

MBLAC Club Extreme Weather Policy



1. Purpose

Murray Bridge Little Athletics Centre (MBLAC) is committed to providing its registered members and their families, committee, coaches, officials, and volunteers with a safe environment in which to meet.

MBLAC acknowledges it has a responsibility and duty of care to ensure the safety of participants during meets and therefore has developed this Extreme Weather Policy with consideration of the standards produced by South Australian Little Athletics Association (SALAA), in their Extreme Weather Standard 2023.

2. Scope

This policy shall apply to all MBLAC athletes and their families, committee, coaches, officials, and volunteers at all sites under the organisation and control of MBLAC.

This policy aims to assist the MBLAC committee in deciding whether a scheduled meet or organised activity needs to be modified, delayed, postponed or cancelled due to hot or wet weather.

In case of extreme weather conditions including, Thunderstorms, Strong Winds and Storms and reduced Air Quality, please refer directly to the SALAA Extreme Weather Standard 2023.

3. Policy

Hot Weather

MBLAC Committee Monitor Bureau of Meteorology www.bom.gov.au from 3 days prior to scheduled MBLAC meet/activity to determine course of action. Temperatures stated are **AT TIME OF MEET/ACTIVITY**, not predicted maximum for the day.

Sunday only: Modified meet program, long distance events will be run prior to meet.

Friday only: Modified meet program, long distance events will be run at end of meet.

For Sunday meets: If forecast temperature is 36-37 degrees Celsius at time of intended meet, a modified program is set. If forecast temperature is 38-40 degrees Celsius at time of intended meet, a modified program is set, and the meet will commence at 0800hrs. If forecast temperature is or above 41 degrees Celsius at time of intended meet, the meet will be cancelled.

For Friday night meets: If forecast temperature is 36-40 degrees Celsius at time of intended meet, a modified program is set. If forecast temperature is or above 41 degrees Celsius at time of intended meet, the meet will be cancelled.

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Wet Weather

A meet/activity can be cancelled as early as mid-week if exceptional circumstances create unsafe conditions such as, but not limited to, swampy slippery ground due to excessive rainfall even if no rain is predicted on the MBLAC meet or organised activity day.

If heavy rain is falling at the program start time, the meet/activity will be cancelled. If light rain is falling at program start time, the start of the meet/activity will be delayed by 30 minutes. If rain continues to fall after 30 minutes, the meet/activity will be cancelled. If rain commences during a meet/activity a warning whistle will be blown, events are to be stopped immediately, and participants are to make their way to the canteen to await further instructions.

For a delayed meet/activity, a modified program set at the discretion of the MBLAC committee.

4. Responsibilities

Club Committee are responsible for:

- Having an Extreme Weather policy in place that covers MBLAC club meets and MBLAC organised activities.
- Closely and regularly monitoring weather forecasts and conditions to comply with the policy when conducting or managing extreme weather at MBLAC meets and MBLAC organised activities.
- Informing all registered members of MBLAC of the MBLAC Club Extreme Weather Policy.
- Maintaining communication (through social media and/or email) with its registered athletes and their families, coaches, officials, and volunteers, and provide updates of any modification, postpone or cancellation of any scheduled meet or organised activity.

All athletes, parents/guardians, committee, coaches, officials, and volunteers are required to:

- Follow the MBLAC Club Extreme Weather Policy.
- Actively check sources of communication (social media, email) from MBLAC committee for any notification of modification, postpone or cancellation of any scheduled meet or organised activity.
- Comply with the instructions from the president and MBLAC committee.
- Have 'free will' to not attend any meet or part of meet, or event within a meet or scheduled activity where you believe that your health or the health of your children will be personally affected by extreme weather conditions even if the programmed meet or activity continues as scheduled.