



APPENDIX J WET WEATHER/EXTREME HEAT POLICY

Set out below are the minimum requirements regarding postponements in extreme wet weather and heat conditions. While the policy is aimed at the two major zone centres in particular, the principals herein can be applied across all competition centres within the zone.

General

1. Where clubs host matches, each club is to appoint a responsible person as the main point of contact, perhaps the Ground Official, and one other person as an alternative in the event that the Club's preferred Ground Official is unavailable.
2. The appointed Official of each Club shall have sole discretion as to whether junior / senior fixtures should be played on the Club's grounds after consideration of the condition of the field playing surfaces and safety of players.
3. Should the club's decision be to continue with play, the appointed referee will, under the laws of the game, have discretion to call off games if he/she considers the conditions unsafe for players.

Wet Weather

4. For venues hosting matches, the appointed Club Official must make the decision to postpone any games on Friday night as follows:

Friday Night Fixtures - 2.00pm on the day of play

5. In the case of **Saturday** or **Sunday** fixtures the Official should consider any decision in two parts depending on weather and ground conditions:

Morning Fixtures - 6.30/7.00am - absolutely no later than 7.15am

Afternoon and Evening Fixtures - 10.00am (no later)

6. In each instance, the appointed official must contact the Gladstone or Rockhampton FCQ Zone Office as soon as a decision can clearly be made whereupon all postponements will be placed on the Football Central Queensland website and/or Facebook page as soon as is practical.
7. Where extreme wet weather early in the week is likely to have an impact on fixtures, clubs should contact the Zone Competition Manager at FCQ in the first instance and in a timely manner to flag the possibility/likelihood of fixtures not being able to be played.
8. Responsibility for notifying the Referees Coordinator and placing all postponements on the website/Facebook page will be the appointed person from the FCQ Zone Office. In terms of last minute decisions, Club officials must ring this person immediately a decision is made as per steps 3 & 4.

9. Under the Competition Rules of FCQ the game(s) will be rescheduled at a time and under such conditions as the Competition Manager or Zone determines.

10. For junior fixtures at Palm Drive in Gladstone, the Venue Manager will make a decision on Saturday by 7.00am if fixtures will be played. Each appointed Club Official should call or use SMS to contact the Gladstone Venue Manager between 7.30am and 8.00am and then advise their respective Club coaches. The Venue Manager is responsible for advising the Referees Coordinator directly and advising members using social media means if possible.

11. For Rockhampton junior fixtures held at Norbridge Park, Football Rockhampton will inspect the fields and will make a decision on Saturday by 6.30am if fixtures will be played and will advise the FCQ Rockhampton Office contact. Each appointed Club official should call or use SMS to contact the Rockhampton Competition Officer between 6.30am and 7.30am. Each Club official will advise their respective Club coaches. The Rockhampton Office contact is responsible for advising the Referees Coordinator directly and advising members using social media means if possible.

Extreme heat

12. The following specifically applies in the event of extreme hot weather conditions:

FCQ is guided by [Football Queensland's Hot Weather Policy](#) and Sports Medicine Australia's guidelines for dealing with extreme heat conditions.

Clubs and officials are advised that for adults and children the ambient temperature for cancelling or postponing a match is **36°** or above. These recommendations are for postponement of games and training and other events including, but not limited to; friendly matches, selection trials and clinics.

PLEASE NOTE: These are the maximum postponement and/or cancellation temperatures. Postponement and/or cancellation of games, training or events at lower temperatures may be necessary, depending on other contributing factors such as: humidity, local conditions, radiant heat, lack of ventilation (for indoor centres) and player wellbeing.

If the temperature is **32°** or above, water bottles should be made available and placed along the sidelines to enable any player to take a drink during the course of the game; and if conditions are considered extreme by the Match Official, he or she has the discretion to allow a 2 minute break during the course of each half. These guidelines are also applicable to indoor football variants including futsal.

13. For concerns about heat, Clubs should follow the procedures for contacting FCQ outlined above in relation to wet weather concerns; decisions regarding the postponing of matches due to extreme heat should be made a minimum of one hour prior to any affected match.

14. FCQ may make decisions regarding the playing of matches outside of these principles and will be on the side of the best interests of player safety.

Zone Competition Manager Contact re: Regular Postponements - Jim Douglas
generalmanger@footballcq.com.au

Emergency Contact Personnel re: Last Minute Postponements -
Gladstone - Bernadine Daley 0488435166
Rockhampton - Jim Douglas 0437821526

Only Club Appointed Official to call, not Coaches

FCQ Office use only	
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