



Weather and Extreme Conditions Policy

1. Player Responsibility

- This policy applies to all golf activity at Murrumbidgee Country Club (MCC), including competitions, social play, practice, volunteers, officials, and staff.
- Players assume full responsibility for their own safety when playing in any weather conditions.
- MCC provides warnings and guidance but does not accept liability for injury, illness, or loss.
- Players must adhere to any course closures. Any player who elects to continue play contrary to Club warnings or suspensions does so entirely at their own risk.
- Nothing in this policy creates or implies a duty for MCC to assess the suitability of conditions for individual players.
- Mandatory requirements in this policy apply only where the Club has formally suspended play or closed the course. Where no such suspension or closure has been declared, the decision to play remains the responsibility of the individual.
- Where players elect to continue play, they must be aware that all rounds must be completed by 1700 AEST or 1800 AEDST.

2. Authority to Suspend or Close the Course

- The following roles have authority to suspend or close the course for safety reasons:
 1. General Manager
 2. Course Superintendent
 3. Men's Captain
 4. Women's Captain
 5. Club President
- The Golf Shop personnel may recommend suspension or initiate sirens in immediate danger but cannot formally close the course.
- Decisions may be based on observed conditions or reliable weather forecasts.
- Once play has been formally suspended or the course closed, all play must cease and players are not permitted to continue.



3. Lightning

- Lightning within 10 km triggers immediate suspension of play.
- MCC will activate the siren or alert system.
- Players must cease play immediately and seek appropriate shelter.
- Players must seek immediate and appropriate shelter, having regard to their location on the course.
- Play may resume only when authorised by MCC and at least 30 minutes have passed since the last strike within 10 km.

3.1 Siren Signals

- One prolonged siren: Immediate danger – stop play, mark & lift ball, seek shelter
- Three short sirens: Caution / non-dangerous – complete hole or stop immediately
- Two short sirens: Resume – play may recommence
- Non-compliance may result in disqualification from competitions.

4. Wind

- The course may be suspended or closed when wind conditions create an immediate and unacceptable safety risk, including but not limited to:
 - Risk of falling trees, branches, or debris
 - Loss of control of balls or equipment creating danger to players or staff
- Below closure conditions, play may continue at the discretion of the individual player.
- Competitions may be modified, delayed, or shortened where wind conditions materially impact safety or fairness.
- Where play continues, players accept all risks associated with prevailing wind conditions.

5. Extreme Heat

- The course may be suspended or closed when extreme heat conditions present a health or safety risk to players, volunteers, or staff.
- Below closure conditions, competitions may be modified, delayed, or shortened, but the final decision to play rests with the individual.
- Players may refer to general heat-management guidance (Appendix A), which is provided for information only.



6. Storms, Hail, Flooding, Smoke, and Air Quality

- Play may be suspended or the course closed if conditions create:
 - Unsafe surfaces
 - Visibility hazards
 - Hazardous air quality
- Players must discontinue play if conditions prevent safe execution of shots.

7. Communication

- MCC may notify players of suspensions or closures via one or more of the following:
 - Siren / on-course alert system
 - Golf Shop announcements
 - Club website
 - Text message
 - Email
- Siren/on-course alert system will be used for immediate safety issues.
- Other channels may be used as supplementary communication.
- Failure to comply may result in disqualification or other enforcement actions.

8. Review

- This policy was ratified by the Board in February 2026 and will be reviewed following any significant weather-related incident or as needed.

Appendix A – Player Safety Measures for Extreme Heat

This appendix provides general information only and does not constitute medical advice or a safety assurance by MCC.

- Make a considered decision whether to play.
- Wear loose-fitting, lightweight clothing.
- Wear a hat and apply SPF 30+ sunscreen.
- Pre-hydrate: 20 ml of water or sports drink per kg of body weight, 1 hour before play.
- Carry adequate fluids, preferably with electrolytes, during play.
- Eat a proper meal before play.
- Rehydrate after play; avoid alcohol until fully hydrated.
- If feeling dizzy, unwell, or disoriented, stop play immediately and seek assistance from playing partners or the Golf Shop staff.

As approved by the MCC Board – February 2026