



Unfavourable Weather Policy

Policy number	EV-007	Version	1.0
Approved by SIA Directors	24/04/2023	Scheduled review date	2023

Introduction

All events hosted by Schools in Action, particularly those held outdoors, are to have a set of guidelines for dealing with unfavourable weather conditions and a process for informing or notifying participants and other key stakeholders.

Scope

This policy applies to the management of unfavourable weather conditions when Schools in Action events are scheduled. It is noted that attention must be drawn to other relevant policies such as heat, exposure to the sun and hydration policies as laid down by Sports Medicine Australia and which Schools in Action follow.

Schools in Action reminds all parties that they should act responsibly and encourages everyone involved in the sport to be always conscious of their own personal health and safety.

Policy Statement

Where a participant, official or spectator safety is considered at risk, event(s) may be cancelled or suspended. This might relate to an entire event or elements thereof (e.g., hurdles or high jump events at a Track & Field program).

Responsibilities

Responsibilities for individual procedures detailed below are contained within the said procedures.

Procedures

Conditions which might cause events to be cancelled, suspended or modified include:

- Extreme temperatures
- Fog
- Frost, hail and ice
- Flooding
- Snow
- Strong winds



- Thunderstorm (Lightning)
- Torrential rain

It is recognised that conditions, duration, impact, etc. may vary from venue to venue and a prescriptive policy is not proposed. Rather, Schools in Action encourages decision makers to apply the principle of safety first – while also looking to minimise any inconvenience caused to travelling participants.

Common sense will apply at all times and all participants and stakeholders should always be conscious of the likelihood of unfavourable weather impacting events. Accordingly, participants should familiarise themselves with where and how to obtain relevant information (e.g., Schools in Action or Bureau of Meteorology websites).

Making the decision

The decision to cancel, suspend or modify events will be the joint responsibility of the following:

- Challenge Convenor
- The Chair of the Local Organising Committee (if appointed)
- Either of the Schools in Action Directors

Weighing up all relevant factors, decisions should be made and communicated at the earliest possible opportunity.

Communication

For Schools in Action events, notices will be posted on the Schools in Action website and its social media platforms. Contact will also immediately be made with the Team Managers of each school team for communication to their team members; event officials; and other stakeholders.

When events are suspended or modified during the course of play, the Challenge Convenor should immediately broadcast information and advice to Team Managers for onward dissemination.

Schools in Action endeavours to always act reasonably and accepts no responsibility for actions and events beyond its control and for the consequences of actions taken in good faith, for the overall health and safety of participants, administrators, officials, spectators, at all Schools in Action related events.

Related Documents

- Risk Management Policy
- Event Risk Assessment - Template



Authorisation

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Deneille Sutton - Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Grant", written over a horizontal line.

Michael Grant - Director