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EXTREME HEAT POLICY

With the arrival of the Summer Season comes the onset of hot weather and on some playing days, **extremely** hot weather. With sense, participants can cope with these extremely hot summer days.

To ensure the wellbeing of the players in extreme heat we suggest the Team Managers do the following:

- **Advise players to hydrate (particularly leading up to and during the Australia Day Tournament);**
- **Carry plenty of extra water to refill the drink bottles during the game;**
- **Bring wet (frozen) towels and/or ice packs to keep the players cool on the bench.**

Parents should also ensure their child has adequate water available before, during and after the game and they should monitor the condition of their child for any signs of distress during the game.

Under new Basketball Victoria by-laws the courtside temperature will be measured prior to the commencement of each game. Where the temperature has reached 35C the following playing conditions must be implemented:

- a) When the court temperature reaches 30°C competition organisers must consider implementing and where the court temperatures reaches 35°C must implement the following timing rules:-

If a game is played in halves, the game must be reduced by 2 minutes per half with 2 team timeouts per half. The clock must stop for each time out and the referee must call an additional compulsory timeout close to the half way mark in each half. Each team must call a timeout before the compulsory timeout and after the compulsory timeout. In the event the coaches do not call a timeout as required, the referees will intervene and call a timeout and attribute them to the respective teams.

If a game is played in quarters, the referee must call an additional compulsory timeout in each quarter if no timeout has been called by half way through the quarter.

The clock **must stop for every whistle** in the last minute of the first half and the last 3 minutes of the second half (this may be modified for local conditions in domestic basketball).

- b) When the court temperature reaches 40°C games must be abandoned. Subject to any rule or ruling by a competition organiser,
- i. if a game is abandoned before it commences or before or at half time it is counted as a draw;
 - ii. if a game is abandoned after half time, the game score stands as a final result.

Where a player has any special medical conditions, parents should take professional advice concerning their child's participation.

Unless medical advice prohibits the player participating in hot weather players are encouraged to play so as to avoid the remaining team members having to increase their playing time.

We hope that we experience very few days of extreme heat during the summer season but, when we do, we hope that the above procedures are applied by all to ensure that our players experience the minimal level of discomfort during their playing careers.