

BENALLA GOLF CLUB HOT WEATHER GUIDELINES

Benalla Golf Club has an obligation to act responsibly to reduce the risk of heat related injuries to players, caddies and officials involved in club events or activities.

We recognise that many participants have a high risk of heat related illness. These guidelines have been developed to minimise the risk of illness, injury and possible death as a result of activity undertaken in hot weather.

SUSPENSION OF PLAY/CANCELLATION OF PLAY POLICY

Day of Competition

In circumstances of extreme hot weather and humidity, play may be suspended or cancelled at the discretion of the respective match committee, or representatives, present.

If no member of a Match Committee is available the Golf Shop staff may make this decision. Where possible this decision should be made in consultation with a member of the club executive.

The assessment of extreme hot weather conditions and the decision with regards to modifying, postponing or abandoning an event will be made with reference to:

- temperature and humidity conditions contained on the Bureau of Meteorology website (www.bom.gov.au.) The BOM website shall be the primary source for all weather readings and forecasts. Additional local advice may be obtained at www.bom.gov.au/products/IDV65079.shtml or click Local Hot Weather alerts at www.sma.org.au
- Beat the Heat Fact Sheet and Sports Medicine Australia (SMA) Risk estimates tables shall be used to guide all decisions in light of all weather readings and forecasts. (attached)
- Sports Medicine Australia Hot Weather Guidelines (attached)
- Rural City of Benalla/Department of Health Heat warnings

In the event of cancellation every effort will be made to reschedule the event for another day . Any competitor not able to participate on the rescheduled day shall be entitled to a refund.

Prior to the day of competition

If the temperature and humidity forecast for the day, at 5.00 pm the previous day, are viewed by the match committee as excessive any rounds with a hit off later than 9.00 am shall be cancelled, rescheduled prior to 9.00 am or after 5.00 pm, or shortened to 9 holes.

Information relating to changed arrangements will be available on the Benalla Golf Club website www.benallagolfclub.com.au and in the window of the golf shop.

Any competitor not able to participate at the rescheduled time shall be entitled to a refund.

During the event

On days when weather conditions risk deteriorating and the welfare of participants is in jeopardy:

The weather conditions will be monitored every 30 minutes via BOM

When the conditions are assessed to be a risk to participants, play will be suspended immediately. (continual blast??)

Should play be suspended due to excessive heat/humidity, play shall not be resumed until conditions moderate. If the weather forecast for the remainder of the day shows no likelihood of cooler conditions play shall be abandoned for the day.

Player discretion

During Benalla Golf Club competitions held between November 1st and April 30th in each calendar year any competitor may withdraw either before or during the event due to hot weather/humidity conditions. Competitors who elect to withdraw before the event are entitled to a full refund.

Competitors who withdraw during the competition will be scored N "Approved"

Prior Medical Conditions

Any participant over 65 or with a pre-existing medical condition, illness or is overweight may experience difficulties exercising in hot conditions and exacerbate the risk of heat illness. Examples of medical conditions include asthma, diabetes, pregnancy, heart conditions or epilepsy.

Any participant who is experiencing a high temperature, viral infection, diarrhoea or vomiting should NOT participate due to increased risk of heat illness.

The Benalla Golf Club assumes no responsibility for any medical situation in relation to a participant who experiences the applicable above conditions. It is recommended that participants with a pre-existing medical condition and/or illness consult a medical practitioner for advice prior to playing golf in hot conditions.

STRATEGY

General	Who	How
Educate members re risks associated exercising in hot weather	Captains Committee	Beat the heat pamphlet enlarged and displayed in locker rooms/golf shop Pamphlets available from Golf Shop
Ensure participants and staff are aware of signs of and treatment for heat injuries	Captains/Manager	Display signs outlining actions to be taken in case of heat injury in Locker rooms and Golf Shop
Make Sun Screen available in Locker Rooms/Golf Shop	Manager Golf Shop	
Notify members/visitors of procedure for changed arrangements on days of extreme heat	Captains	Page in Syllabus Note on Flyers for events held November – April Web site

SPECIFIC RESPONSES						
Ambient Temperature	Relative Humidity	Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (Hot Humid days)	Risk of Thermal Injury	Possible Action		
31-35	<30 %	26-29	High –very high	Warn players .	Match Committee/Golf Shop	Sign outside Golf Shop Notice on Web page
35-40	??	??	??	Encourage play early morning or late evening	Match Committee	Include on notice
				Allow extended rest period after 9 holes	Match Committee/Golf Shop	Signs to be displayed near 9 th and 18 th green

Ambient Temperature	Relative Humidity	Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (Hot Humid days)	Risk of Thermal Injury	Possible Action		
				Sunscreen available in locker rooms and golf shop	Manager/Captains	
				Reduce competition to 9 or 12 holes	Match Committee	
36 and above	<25	30and above	Extreme	Reschedule Play No hit offs between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm	Match Committee/Golf Shop	
				Reduce competition to 9 or 12 holes	Match Committee	
				Warn Players	Match Committee/Golf Shop	Sign outside Golf Shop Notice on Web page
				Allow extended rest period after 9 holes	Match Committee/Golf Shop	Signs to be displayed near 9 th and 18 th green
				Drink Stations set up on course	Captain/Golf Shop	
				Sunscreen available in locker rooms and golf shop	Manager/Captains	