

7.6.8 Extreme Weather – Conformation (amended 15/08/24, 15/06/24, 15/03/21)

HEAT

The Extreme Heat Policy applies to all conformation shows held during the period declared by the Victorian State Government to be Summertime Daylight Savings, usually between October of one year and March of the following year.

NOTE 1: For the purpose of this regulation, the “forecast temperature for the location” is to be the temperature referred to on the Elders Weather Website 48 hours prior to the scheduled start of the show.

Where the exact location is not noted, the temperature is to be taken from the closest noted location.

NOTE 2: This Regulation has been reviewed in light of the technological advances in the communication of temperature information, noting that the Elders Weather Website now provides hourly temperature forecasts and show committees must apply these hourly forecasts during the conduct of shows to ensure the temperatures do not exceed 36 degrees Celsius. At any point during the running of a show where the temperature forecast reaches or exceeds 36 degrees Celsius, the show must immediately be ceased.

1. CANCELLATION OF ALL EVENTS:

A show is to be cancelled where any one or more of the following apply:

- 1.1 the forecast temperature for the location in which the show is to be held is 39 degrees C or above;
- 1.2 the temperature reaches 36 degrees Celsius during the course of the show;
- 1.3 the fire danger rating for the district where the show is to be held is **Catastrophic** ~~Severe, Extreme or Code Red~~; (amended 15/06/24)
- 1.4 a state-wide fire ban has been ordered;
- 1.5 Due to heat and/or bushfire Victoria has been declared as a State of Disaster or a State of Emergency and/or
- 1.6 **The air quality rating issued by the Environment Protection Agency Authority has issued an alert for air quality as Extremely Hazardous for the district where the show is to be held is Very Poor or Extremely Poor.** (amended 15/08/24)

2. TEMPERATURE BETWEEN 36 DEGREES AND 39 DEGREES CELSIUS

Where the temperature is forecast to be between 36 degrees C and 39 degrees C, the following apply:

- 2.1 the show may be cancelled;
- 2.2 the show may be rescheduled to commence at 8pm where the forecast temperature is below 36 degrees Celsius at the commencement, and where the exhibition area has lighting and is available for use, and exhibitors must be advised they are not to arrive at the location or set-up prior to 6.30pm;
- 2.3 the show may be rescheduled to commence at 7am where in the reasonable consideration of the show committee, the judging will be completed before the temperature reaches 36 degrees Celsius;
- 2.4 the show may be moved to an indoor venue if the venue has cooling/airflow equipment and in the reasonable expectation of the show committee the temperature inside the venue will remain below 36 degrees Celsius during the running of the show;
- 2.5 application may be made by the show secretary directly to the Management Committee to have the show moved to the following day if:
 - 2.5.1 the venue is available and
 - 2.5.2 the forecast temperature of the area is less than 36 degrees Celsius and
 - 2.5.3 there is no competing scheduled event.
- 2.6 If approved by the Management Committee the affiliate will notify exhibitors of the re-scheduling of the show by posting a notice on all relevant social media platforms. The Chief Executive or delegate will cause a notice to be posted on all Dogs Victoria official social media platforms.
- 2.7 Where a show is held under 2.2 to 2.5, the show manager must monitor the temperature on the Elders Weather Website and cancel the show should the temperature reach or exceed 36 degrees Celsius. The secretary of the affiliate, or its delegate, must notify the Chief Executive of Dogs Victoria by telephone and email when a decision has been made to cancel a show. Once confirmed by the Chief Executive, the affiliate will notify all exhibitors of the cancellation of the show by posting a notice on all relevant social media platforms. The Chief Executive or delegate will cause a notice to be posted on all Dogs Victoria official social media platforms.

