

# Manning Valley Hockey Association Inc.

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## Extreme Weather Policy and Procedure (Version 1.0)

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### 1. Introduction

The Manning Valley Hockey Association Inc. (MVHA) is committed to ensuring, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare for participants involved in hockey, including players, officials, umpires, coaches, parents, volunteers, staff and spectators.

MVHA aims to provide a safe environment that provides for risk minimization, risk management and risk response for all participants involved in hockey.

Extreme weather may be defined as weather that threatens the immediate or long-term safety of individuals, because of rain, hail, lightening, wind chill or heat.

### 2. Aim

The aim of this Policy and Procedure is to outline and increase awareness of participants towards the dangers of physical activity in the heat and during extreme weather conditions.

### 3. Procedure

The Manning Valley Hockey Association fully adopts the Hockey Australia Limited Extreme Weather Policy (Click the following link [Hockey Australia Extreme Weather Policy](#)) to ensure the health and wellbeing of all MVHA participants.

Whilst adopting the Hockey Australia guidelines the MVHA playing rules will apply to any games that may be interrupted because of Extreme Weather.

Whilst the umpires have the discretion to stop play if they have concerns, they are to consult with the Board Member on duty prior to abandoning play

### 4. Practical Actions

- Trees and open shelters found on and around sporting grounds offer no protection from lightning and, in fact, are quite susceptible to a lightning strike.
- Get far away from the goals or scoreboard. Metal fences around fields, dugouts with metal roofs, metal seating, metal signs and light poles should be avoided.

- Move people into the clubhouse (downstairs and upstairs) but keep them (and any pets) away from all metal particularly the canteen, plumbing, electrical outlets, electrical appliances, phone/data lines, TVs, windows, metal doors, fireplaces, chimneys, computers
- Don't touch anything that could conduct electricity.
- Unplug appliances before a storm nears—never during. Unplug the phone line from the computer because most computer failures arise from lightning traveling to the computer via the phone line, not the power line.

## **5. Monitoring and Review**

This policy should be periodically reviewed and revised. Revisions should be made as and when required. The period between reviews must not exceed two years. The date for review of this Policy and procedure is on or before April 2025