

JCA Guidelines for Senior Cricket on Hot Weather, Wet Weather and Lightning

Updated August 14th, 2020

Guidelines on Hot Weather

1. Match cancellation

The captains may, through consultation with each other, decide to cancel the match due to hot weather. The procedure for reaching that decision is set out below.

1. If the JCA or tournament committee announces there will be no play, then the match will not be played.
2. If the weather forecast announced at 05:00 on the day predicts a maximum temperature of 37°C or higher, the captains should consider cancelling the match.
3. If, after each captain has confirmed the weather forecast in (2), both captains wish to cancel the match, they will contact each other (by phone) and consult with each other. In principle, a decision to cancel the match should be made by 06:00 (AM start) or 09:00 (PM start). For the sake of clarity, for the match to be cancelled, both captains must desire to cancel the match – if only one captain desires to cancel the match, the match will not be cancelled.
4. If the match is cancelled, the captains will be jointly responsible for immediately informing the umpires, the JCL Committee, and the other JCL Clubs.

2. Reduction of overs

The captains may, through consultation with each other and the umpires, decide to reduce the number of overs in a match due to hot weather. The procedure for reducing the overs is set out below.

1. Firstly, the recorded temperature at 10:00 on the day of the match must be 30°C or higher.
2. For 40 over matches, at the toss, if, in consultation with the umpires, both captains wish to reduce the number of overs in the match, the number of overs may be reduced to 35 overs per innings. This is the only reduction that may be made at the toss due to hot weather. The session times will remain the same, but more than two drinks breaks per innings will be taken per innings (for example, after 9 overs, 18 overs, and 27 overs are completed, or after 7 overs, 14 overs, 21 overs, and 28 overs are completed).
3. For T20 matches, at the toss, if, in consultation with the umpires, both captains wish to reduce the number of overs in the match, the number of overs may be reduced to 18 overs per innings. This is the only reduction that may be made at the toss due to hot weather. The reduction can be made to ensure adequate drinks breaks are taken but the match is still concluded within 180 minutes. The session times will remain the same, but one drinks breaks per innings will be taken per innings at the conclusion of the 10th over.

3. Delaying a match or leaving the field due to hot weather

From the time of the toss until the end of play the umpires will be responsible for deciding whether to delay a match, leave the field due to hot weather or increase the number of drinks breaks and they shall use the following table as a guide.

(Temperatures in degrees centigrade)

Ambient Temperature	Relative Humidity	Risk of heat illness	Action required by Umpires & Captains
24 - 28	Exceeds 70%	Low	Exercise caution.
28 - 31	Exceeds 60%	Moderate	Increase vigilance and monitor players. Consider increasing drinks breaks.
31 - 35	Exceeds 50%	High	Uncomfortable for most people. Increase drinks breaks, be especially aware of batters.
35-37	Exceeds 30%	Very High	Risk of heat illness increasing. Consider reducing overs. Consider delaying until temperature drops.
37+	Exceeds 30%	Extreme	Players should leave the field.

Once the toss has been conducted, both umpires will be responsible for any decisions on delaying the match, leaving the field or increasing drinks breaks. DLS shall be used in the event that the number of overs are reduced or the match is abandoned due to hot weather.

4. Websites to be used for weather forecasts and current temperature

Sano	https://tenki.jp/forecast/3/12/4110/9204/1hour.html
Akishima	https://tenki.jp/forecast/3/16/4410/13207/1hour.html
Fuji	https://tenki.jp/forecast/5/25/5030/22210/1hour.html
Kaizuka	https://tenki.jp/forecast/6/30/6200/27208/1hour.html
Kawasaki	https://tenki.jp/forecast/3/17/4610/14135/1hour.html
Sammu	https://tenki.jp/forecast/3/15/4520/12237/1hour.html
Shichigahama	https://tenki.jp/forecast/2/7/3410/4404/1hour.html
Yokohama	https://tenki.jp/forecast/3/17/4610/14104/1hour.html

Guidelines on Fitness for Play in Wet Weather

1. General Principles

1. If the JCA or tournament committee announces there will be no play, then the match will not be played.

2. If on the morning of the match the captains agree not to play, then the match will not be played. However, the decision not to play in that case must be based on a visual inspection of the ground (as opposed to a forecast for rain).
3. In principle, the umpires are the sole judges of the ground's fitness for play and weather conditions during the match.
4. Once play has started in a match, the captains and umpires will aim to make as much time available for playing as possible.
5. Umpires should ensure that play is suspended in similar conditions every time they make a judgment about fitness for play or weather conditions.

2. Umpires' Guidelines for Assessing Conditions

(1) Pitch

<i>What to look for</i>	<i>Criteria</i>	<i>Play / no play</i>	<i>Other comments</i>
Dampness on the wicket	Are the batsmen in any danger of slipping?	If there is danger to the players, then no play.	
Dampness around the bowler's delivery stride and follow-through	Can the bowler with his normal run up and action deliver the ball and be sure he will not slip dangerously?	If the bowler's safety is at risk, do not play. The area of concern is from about three metres behind the popping crease to about three metres beyond it and about three metres to either side of the danger area.	In the take-off area, the risk is of his take off foot going from under him leading to knee damage. In the landing area, if the front foot or follow-through foot slips, this can lead to damage of any of the joints in the ankle or leg. The bowler must also be able to safely stop and change directions after delivery.

(2) Square

<i>What to look for</i>	<i>Criteria</i>	<i>Play / no play</i>	<i>Other comments</i>
Standing water on the square.	Are the batsmen in any danger when turning for a second run, and can fielders run at the ball and expect to be able to stop or change direction safely?	The square is a 'high traffic' area with players running, stopping and changing direction. It is unlikely they can do this with standing water on the square. Generally, in this case there will be no play.	Any standing water on the square means there is unlikely to be play today. The same applies if there are puddles of mud or if you can push your thumb into the square up to the first joint.

Areas of wetness or dampness on the square.	Are the batsmen in any danger when turning for a second run, and can fielders run at the ball and expect to be able to stop or change direction safely?	If there is danger to the players, then no play	
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(3) Outfield

<i>What to look for</i>	<i>Criteria</i>	<i>Play / no play</i>	<i>Other comments</i>
Significant areas of standing water in the outfield	Can the fielders run over the outfield safely? Will the ball run over the outfield or will it stop in the standing water?	Generally only significant areas of wetness in the outfield will preclude play.	Anything swampy or more than a puddle of standing water is certainly a consideration. However there are often workarounds for many of these situations.
Bowler's run-up is wet	Can the bowler safely deliver the ball?	If the popping crease area is so hard that wet shoes will lead to an 'ice-rink' effect, then don't start play until you can make this safe.	There are usually workarounds for this such as scraping the front foot area or grass clippings.

Guidelines on Lightning

If the umpires see lightning and then hear thunder within 30 seconds, the umpires will suspend play. When play is suspended under those conditions, play must not be restarted until lightning has not been seen for at least 30 minutes.

DLS shall be used in the event that the number of overs are reduced or the match is abandoned due to lightning.