Country Crickt NSW Heat Policy

The CCNSW Heat Policy (V1.3) as it applies to all matches conducted by Country Cricket NSW including all underage and open's Country Championships.

Table of Contents

Part 1 Policy statement 1
Part 2 Purpose and application 1
Part 3 Application of HSRI and interventions 2
Part 4 Discretion of umpires and match officials 2
Part 5 Anticipation of extreme heat conditions 3
Part 6 Definitions and Interpretation 3
Part 7 – Schedule A: Heat Stress Risk Index information and guidance 4

Part 1 Policy statement

(10) The game of cricket is played during the Australian summer and is conducted on an open field without shade. Dangers exist within this environment and the potential for serious risk or injury is present.

(1.1) It is recognised that many matches played under the auspices or control of CNSW are not resourced with medical and emergency support to the extent of First Class matches and therefore it may be unsafe to continue play during conditions of extreme heat.

(1.2) This policy aims to ensure that decisions made during conditions of extreme heat are objective and can be applied automatically and immediately for the benefit of players, umpires and administrators.

(1.3) This Policy implements the use of an evidence-based Heat Stress Risk Index (HSRI) that provides an objective measure to indicate when heat stress management strategies and interventions should be implemented during CNSW sanctioned matches.

(1.5) For the avoidance of doubt, this Policy is not intended to amend, replace or supersede Law 2.8.2 of the Laws of Cricket. To that end, the umpires will remain the sole arbiter of ground, weather and light and may use this Policy to assist in their decision-making in that regard.

Part 2 Purpose and application

(2.1) This Policy shall apply to:

(11) all CCNSW matches played in any competition owned, operated and/or managed directly by CCNSW;

(12) Warm-up/trial matches managed by CCNSW;

(13) In adopting the Policy, CNSW/CCNSW has consulted with the Cricket Australia Chief Medical Officer

(2.2) The defined terms set out at Part 6 of this Policy apply for the purpose of this Policy for the interpretation of those terms.

Part 3 Application of HSRI and interventions

(3.1) Any umpire, match official or administrator who is bound by this Policy may use the HSRI Tool available from the CNSW - Ludis platform located at https://cnsw.ludisanalytics.com/ .

(3.2) The HSRI Tool may be used to determine the conditions present at the match and whether play should continue.

(3.3) In using the HSRI Tool, the following procedures apply:

(a) The HSRI value will be calculated one (1) hour prior to the start of play by the umpires and thereafter calculated on an hourly basis or upon the discretion of the umpires.

(b) Heat stress management strategies and interventions based on HSRI values can be determined by the umpires prior to the commencement of play or at any time during a day's play. Guidance in relation to management strategies for HSRI ratings of 0 to 10 are provided in Schedule A.

(c) Where the HSRI rating is 11 or above, play will cease immediately.

(d) Following the application of clause 3.3(c), play shall only resume if the HSRI has improved to 10 or less. Any resumption of play shall be subject to the same clause in the Playing Conditions as for resumption of play following an interruption, namely "Loss of Playing Time". (Clause 1.17.2 for Game Type 1, Clause 2.17.2 for Game Type 2, 3.17.3 for Game Type 3, 4.17.3 for Game Type 4 and 5.17.2 for Game Type 5).

(3.4) There is no requirement to wait for any period of time before a decision is made to abandon the day's play.

(3.5) There shall be no discretion to allow a resumption of that day's play once play has been abandoned due to a HSRI rating of 11 or more on the grounds of player safety.

Part 4 Discretion of umpires and match officials

(4.1) Law 2.8.2 of the Laws of Cricket provides that the umpires have sole discretion to immediately suspend play, or not allow play to start or to recommence, if either they consider that the conditions of ground, weather or light, or any other circumstances are either dangerous or unreasonable.

(4.2) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Policy, the umpires shall have the sole discretion to abandon play if they consider that, to continue play during prolonged or excessive heat, it would be dangerous to the health and welfare of any, or all, of the participants.

(4.3) To assist the umpires in exercising their discretion and Law 2.82, they may:

(a) consider any apparent signs of heat stress being displayed by any of the participants.