3. SUBSEQUENT REDUCTION IN TEMPERATURE
 - 3.1 Where 48 hours prior to the commencement of the show the temperature was forecast to be 39 degrees Celsius or above, requiring the cancellation of a show, but as a result of a cool change the forecast is amended to be below 36 degrees Celsius at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled commencement of the show, the show secretary may make an application to the Management Committee to reinstate the show.
4. STATUS OF AWARDS WHERE SHOW IS CANCELLED
 - 4.1 Where a show has commenced but is cancelled due to the temperature rising to 36 degrees Celsius or above, all awards made will stand.
5. REFUND OF ENTRY FEES
 - 5.1 Where a show is cancelled either before or after commencement due to extreme heat, no refunds of entry fees will be made **available**. (amended 15/08/24)
6. DOG LEVIES
 - 6.1 Where the affiliate has cancelled a show before or after its commencement, the affiliate must submit a copy of the catalogue and pay all levies due to Dogs Victoria within 14 days of the scheduled event date.
7. AFFILIATE RESPONSIBILITIES

The following are recommendations for affiliate secretaries with a scheduled show between December and February:

 - 7.1 develop a contingency plan (for example, ascertain whether your event venue is available early in the morning/in the evening/the following day);
 - 7.2 include a clause in all Judges Contracts stating that the appointment is contingent upon the judge elect being able to alter his/her arrangements should the show be moved to the evening/early morning or the following day;
 - 7.3 ensure that accommodation and meals can be made available to judges required to alter their stay due to the operation of the Extreme Weather Policy;
 - 7.4 insure travel expenses;
 - 7.5 where an affiliate conducts only one show on a date, do not schedule day shows to commence after 9am or
 - 7.6 do not schedule night shows to commence before 7pm.

Fire Danger

If the CFA fire danger rating for the district where the show is to be held is **Catastrophic** ~~Extreme or Code Red~~ then:

The show must be cancelled

Gale Force Winds / Thunderstorms / Flood

If gale force winds, thunderstorms or floods are predicted for the district where the show is to be held then:

- (a) The show MAY be cancelled or
- (b) A wait and see approach may be adopted and
 1. If the show proceeds, judging must stop during thunderstorms or periods of heavy rain.
 2. Judging may continue without a lunch break.
 3. If possible the show may be moved inside.
 4. If the committee of the affiliate deem the show to be unsafe once it has commenced, the show must be cancelled.
 5. Should a show be cancelled after commencement all awards will stand.

Procedures for Affiliates and exhibitors to follow: (amended 15/06/24)

1. The forecast temperature for the district where the show is to be held will be as advised on the Elders

Weather Website (www.eldersweather.com.au) at 10am two days prior to the show. The Fire Danger Rating for the district where the show is to be held will be as advised on the CFA website (www.cfa.vic.gov.au) at 10am two days prior to the show. In the event of an official declaration by the CFA the day prior to the show of **Catastrophic Extreme or Code Red** the show must be cancelled.

2. The gale force winds, thunderstorm or flood predictions for the district where the show is to be held will be as advised on the Elders Weather website (www.eldersweather.com.au) at 10 am two days prior to the show.

3. Where multiple shows are scheduled over a cluster of a number of days, then only those day(s), where the temperature is 36 degrees or higher, or the fire danger rating is **Catastrophic Extreme or Code Red** or gale force winds, thunderstorms or floods are predicted, will be affected.

4. It is the responsibility of the secretary of the affiliate or its delegate, and the exhibitor to check the forecast weather, the fire danger rating, or the gale force winds, thunderstorms and flood prediction, for the district where the show is to be held as in procedures 1 and 2 above.

5. The secretary of the affiliate or its delegate must notify the Chief Executive of Dogs Victoria by telephone when the decision has been made to cancel or reschedule a show.

6. The Chief Executive will place a notice on the Dogs Victoria Facebook page and website advising members of the status of any show affected by this regulation.

7. Exhibitors are to refer to the Dogs Victoria Facebook page and/or website to check the status of the show.

8. Where a show is cancelled, ~~no~~ **refunds of entry fees will be refunded made available.** (amended (15/08/24))

Where the affiliate has cancelled a show the secretary or their delegate must submit a copy of the catalogue and pay all levies to Dogs Victoria within 14 days of the date of the cancelled show. (15/07/16)

7.6.8.1 Reserved (15/07/16)

7.6.8.2 Reserved (15/07/16)

7.6.8.3 Reserved (15/07/16)