



Blackburn Vikings Heat Policy

Version	Approved by:	Original Date	Review Cycle
1	BVBA Committee	14-Feb-2023	2 years
Policy Owner:	General Manager		

PURPOSE

All persons involved in the organisation of games and programs at Blackburn Vikings Basketball Association (BVBA) and hire of Slater Reserve Stadium must be aware of the effect that extremes of weather can have when playing or attending basketball. To minimise risk to persons, particularly when high temperatures are expected, the BVBA has introduced the following heat policy procedures.

This policy is for BVBA Domestic games, Programs and the hire of Slater Reserve Stadium does not overrule VJBL, EDJBA, MEBA, BV or BA game day guidelines.

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the Basketball Victoria Climate Policy <https://www.basketballvictoria.com.au/resources/association-resources/policies>

SCOPE

Court Temperature

The Venue Manager, Supervisor or Lead Coach **MUST** measure the court temperature hourly with thermometer provided whilst the stadium is in use. Record the date, time and temperature in the temperature logbook provided. This will be a permanent record kept by the BVBA.

When the court temperature reaches 28 degrees Celsius the Venue Manager/Lead Coach should:

- open stadium doors where the outside temperature is cooler than the inside court temperature, particularly if there is a cool breeze outside.
- consider turning air conditioning fans, where available,
- ensure there are adequate supplies of icepacks for use where appropriate.

When the court temperature reaches 35 degrees Celsius the Venue Manager **MUST** inform the referees who **MUST** implement the following modified timing rules:

Where games are played in halves:

- the game time must be reduced by 2 minutes per half.
- the referee must implement two (2) team timeouts per half. The clock must stop for each timeout.
- the referee must call an additional compulsory timeout at the 8 minutes mark of each half.
- Each team must call a timeout before the compulsory timeout and after the compulsory timeout. In the event the coaches do not call a timeout as required, the referees will intervene and call a timeout and attribute them to the respective teams.



When programs are being conducted:

- Coaches must have drink breaks for athlete every 15 minutes or at request of the athlete.

When the court temperature reaches 37 degrees Celsius games and programs must be abandoned.

- If a game is abandoned before it commences or before half time or at half time it is counted as a draw.
- If a game is abandoned after half time, the game score stands as the final result.
- Programs will be cancelled for that day.

Officials / Players / Coaches

The health, safety and wellbeing of players, coaches and officials is a priority for the BVBA.

- Referees should wear shorts when officiating and be aware of the symptoms of heat stress and be on the alert to notice any such symptoms.
- Full knowledge of availability of first aid equipment and first aid and medical personnel is accessible by all persons attending.
- As a general guide, players and referees are advised to drink about 500ml (2 cups) of water in the 2 hours before exercising. During exercise lasting 60 minutes or longer, 500-750ml (2-3 cups) of fluids per hour should be sufficient to prevent dehydration. Constant sipping is also advised.
- Coaches should consider a common-sense approach during games where high temperatures are experienced by:
 - Ensuring players are aware of the need to hydrate regularly during, before and after the game
 - rotating players to ensure rest and rehydration o utilising all timeouts to ensure players rehydrate.
 - taking a balanced approach to game play ie man to man defence in back court rather than full court
 - Were possible teams should make every effort to provide extra drinks and wet towels for games during these hot periods.