

QA Extreme Weather Policy

Extreme Heat

1. Extreme heat procedure

When the QA Extreme heat policy is invoked, the Head Referee is required to blow a stoppage of play at the ten minute point in the match. This is to be a soft deadline of 10 minutes, with the stoppage occurring at the earliest point after the 10 minute mark in which none of the game balls are being actively contested.

Players are to leave their brooms and balls in place where they were at the moment the whistles blew. The stoppage is similar to a standard timeout.

The stoppage is to last for five minutes. The starting procedure after the allotted time has elapsed will match that of a timeout: play shall restart with all players in position where they stopped and balls will start where they were before the stoppage, including any loose on the ground.

The procedure shall be repeated if the match subsequently reaches 30 minutes duration, and again at 20 minute intervals henceforth.

2. Reference Temperatures

In order for a tournament or match to remain eligible for QA Insurance Coverage, Event Sanctioning and Official Match Qualification status, each of the associated actions must be taken when the playing field temperature fall within each of the following reference points:

a) 35+ degrees Celsius (non-inclusive) - The Extreme Heat Policy must be instituted.

If forecasts for the tournament day are over 35 degrees with over 80 percent humidity the Tournament Director must institute the policy the evening prior and for safety assurances and gameplay fairness, retain the policy for the duration of that day's play.

In all other forecast cases, a Tournament Director must either institute the policy the evening prior if there is any reasonable risk of 36 degrees or beyond being reached and if there are no temperature measuring devices on site, in order to ensure that play does not accidentally take place in unsafe conditions.

If temperature measuring devices are on site they may be followed 'live' as necessary, with the policy instituted for individual games if the temperature reaches 36 degrees or beyond before brooms up of any respective match.

b) 30-35 degrees - The Extreme Heat Policy may be instituted at the Tournament Director's discretion.

Play is only deemed formally unsafe and will automatically void QA Insurance and Event Coverage if temperatures reach 36 degrees at game start. However if temperatures are between 30 and 35 degrees and deemed to be unsafe for any reason (be it high humidity, lack of available water on site, etc), a Tournament Director may at their discretion institute the policy for individual games where the temperature is between 30 and 35 degrees before brooms up.

c) Under 30 degrees - The Extreme Heat Policy may not be instituted.

In order to preserve the sanctity and fairness of the game as intended to be played in the Rulebook, the Extreme Heat Policy should only be considered in suitable extreme conditions. No games in which the procedures of the policy are followed despite the temperature being below 30 degrees will be considered for official match status.

Storms

1. Storm Policy

In order for a tournament or match to remain eligible for QA Insurance Coverage, Event Sanctioning and Official Match Qualification status, each of the associated actions must be taken when player safety has been in any way compromised by non-heat related dangerous weather conditions:

- a) For the Purposes of this section dangerous weather conditions are considered to be any presence of lightning or hail, excessive rain that significantly limits player visibility, or excessive mud that dangerously compromises a player's ability to move (for example they are sinking up to their ankles).
- b) If a game is ongoing when a dangerous storm has manifested the match referee must call a timeout for a period of 10 minutes or until such weather conditions have abated. If the 10 minute period has elapsed without any significant change in the weather the match must be adjourned for a period of no less than half an hour. The match may be restarted with a brooms up after such a period if the weather conditions have abated. A restart of the match retains the score as it was before the adjournment.
- c) If such conditions have manifested before the outset of a match the Tournament Director must reschedule the match for a minimum for 30 minutes. If conditions persist after such a time the Tournament Director may give an additional rescheduling of match/s for either 30 or 60 minutes (to the nearest 15 minute interval where appropriate). If after the second rescheduling period there is no prospect of a favourable change in conditions the Tournament Director must adjourn play for the day.
- d) If play is resumed but the dangerous conditions return this procedure restarts from the beginning. If this policy has been restarted for the third time in a single day the Tournament Director must instead abandon play for the remainder of the day.