(b) refer to an air temperature thermometer, if properly installed in the shade at the match venue in addition to gathering humidity and wind speed measurements.

Part 5 Anticipation of extreme heat conditions

(14) CCNSW has the power to cancel a day's play if the forecast HSRI is 11 or more on the day prior to scheduled play.

(15) By monitoring 7-day temperature forecasts and seeking to maximise opportunities for play during times of extreme heat, CCNSW has the power to reschedule the start of play to an earlier time for any match, in order to maximise the opportunity for play during a cooler time of day.

(16) CCNSW will seek to provide clubs with ample advance notice that an amendment to playing time may be imminent. All participants in every match are to strive to maximise opportunities to play.

Part 6 Definitions and Interpretation

Defined Terms

(6.1) In this Policy, the following words have the corresponding meaning:

Term	Meaning
CNSW	means the New South Wales Cricket Association (ABN 27 000 011 987) and where the context provides, includes its officers, employees, contractors and agents.
CCNSW	Means the Country Cricket NSW Association and where the context provides, includes its officers, employees, contractors and agents.
HSRI	means the Heat Stress Risk Index

Interpretation

(6.2) In this Policy:

(a) references to 'including' or similar words are not words of limitation;

(b) 'business day' means a day other than a Saturday, a Sunday or a day which is lawfully observed as a public holiday in the State of New South Wales;

(c) all notices must be in writing and in English;

(d) words in the singular include the plural and vice-versa;

(e) a construction that would promote the purpose or object underlying this Policy must be preferred to a construction that would not promote that purpose or object; and

(f) to the extent that there is any inconsistency between a term of any legislation and a term of this Policy, the term of that legislation overrides the Policy and applies to the extent of the inconsistency.

Part 7 – Schedule A: Heat Stress Risk Index information and guidance

(17) The cricket-specific HSRI has been developed specifically for Cricket Australia and adapted for use by CCNSW to be used to calculate the combined heat stress risk associated with hyperthermia and dehydration to Participants engaged in CNSW Programs.

(7.1) The HSRI is designed to determine what additional heat management strategies are required during cricket when weather conditions are expected to increase the risk of heat illness of Participants and to avoid heat stress illness to Participants.

(7.2) The following key values are used to calculate the HSRI:

(a) ambient air temperature in the shade (oC)

(b) wind speed (in km/h)

(c) relative humidity (%)

(d) black globe temperature (oC), indicative of warmth of direct sunshine

(7.3) The HSRI value should be obtained from the CNSW - Ludis platform located at https://cnsw.ludisanalytics.com/ .and can be easily added to the Home Screen of any smartphone, tablet or a computer for simple one touch access. The CNSW - Ludis platform is powered by a third-party dataset (OpenWeatherMap.org) boasting API connectivity to AI modelled weather data that draws on global (including Australian Bureau of Meteorology) weather stations.

(7.4) The calculated HSRI value will be a number ranging from 0 to 11+. Categories of values within this range will outline specific management interventions to be instituted as follows:

HSRI rating (inclusive)	Heat stress management interventions
0 to 3	• Conditions not extreme, manage heat as usual (drinks, wear hats, long sleeve shirts, apply sunscreen etc
4 to 7	• Consult with captains to consider increasing the number and duration of drinks intervals and allow players and umpires to leave the field of play during drinks intervals • Consider extending the duration of lunch and/or afternoon tea intervals by 5 minutes • Once HSRI is greater than 5, be extra vigilant in monitoring participants that exhibit signs of heat stress illness such as muscle cramping, dizziness, excessive fatigue etc.
8 to 10	• Have longer drinks breaks to allow players to come off the field to cool down and rehydrate (e.g., 10 to 20 minutes instead of 5 minutes or 40 to 50 minutes followed by 10 minute breaks • Flexibility to increase time span of drinks lies with the umpires

	• Flexibility to take more frequent drinks breaks lies with the umpires
11+	• Play will cease immediately • Suspend play until conditions have improved (to less than or equal to 10) subject to Part 3 of this Policy (18) Refer to the CCNSW competitions Playing Conditions. • Umpires retain the sole discretion to suspend play, or not allow play to start or to recommence if they consider conditions dangerous or unreasonable