



ADVERSE WEATHER POLICY

Purpose

The Darwin Netball Association (DNA) competition is played indoors and outdoors on all weather asphalt courts. This policy is to provide guidance to the DNA Management Team to ensure the safety of the Association's players and members during inclement weather and/or extraordinary circumstances.

What we will do

To minimise unnecessary disruption to the competition draw and to ensure participants are given every opportunity to play netball, DNA's preference, if possible, is to not cancel games. While games will not be called off solely because it is raining, player/umpire safety is paramount. If the courts at Marrara are deemed to be unsafe, matches will be postponed and Club Secretary advised accordingly.

1. The decision to cancel matches will be made by the DNA Management Team. Decisions regarding cancellation of games may be made by each timeslot or alternatively all games.
2. During wet weather, matches will only be cancelled for the safety of players and match officials. Correct footwear should be worn to cope with wet weather conditions and match cancellations will not be based on player/umpire/spectator comfort.
3. Based on information received from local and state weather authorities a decision may be made to cancel activities. The consideration of safety will take into account the following:
 - a. Thunderstorm activity with lightning; If the difference between a lightning strike and the associated thunder from that lightning strike is 30 seconds or less, all persons associated with the activity as players, officials, umpires or spectators shall immediately leave the grounds and seek shelter that is appropriate from a lightning strike
 - b. water volume on the courts
 - c. Heavy rainfall which may cause flash flooding
 - d. lack of grip on court
 - e. player age level on court.
2. This decision will not be made until the playing surfaces and forecasts have been assessed. Player safety is always the primary concern. Depending on the forecast, the decision to play later timeslots may be reviewed and information will be updated in line with changes in playing conditions.
3. Wherever practical, advanced notice will be posted on the DNA website and Facebook. If there is nonnotification on the DNA website or Facebook, teams should report to the courts.
4. Once play has commenced, and in accordance with the Official Rules of Netball, the DNA Executive may stop play in times of extreme weather. If the game is called off at or after half-time, the scores will stand and the team with the highest score will be declared the winner. The score at the time the match is abandoned is taken to be the final score.



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5. If play ceases before half time, the match shall be considered abandoned and no points awarded.
6. In the event that games are cancelled, or called off before half-time, matches will be rescheduled to a forward date.
7. If two (2) or more rounds are cancelled consecutively, the games would be scheduled forward with all rounds to be played unless decided by MT to cancel the entire round.
8. During the final series, wet weather games may be played on another day.

In summary

- In the event of inclement weather or extraordinary circumstances, only members of the DNA Management Team may decide whether fixtures will begin.
- In the event of inclement weather or extraordinary circumstances once play has commenced, only a members of the DNA Management Team may decide whether play will continue.
- No points will be given to matches, byes or forfeits cancelled because of inclement conditions or extraordinary circumstances.
- Matches cancelled because of inclement weather, or extraordinary circumstances may be rescheduled at the discretion of the DNA Management Team.
- If play is interrupted due to extraordinary circumstances pertaining to the courts (failure of lighting, broken goal post etc.) and there is a vacant court at that time, the match shall resume on that court.