



Catastrophic, Extreme Weather and Competitions Policy

The STAWELL GOLF CLUB Catastrophic, Extreme Weather and Competitions Policy has been introduced to provide guidance to members and guests in relations to playing conditions which might impact on the health and well-being of players on the golf course.

The Catastrophic and Extreme Conditions Policy addresses issues of catastrophic – for your survival, leave bushfire risk areas. Extreme heat, lightning and strong winds or approaching danger and also applies when greens become unplayable due to heavy rain or other circumstance and suspension of play is necessary.

CATASTROPHIC FIRE WARNING - will result in the Stawell Golf Club course being **CLOSED**.

EXTREME HEAT POLICY:

“Should the forecast temperature predicted for STAWELL at 6.00pm on the evening before the day of competition be 38 degrees or more the competition times for that day will be adjusted so that start time will be prior to 9.00 am only for 18 hole competitions, and 5.00pm or later for 9 hole competitions.”

No competition entries will be accepted after 8.50 pm for morning starts.

The course will remain open for members' play but not in the competition if outside the 9.00 am closing time

The MATCH COMMITTEE will inform the members of the modified competition times by EMAIL or SOCIAL MEDIA at or after 4.00 pm on the day prior to the competition. Should the event for the day be of a significant nature eg. Medal, the event will be transferred to a date to be determined.

Should the forecast temperature at 6.00pm, as above, be 42 degrees or more the course will be closed to all competitions on that day.

Rationale:

1. The Club has a duty of care to its members and seeks to take a reasonable approach to days of extreme heat.
2. The Club is cognisant of advice given by Golf Victoria and Sports Medicine Australia and expressed in the Golf Victoria Heat Policy.
3. The Club is concerned for the health and well-being of all of its members.
4. The average age of competition fields is more than 60 years of age.
5. The Club is concerned for any possible litigation arising out of a heat-related situation.
6. Cancellation of the competition of the day is advice from the Club that it considers that it is too hot for play.
7. Members who play on days of extreme heat do so at their own risk. Members are advised to take appropriate actions to prevent heat stress.
8. The Club reminds all players about the appropriate measures to be taken to avoid heat stress, heat stroke, heat cramps and heat exhaustion.
9. Members will have certainty and will know from the forecast at 6.00 pm what to expect on the following day.