

'THE SEVENS'

'The Sevens' kicked off under "sizzling" playing conditions. Many clubs changed their game times or postponed the games due to the extreme heat. It is a credit to these clubs for considering the duty of care to the players "WELL DONE"

But I was shocked and disappointed that some Clubs Officials, Team Managers & Umpires considered it OK to ignore all the warnings and policy laid down by Bowls associations. I have received written reports of heat related illness from one game played on Saturday.

The weather forecast and warnings of extreme heat were widely reported through TV, Radio & newspapers, on their own, would have been hard to miss, but **all Sevens Club liaison** persons received two emails from me on Extreme Weather Conditions. The first was sent on the 20th. December and the second on Friday 3rd. January.

By allowing a game to start when the reported temperature in the shade next to the green was 41 degrees was an **absolute disgrace** and not in the spirit of either Bowls Australia or Bowls Queensland 'Extreme Weather policy'.

**I plead to these Club Officials;
Please have more regard for the welfare of your Members.**

The conflict between Bowls Australia and Bowls Queensland 'Extreme Weather Policy' is regrettable and causes some confusion. It would be nice if they could agree on a policy. In view of this confusion, I will be recommending to the Committee that the following be adopted as an amendment to the 2014 Sevens Conditions of Play as clause 10.4.

In extreme heat conditions **'The Sevens' game policy will be: -**

- The temperature to be observed for ALL 'Sevens' games will be 38 Degrees (taken in the shade adjacent to the green) No game will start or continue, if the temp is 38 degrees or over.
- At temperatures above 30 degrees extra care must be taken for the welfare of the players. Water and Shade must be made freely available and at 35 degrees players must be offered a break in play at 20 minute intervals for a period not less than 10 minutes.
- Further to this: - If the forecast for your area is predicted to be 35 Degrees or over at your planned start time, you must reconsider your planned game time and change it to a cooler part of the day or re-schedule it to another day.



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