



Croquet Victoria

Adverse Playing Conditions Policy

14th June 2007



Croquet Victoria acknowledges that it has a duty of care when running any event, social or competitive, when conditions are likely to affect a player's health. Clubs and Associations affiliated with Croquet Victoria also have that duty of care.

Adverse playing conditions covered by this policy are: Extreme Temperatures, Thunderstorms, High Winds, Torrential Rain and Excessive Surface Water.

All event officials and players share this duty of care and should be vigilant in detecting any changes in conditions, also any change in the health of a player and ask the event manager to check with the affected player.

1. Players Role

If a player's health will be adversely affected by **Adverse Conditions**, that player has the right, without prejudice, to have their game(s):

(a) postponed to a time when the conditions will not affect that player adversely or (b) cancelled.

2. Managers Role

(a) At all times observe player behaviour and if any stress or fatigue is evident, talk to player and decide appropriate action.

(b) If Temperature reaches 36 Degrees – venues: outside shade temperature - halt play and facilitate a meeting of players to ascertain if all happy to continue. **If not**, suspend play.

(c) If agreed to continue and temperature continues to climb, play is to be suspended.

(d) During Thunderstorms, Lightning, Torrential Rain, Extreme Cold or Extremely High Wind, play is to be suspended.

(e) If Surface Water is excessive and presents a danger, play is to be suspended.

3. Clubs Role

Provide safe environment with courts mown to a standard that provides a moderately fast playing surface

If any of the above situations occur,

Providing the time frame and tournament schedule allows, the Manager will endeavour to schedule the unfinished game(s) for a time when **Adverse Conditions** are not a factor e.g. late afternoon, evening, 6am next morning or at a venue that has lights.

If this is not possible, event will be cancelled, and left to Managers discretion as to whether sufficient games have been played to declare a winner or matter referred to T&F Committee for final decision

Prevention is the best cure.

Social and competitive croquet events over an hour in duration are classified as endurance events. Croquet Victoria encourages clubs, associations, and officials to educate their members to observe nutrition guidelines for such events. Hydration involves drinking adequate liquids in the days leading up to and during a tournament, and being aware that drinks like coffee, some soft drinks and alcohol dehydrate the system. Gatorade is considered the best sports drink in conjunction with water.

Sports nutritionists recommend nibbling complex carbohydrates throughout a tournament instead of eating lunch in one sitting. The regular nibbles maintain energy levels throughout the day. Good nutrition not only keeps the body in good condition it ensures clear decision making is maintained over long periods

Croquet Victoria recommends reminding players about nutrition, hydration and slip, slap, slop in the conditions of tournaments and social days.