Ordinance 2025-26-67

Section 9-20.17. General Statement of Policy; Scheduling or Cancellation of Outdoor Athletics; Six Tiers Established; When Cancellation is Required; Unhindered Access to Hydration; Superintendent to develop regulations. — A. For purposes of this policy, heat guidelines are based on Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) levels developed by an organization or entity whose purpose is to regulate or govern interscholastic athletics programs in the Commonwealth.

B. The scheduling or cancellation of outdoor athletics practices or games are determined in relation to parameters established in connection with the different WBGT levels and tiers of the heat-acclimation and modification procedures.

C. The School Board establishes the following procedures for outdoor athletics practices or games with at least six tiers of procedures based on heat or humidity levels, beginning with the first tier for the lowest heat or humidity level requiring special student-athlete safety and protection precautions and the final tier for the most severe heat or humidity level before the level at which all outdoor athletics practices or games will be cancelled.

Level	WBT (Not air temp)	WBGT (Not air temp)	Duration	Fluid Consumption	Practices	Scrimmages and Contests
1	<66º	<80º	3 hours maximum	Insist that adequate fluid be ingested.	Full gear; minimum of 2 water breaks per hour.	No modifications.
2	**66.0°-74.9°**	**80.0°-82.4°**	3 hours maximum	Insist that 4 – 6 oz. fluid be ingested every 20 minutes.	Full gear; minimum of 3 water breaks per hour.	No modifications.
3	**75.0°-76.9°**	**82.5°-84.9°**	3 hours maximum	Insist that 6 – 8 oz. fluid be ingested every 20 minutes.	Remove helmets unless active in drill.	Monitor athletes, rest as needed.

4	**77.0°-78.9°**	**85.0°-87.4°**	3 hours maximum. Includes max of 45 minutes of work and ≥ 15 minutes of rest each hour.	Insist that 8 – 10 oz. fluid be ingested every 15 minutes.	No equipment during non-contact drills; remove helmet unless active in contact drill; remove equipment when instructional periods exceed 10 minutes.	Monitor athletes, rest as needed.
5	**79.0°-80.9°**	**87.5°-89.9°**	3 hours maximum. Includes max of 40 minutes of work and ≥ 20 minutes of rest each hour.	Insist that 8 – 10 oz. fluid be ingested every 15 minutes.	No equipment-shirts and shorts only; reduce intensity of activity.	Monitor athletes, rest as needed. Remove helmets if not actively participating.
6	**81.0° +**	**90.0° +**	No Outdoor Practices, Scrimmages, or	Re-hydrate 24 oz. for every pound of body weight loss per day.	Practices conducted indoors must follow the Heat Policy.	Delay/postpone scrimmage or game until conditions improve.

D. Any athletics practice or game that is scheduled to take place during a time when the WBGT is above the highest tier addressed in the Heat-Acclimation and Modification Procedure, such event will be cancelled.

E. Each student-athlete is given unhindered access at all times to hydration and a cooling space. The cooling space may be a shaded or air-conditioned area. Ice is made available and provided to each student-athlete and coach at any time there is a WBGT level of 80 degrees Fahrenheit or higher.

F. The superintendent will develop regulations relating to preventing, recognizing, and addressing heat-related illnesses, including dehydration, heat syncope, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke, and establish a process for reporting and investigating any instance in which a student-athlete experiences a severe heat-related illness requiring emergency medical treatment resulting in death.

Legal Authority – Virginia Code § 22.1-271.9. (1950), as amended.