



FREMANTLE NETBALL ASSOCIATION (Inc.)

WET WEATHER POLICY

Adopted 2/12/2008

A) INTENT OF POLICY

The policy is to ensure that Fremantle Netball Association (Inc) [hereafter referred to as FNA] provides guidelines for canceling netball during inclement weather.

- FNA has a responsibility to provide a safe environment for players, coaches, umpires and spectators, to meet our legal duties of care and to reduce the potential of injury;
- although it is preferable that games are not cancelled the safety of members is paramount.

B) POLICY BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

It is essential to ensure effective risk management is maintained at all times, at all levels.

- The safety and welfare of all players, coaches, umpires and spectators is the overriding factor at all times;
- The age and skill level of players should be considered;
- Children have a less developed perception of when they are cold therefore coaches should pay particular attention to this factor when they are subjected to wet, cold conditions;
- Athlete preparation for wet or cold conditions
 - i. avoid standing exposed for long periods;
 - ii. wear appropriate clothing;
 - iii. wet clothing should be changed as soon as practicable;
 - iv. bring a change of clothes in a water proof bag for immediate change after the game.

C) HOW THE POLICY WORKS

FNA shall appoint a panel of three people (the Association Officers' ie President, 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents) or co-opt other Executive member/s should any of the Officers' not be available. This panel will make the decision on whether matches are cancelled.

D) THE POLICY

Implement a checklist to be used to assess the current weather situation. The decision may need to be reviewed on a timeslot by timeslot frame depending on changes in weather conditions.

Checklist	Yes	No	Decision
Continuous driving rain (including hail)			Cancel
Thunder storm (lightning)			Cancel

- i. Cancel or cease playing (or training) outdoors during a thunder storm due to the potential for being struck by lightning;
- ii. Communication to teams or team management regarding weather decisions, either by PA announcements on the grounds or via telephone message to Club Secretary for total event cancellation;
- iii. Uniform Issues – the FNA Uniform Registrar may permit the wearing of matching tracksuit pants and matching long sleeved top in extreme weather circumstances. Tracksuits must not have zips to ensure a safe playing environment is maintained.

E) MATCH PROCEDURES

In the event of inclement weather, the Association shall decide whether matches shall be cancelled (refer point C). In this event, the Association shall declare the result of such cancelled games as follows:

- i. if match is cancelled before commencing, teams are awarded 1 point each;
- ii. if match is cancelled prior to half time, teams are awarded 1 point each;
- iii. if match is cancelled after half time, the current score of game stands.