



## **Athletics NSW Unfavourable Weather Policy**

The following is provided as a guide for members, clubs and other participants, conducting and participating in athletics events. These guidelines are not binding, but Athletics NSW reminds all parties that they should act responsibly.

Athletics NSW also encourages everyone involved in the sport to be conscious of their own personal health and safety at all times.

### **Cancellation and suspension of events;**

Every club and region within New South Wales is encouraged to develop their own guidelines for dealing with unfavourable weather conditions and a process for informing or notifying their members and other participants.

Where participant, official or spectator safety is considered at risk, event(s) may be cancelled or suspended. This might relate to an entire meeting programme or elements thereof (e.g. hurdles; high jump).

Conditions which might cause events to be cancelled, suspended or modified include:

- Extreme temperatures
- Fog
- Frost, hail and ice
- Flooding
- Snow
- Strong winds
- Thunder storm (lightning)
- Torrential rain

It is recognised that conditions, duration, impact, etc may vary from venue to venue and a prescriptive policy is not proposed. Rather, Athletics NSW encourages decision makers to apply the principle of safety first – while also looking to minimise any inconvenience caused to travelling participants.

Common sense will apply at all times and athletes and other participants should always be conscious of the likelihood of unfavourable weather impacting events. Accordingly, participants should familiarise themselves with where and how to obtain relevant information (e.g. Athletics NSW website).

### **Making the decision**

It is the Athletics NSW Competition Manager's responsibility to monitor weather conditions for referral.

The decision to cancel, suspend or modify events will be the responsibility of at least two of the following:



- Competition Director
- Meet Manager
- Track or Field Referee
- Relevant Athletics NSW Summer or XCR Committee Member
- Venue Manager
- Athletics NSW CEO or delegate

Weighing up all relevant factors, decisions should be made and communicated at the earliest possible opportunity.

### **Communication / Notification**

For Athletics NSW Championship events, notices will be posted as soon as possible on our website – [www.nswathletics.org.au](http://www.nswathletics.org.au)

For other events, the organising committee should establish a contact ‘tree’ to advise participating clubs, etc of decisions where applicable. In turn, each club should have a process in place that will enable their members and other participants to become aware when an event is cancelled.

Where events are suspended or modified during the course of play, local officials should immediately broadcast information and advice to Team Managers for onward dissemination.

Athletics NSW endeavours to act reasonably at all times and accepts no responsibility for actions and events beyond its control and for the consequences of actions taken in good faith, for the overall health and safety of participants, administrators, officials, spectators, at all Athletics NSW related events.

### **Guidelines for Specific Events**

#### Lightning

See Athletics NSW Lightning Guidelines.

#### Heat

See Athletics NSW Heat Guidelines

References:

- Unfavourable Weather Policy – Athletics Victoria