

The image features a solid blue background. A prominent white and red curved line, resembling a stylized path or a ribbon, curves from the bottom left towards the top right. Scattered across the left side are several starburst patterns, some in red and some in white, resembling fireworks or data points. In the background, there are faint, semi-transparent blue shapes that look like stylized buildings or architectural elements. The text 'Weather Policy' is written in a large, white, sans-serif font on the right side of the image.

Weather Policy

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Person Responsible for Review	HVNC Secretary
<i>Notes/Minor Updates</i> 7/4/2024 16/7/2024	Updated to re-format in line with new design Updated to include additional guidance in case of forecast lightning

PURPOSE

To provide guidance with respect to managing extreme weather conditions.

POLICY

GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND PROCESS

- HVNC Committee wishes to ensure the safety of all members in the event of extreme weather
- Where it is not considered safe to undertake training or matches due to inclement weather, these will be cancelled or postponed.
- The decision to cancel **training** is within the remit of the HVNC Committee, however for the sake of efficiency, responsibility for this decision on a day to day basis is devolved to the Coaches Coordinator, who may wish to consult with other committee members prior to making a decision. The Coaches Coordinator is encouraged to err on the side of caution in the event of inclement weather as naturally player safety must come first. Each coach also has discretion to cancel their team's training at any time, where they consider the weather will make training unsuitable for their players.
- The decision to cancel **matches** is within the remit of SADNA officials and they will advise the club secretary if matches are to be cancelled. The Club Secretary will advise the Coaches Coordinator and the Coaches Coordinator will ensure the message is circulated to coaches and members.

Further guidance is provided below.

TRAINING

Ideally training should not be cancelled until the day of training (in case the forecast changes) however cancellation of all training should be notified to coaches and members by 3.00pm on the day of training.

HEAT - Training will be cancelled if, as determined by the Bureau of Meteorology forecast on the day of training (which can be accessed on their website or via a number of "weather apps"), the temperature at Hope Valley will be **34 degrees or more** at the time of each training session. Although it may be necessary to cancel early training sessions it should be noted that later time slots could potentially go ahead if the forecast indicates that the temperature will drop – it is important therefore that an hourly forecast is consulted when making decisions about training sessions. .

RAIN - the Leeds Ave courts (being a multi-sport rather than a netball surface) are not suitable for netball in wet weather. In general:

- Where **light showers** are forecast it is less likely that training would be cancelled and the decision to cancel is more difficult to make, and will most likely be left to the discretion of each coach on the night, who can assess the court surface in situ. The condition of the courts can be shared by coaches physically present at the courts in earlier training session times with the Coaches Coordinator, who can advise other coaches who may be training later as to whether the courts are likely to be too wet to train on.
- Where **heavy or steady** rainfall is forecast the decision is more straightforward and can be made earlier in the day based on the forecast. This decision will be made by the Coaches Coordinator (in consultation with other committee members, at the discretion of the Coaches Coordinator).

LIGHTNING - where lightning is forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology on a training day, **all training** will be cancelled. This can be assessed on the morning of training day and coaches will be advised as soon as practicable. There is to be no discretion applied in this situation.

ADVISING COACHES AND PLAYERS

In the event that training is to be cancelled due to heat, rain or lightning/storms, the Coaches coordinator will advise the coaches and the Umpire Coordinator, and a post will be made to social media advising of this. Ideally a decision to cancel should be made by 3.00pm on training days so that members are informed in a timely manner. This may not always be possible (eg in the case of light showers it may be more practical to defer making a decision until closer to the time.)

Each coach is responsible for notifying their team that training is cancelled.

MATCHES

SA DISTRICT NETBALL ASSOCIATION HOT/EXTREME WEATHER POLICY

HOT WEATHER POLICY

Mon/Tues/Fri Nights: When the temperature at 5.00pm is 36° or over, all matches are to be abandoned. The temperature is to be taken as announced on MIX 102.3. When the temperature at 5.00pm is 34° or over, all notified forfeit fines are to be waived. In finals, matches cannot be abandoned, but should the temperature at 5.00pm be 36° or over, all matches will be moved back by 30 minutes.

EXTREME WEATHER POLICY

The Court Administrator in consultation with a Senior Official can hold time for up to 10 minutes under extreme weather conditions. After that time the situation will be re-assessed and matches abandoned if conditions have not improved.

Implementation:

1. 2 sets of chimes to be sounded followed by an announcement "Please hold time and vacate the courts or seek suitable shelter until further notice." Two (2) Officials are to regularly monitor and assess the situation for up to 10 minutes.
2. After re-assessment – 2 chimes to be sounded followed by the announcement "play may now resume" or "all matches for this timeslot have been abandoned."