

Orienteering SA Inc.

Cancellation of Events and Management of Events during Hot Weather

Change History:

Date	Comment
17 June 2008	Approved by Orienteering SA Council
16 Oct 2012	Approved by Orienteering SA Council
21 April 2015	Approved by Orienteering SA Council

Related Policies:

Event Safety Policy and Guidelines

The following apply to event cancellation and management of events in hot or other unfavourable weather conditions.

1. Events published in the annual Orienteering SA event program are cancelled under the following circumstances
 - At the request of the landowner
 - On recommendation of the organising club, organising club and controller for controlled events, or organising group
2. Events published in the annual Orienteering SA event program are non-competitive where the forecast temperature is greater than 35 degrees C AND the temperature at any time during the event (first start time to course closure) is likely to exceed 35 degrees C. The Bureau of Meteorology's MetEye is a good way of estimating temperatures during a particular time range at a specific location.
www.bom.gov.au/australia/meteye/ Exceptions are Group A events on the National Calendar where event status will be determined by the organising group and controller with reference to the event type, and the event's risk management and contingency plan.

Background Notes

The cancellation policy permits clubs or the organising group to determine whether to cancel an event based on the particular circumstances of that event e.g. location, timing, event type. However where a landowner requests cancellation e.g. Forestry SA when there is a fire ban this should be followed, otherwise each event needs to be considered on a case by case basis. Cancellation may occur due to other land access issues.

Having a blanket cancellation policy does not cater for different event types and locations (e.g. Victor Harbor, Belair, Burra, Darwin).

Management of hot weather and other inclement weather issues is relevant to the following phases in event management:

1. Preparing for the event –
 - a. plan event area visits according to conditions
 - b. Refer to Orienteering SA Safety Guidelines P. 2
2. Putting out controls and preparing event assembly area
 - a. Consider time of day
 - b. Pre-planning of activities
 - c. Refer to Orienteering SA Safety Guidelines P. 2

Policies and Guidelines Section 2.5B

3. Event day
 - a. Reduce impact for morning events by having earlier starts in March and November for SA events – e.g. 9 – 11:30 am
 - b. Follow competition guidelines
4. Communication when an event is cancelled
 - a. “Blanket” communication is now easier and more effective
 - b. Include general statement in program with current notes on “Hot Weather, Total Fire Ban and Foot Orienteering Events” and on web site to check for event updates or contact the named event contact especially if the weather is likely to be hot or otherwise unsuitable
 - c. Keep event details on web site up to date and add “last minute” event details
 - d. Email to all members with event changes or note to refer to web site prior to event