and during) competition games Basketball ACT aims to ensure that participants are not exposed to unnecessary dangerous air quality levels for any extended periods.

### Phase 1 – 26-40 PM2.5 within the stadium (low levels of air pollutants present)

- Prior to the commencement of the game teams will be advised by the MSO that players with existing heart and lung conditions should take caution playing. Teams will also be advised where air quality is within these limits they may request adjusted game timings.
- If the captain or coach of ANY ONE team nominated to play with Adjusted Game Timings before the game commences, the game shall be played with Adjusted Game Timings.
- It is at the discretion of the MSO whether game that have already started change to Adjusted Game Timings (note that if air quality deteriorates during a game the MSO has the ultimate right to alter or Timings (note that if air quality deteriorates during a game that MSO has the ultimate right to alter or cancel games at their discretion to ensure the safety of all participants).

### Phase 2 – 40-107 PM2.5 within the stadium (moderate levels of air pollutants present)

- Teams will be advised by the MSO that games will be played under Adjusted Game Timings (see below).
- If the captain or coach of ANY ONE team is uncomfortable with their team playing because of the air quality, the game may be rescheduled under Section 7.6 of the Competition By Laws.

### Phase 3 – >107 PM2/5 within the stadium (high to extreme levels of air pollutants present)

- If a reading is recorded greater than 107 PM2.5 for a time greater than 10 minutes, games shall be stopped until such time the reading goes below 107 PM2.5.
- It is at the discretion of the MSO whether games are stopped before the 10 minute time.
- At any point during competition time, the MSO can stop games from progressing if they deem it unsafe to proceed due to poor air quality, heat, or court conditions.

## Heat Policy

Basketball ACT's heat policy has been developed to ensure that participants are playing the game in a safe environment. Through the implementation of three phases of modifications to game structure based on air temperature readings taken prior to (and during) competition games Basketball ACT aims to ensure that participants are not exposed to unnecessary dangerous temperature levels for any extended periods.

### Phase 1 - 30°C to 35°C within the stadium

- Teams will be advised by the MSO that players should increase their intake of fluids

### Phase 2 - 35°C to 40°C within the stadium

- Games will be played under Adjusted Game Timings (see below)

### Phase 3 - 40°C+ within the stadium

- Where the stadium temperature is 40°C or more for a period of 10 minutes during competition time, games will be stopped, until such time as the temperature goes below 40°C.
- It is at the discretion of the MSO whether games are stopped before the 10-minute time.

## Adjusted Game Timings

For any games impacted by poor air quality, heat, or adverse weather conditions where it has been determined that adjusted clock timings, the following protocols will be implemented:

### Running Clock Games

- Game will be reduced to 8 minute quarters
- Mandatory referee's time-out at the 4 minute mark in each quarter (clock stops)
- 3 minute break at 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter breaks
- 5 minute half time break

### A Grade Games

- Game will be reduced to 10 minute quarters
- Mandatory referee's time-out at the 5 minute mark in each quarter (clock stops)
- 3 minute break at 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter breaks
- 5 minute half time break

### Fully Timed Games

- Game will remain the same
- Each team allowed 2 time-outs per quarter
- Mandatory referee's time-out at the 5 minute mark in each quarter
- Quarter time breaks, including half time, shall be extended by 2 minutes

***Once a game commences, the timing will remain the same throughout the game. Game timings may only change if the MSO believes that the environmental conditions are deteriorating, and it is in the best interest of everybody's safety to make additional changes.***

## Court Condition Policy

When the game court is affected by external conditions (rain, for example), it is under the discretion the MSO as to whether the game is to go ahead. Refer to Section 7.6 of the Competition By Laws for the results of the games effected by external conditions.

## Multiple Factors Policy

If a game is affected by both heat and poor ait quality, the following grid will come into effect:

|                              | <b>Heat – Phase 1</b>   | <b>Heat – Phase 2</b>  | <b>Heat – Phase 3</b>                      |
|------------------------------|---|--|--|
| <b>Air Quality – Phase 1</b> | The game will be played with adjusted time (negotiable: game to be played in full – both teams and referees must all agree) | The game will be played with adjusted time (non-negotiable). The game may be rescheduled as per Section 7.6 of the By Laws | The game will be call off (non-negotiable) |
| <b>Air Quality – Phase 2</b> | The game will be played with adjusted time (non-negotiable). The game may be rescheduled as per Section 7.6 of the By Laws  | The game will be call off (non-negotiable)   | The game will be call off (non-negotiable) |
| <b>Air Quality – Phase 3</b> | The game will be call off (non-negotiable)  | The game will be call off (non-negotiable)   | The game will be call off (non-negotiable) |