

CHARLESTOWN NETBALL ASSOCIATION



ADVERSE WEATHER POLICY

Policy adopted: 20 March 2025

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1. Responsibility and decisions

1. Charlestown Netball Association reserves the right to cancel, postpone or alter a CNA event in the interest of participant health and safety, due to adverse weather conditions such as:
 - a. hot weather;
 - b. wet weather;
 - c. thunderstorms; or
 - d. poor air quality.
2. The decision to cancel, postpone or alter an event is made by the Charlestown Netball Association Executive Committee.
3. The decision to cancel, postpone or alter an event will be based on current and forecast weather conditions for the Charlestown area, and in consultation with guidelines outlined in Netball NSW Adverse Weather Conditions policy.
4. Unless otherwise advised, players should assume their game is on and proceed to the courts for play.
5. The decision concerning cancellation of a game due to adverse weather will be made a **minimum of 30 minutes prior to each timeslot**.
 - a. Notification of game cancellation will be announced on the media outlets of the Association (e.g. Facebook, Instagram, etc).

2. Guidelines in adverse weather

1. Play in adverse weather conditions should be guided by the Netball NSW Adverse Weather Conditions Policy and common sense based on local conditions

Lightning and thunderstorm guidelines

2. Our **lightning safety code** is based on the 30 / 30 rule, which calls for all play to be stopped when the lightning / thunder ratio reaches 30 seconds or less (ie. the time between when the lightning is seen and the last thunder is heard is 30 seconds or less).
3. When the 30 second ratio has been reached, this means that the lightning seen is 10 km away and the next strike has a “significant risk” of hitting the people who have seen the lightning and heard the thunder.
4. All participants must be aware that in the event of lightning, play must not resume until 30 minutes after the **last** lightning strike and thunder.
5. **All play must cease immediately if there is hail.** All students, officials and spectators should seek cover immediately.

Extreme heat guidelines

6. If play proceeds on a hot day, players should take care to remain properly hydrated.
7. No player should participate in a match if they feel distressed because of the heat.

3. Abandoned games due to adverse weather

1. When the game has commenced and subsequently the Executive makes the decision to abandon the game, both teams must cease play and leave the court as soon as possible (seeking shelter if required).
2. When the game has commenced and the decision to abandon the game is made prior to half-time, the game will be considered abandoned, the score will not be recorded, and no competition points will be awarded.
 - a. This applies to a regular full game comprised of four quarters.
3. When the game has commenced and the decision to abandon the game is made at half-time or after half-time, the game will be considered played, the score at the time of the decision will be recorded, and competition points will be awarded.
 - a. This applies to a regular full game comprised of four quarters.
4. For a game being played as “make-up game” with a shortened format (e.g. two 15-minute halves or similar), the game must be played in its entirety for the game to be considered played, the score to be recorded, and for competition points to be awarded.
5. When there are three or more consecutive cancelled or abandoned games, the Senior Executive will consider using the nominated wet weather dates reserved in the season calendar to play make-up games.

4. Relevant information

See also

- Netball NSW – Adverse Weather Conditions Policy

5. Policy Review

At a minimum, this policy will be reviewed every three years by the CNA Executive. The policy may be reviewed more frequently if deemed necessary by the CNA Executive.