

Athletics Northern Territory

Unfavourable Weather Policy



The following is provided as a guide for members, clubs and other participants, conducting and participating in athletics events. These guidelines are not binding, but Athletics Northern Territory reminds all parties that they should act responsibly.

Athletics Northern Territory also encourages everyone involved in the sport to be conscious of their own personal health and safety at all times.

Cancellation and suspension of events:

Every club within the ANT region is encouraged to develop their own guidelines for dealing with unfavourable weather conditions and a process for informing or notifying their members and other participants.

Where participant, official or spectator safety is considered at risk, event(s) may be cancelled or suspended. This might relate to an entire meeting programme or elements thereof (e.g. hurdles; high jump).

Conditions which might cause events to be cancelled, suspended or modified include:

- Extreme temperatures
- Flooding
- Thunder storm (lightning)
- Strong winds
- Torrential rain
- Hail
- Fog

Making the decision

The decision to cancel, suspend or modify events will be the responsibility of at least two of the following:

- Competition Director
- Meet Manager
- Track or Field Referee
- Venue Manager
- Athletics Northern Territory Operations Manager or delegate

Weighing up all relevant factors, decisions should be made and communicated at the earliest possible opportunity.

Communication / Notification

It is recognised that conditions, duration, impact, etc may vary between regions and a prescriptive policy is not proposed. Rather, Athletics Northern Territory encourages decision makers to apply the principle of safety first – while also looking to minimise any inconvenience caused to travelling participants.

Common sense will apply at all times and athletes and other participants should always be conscious of the likelihood of unfavourable weather impacting events. Accordingly, participants should familiarise themselves with where and how to obtain relevant information (e.g. Athletics Northern Territory or club websites and Facebook pages).

For Athletics Northern Territory Championship events, notices will be posted as soon as possible on our website – www.ntathletics.org.au and Facebook page.

For other events, the organising committee should establish a contact ‘tree’ to advise participating clubs, etc of decisions where applicable. In turn, each club should have a process in place that will enable their members and other participants to become aware when an event is cancelled.

Where events are suspended or modified during the course of competition, local officials should immediately broadcast information and advice to Team Managers for onward dissemination.

Athletics Northern Territory endeavours to act reasonably at all times and accepts no responsibility for actions and events beyond its control and for the consequences of actions taken in good faith, for the overall health and safety of participants, administrators, officials, spectators, at all Athletics Northern Territory related events.