



VAFA HEAT POLICY

The following shall be adopted when hot conditions are expected to prevail on VAFA Practice Matches, Home & Away and Final Series matches.

In the event that the temperature is considered likely to be **greater than 32 degrees Celsius** (via the Bureau of Meteorology's hotline ph: 1196) at;

- The scheduled commencement of a match, or
- During the course of a match,

One of the officiating Field Umpires shall contact (the Bureau of Meteorology's hotline ph: 1196 prior to match commencement) to determine the current temperature in the area where the match is to be played.

POLICY PROCESS

1. **TEMPERATURE EQUAL TO, OR GREATER THAN 36 DEGREES CELSIUS AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE GAME.**
 - A VAFA match shall not commence if the temperature at the scheduled commencement time is equal to or exceeds 36 degrees.
 - If the temperature has not dropped below 36 degrees within 30 minutes of the scheduled commencement time of the match, *the match shall be cancelled.*
2. **TEMPERATURE BETWEEN 32 DEGREES CELSIUS AND BELOW 36 DEGREES CELSIUS AT THE SCHEDULED COMMENCEMENT OF THE GAME.**
 - All Quarters are to be reduced to 17 minutes plus time on.
 - Field Umpires may increase the length of stoppage following a goal to allow additional player/umpire hydration.
 - The quarter and three quarter time break shall be increased to 10 minutes, with teams and umpires able to leave the field if so desired during the breaks.
 - The half time break shall be increased to 20 minutes.
 - If the temperature exceeds 36 degrees Celsius during the match (one of the officiating Field Umpires shall contact the Bureau of Meteorology's hotline ph: 1196 at each break), the match shall be halted. If the temperature does not drop below 36 degrees Celsius within 30 minutes of the being halted, the match shall be discontinued and the result determined per the AFL Laws of the Game.
3. **TEMPERATURE BELOW 32 DEGREES CELSIUS AT THE SCHEDULED COMMENCEMENT BUT INCREASES DURING THE GAME** (one of the officiating Field Umpires shall contact the Bureau of Meteorology's hotline ph: 1196 at each break)
 - If the temperature is between 32 degrees Celsius and 36 degrees Celsius, Section 2 shall apply from the time the Bureau of Meteorology's hotline is contacted.
 - If the temperature exceeds 36 degrees Celsius during the match (one of the officiating Field Umpires shall contact the Bureau of Meteorology's hotline ph: 1196 at each break), the match shall be halted. If the temperature does not drop below 36 degrees Celsius within 30 minutes of the being halted, the match shall be discontinued and the result determined per the AFL Laws of the Game.