

MEMO

TO: Metropolitan Member Clubs

FROM: Match & Program Committee

DATE: Thursday 30 January 2020

SUBJECT: Wet weather procedures - reminder

It feels very strange sending out a memo to Clubs about wet weather on a day when the temperature has reached 42 degrees – but that’s Adelaide weather.

There is a significant amount of rain forecast for Friday and Saturday this weekend so it is timely to remind Clubs of our Conditions of Play regarding wet weather.

I have included the relevant sections on the second page of this memo, but here is a summary:

- It is up to individual Clubs to decide if their greens are suitable or unsuitable for play for the day;
- If a Club decides their greens are unsuitable for any play for the day they must notify all the Clubs that are due to play at their venue by 10:00 am. **Notifying a club means talking to someone, not leaving a message on an answering machine.** If you don’t know who to contact use the Bowls SA Information Directory;
- If a Club hasn’t closed their greens and conditions deteriorate after 10:00, it is still the home Club’s responsibility (Greens Manager or their proxy) to determine whether play will be possible. If a decision is made to close the greens all efforts should still be made to contact the visiting sides;
- The start of play may be delayed if weather conditions are likely to improve and the greens will be playable;
- If conditions deteriorate once play has commenced the Greens Manager/proxy may close one or more greens. They need to notify the Umpire of the Day who will stop play on the affected green(s);
- Team Managers may appeal to the Umpire of the Day to stop play if they are of the opinion that the conditions warrant it, while the Umpire of the Day can make this decision on their own account;
- If play is stopped it will only resume with the permission of the Umpire of the Day and the Greens Manager;
- If play is resumed any end not completed will be declared dead;
- Play will only be cancelled if it is not possible to resume after one hour from the last stoppage;
- If/when lightning is sighted by the Umpire of the Day, play will be suspended immediately.

If there are any questions regarding the above or further clarification required, please contact Match & Program (matchcommittee@bowlssa.com.au)

Jeff Allen
Chair
Match & Program Committee

Metropolitan Pennants – Conditions of Play 2019-20

6. DISRUPTION TO PLAY – INCLEMENT (WET) WEATHER

Pennant games will be played at all venues that are open, even if the majority of other venues have been closed.

In the event of inclement (wet) weather, players are to contact their Member Club to determine if play will proceed or be postponed. DO NOT contact Bowls SA, the MBA or Match & Program Committee.

6.1 Greens Unavailability

At each Member Club, the Greens Manager or their proxy shall decide whether or not the greens are unsuitable for play for the whole day. If the greens are unsuitable for play the Home side will notify the designated contact for each of the Clubs that are playing at that venue on that day. This will be done before 10:00 am (Wednesday and Saturday) and 8:00 am (Thursday/Tuesday).

6.2 Cancellation at Venue Prior to Commencement of Play

If weather conditions deteriorate at a Member Club which has not declared its greens unsuitable for play for the whole day, the decision whether or not play shall start due to the condition of the greens, shall be the sole responsibility of the Member Club's Greens Manager or their proxy.

6.3 Cancellation during Play

6.3.1 When play has commenced and weather conditions deteriorate, the Umpire of the Day will stop play on affected greens if the Home Club's Greens Manager or their proxy closes the green. This may be in regard to the condition of one or all greens at the venue. Play shall not be resumed without the permission of the Greens Manager or their proxy.

6.3.2 The Umpire of the Day may also stop play if a side Manager appeals on the grounds that the weather conditions are such that continuing to play would constitute a breach of duty of care. A side Manager's appeal shall only affect the game in which their side is engaged and shall not affect any other games at the same venue.

6.3.3 The Umpire of the Day may also act on his/her own discretion without appeal from either side Manager if it is felt that the conditions warrant cessation of play. If play has been stopped it shall not be resumed without permission of the Umpire of the Day.

6.3.4 Play will be cancelled for the day if it is not possible to resume after one hour from the time of the last stoppage. Play may not be cancelled until the expiry of the hour from the last stoppage.

6.3.5 Scoring of incomplete games will be in accordance with Rule 5.8

6.4 Lightning

Lightning can occur without other typical storm characteristics (i.e. thunder, rain and wind) being present.

Bowls SA & the MBA are committed to ensuring that all players, officials, administrators and spectators are safe during lightning activity

6.4.1 When lightning is sighted by the Umpire of the Day, play will be suspended, and all players will be required to leave the green IMMEDIATELY and move to a safe structure.

No place is absolutely safe from lightning strikes, but the Umpire of the Day is to ensure that all parties are made aware of the location's safe areas.

6.4.2 When the Umpire of the Day deems it safe to return to the green (at least 15 minutes after the last evidence that nearby lightning has occurred), play should resume as per the Law 32

Laws of the Sport of Bowls

Games stoppages

32.2 If an end has started but all the required bowls have not been played, it must be declared dead. (The end must be declared dead even if one or more players choose to remain on the green during the stoppage.)

32.3 If all the required bowls in an end have been played but the process of deciding the number of shots scored (as described in Law 23) has not been completed, the number of shots scored must be decided before the game stops.