



WCPWL High Heat Weather Policy

The Warren County Pee Wee League (WCPWL) is committed to providing a safe environment for players, coaches, umpires, and families during periods of high heat and humidity.

WCPWL uses the National Weather Service (NWS) Heat Index for Bowling Green/Warren County as its primary source for evaluating heat conditions. This provides a consistent source for league-wide decisions rather than relying on individual weather apps or temperature readings at different fields.

WCPWL's guidelines are informed by the heat-related activity guidelines established by the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA), with additional precautions appropriate for our younger athletes.

Heat Index Guidelines

Below 95°F Heat Index – Normal Activity

Games and practices may proceed as scheduled.

- Water should be readily available to players at all times.
- Players should be permitted to hydrate whenever needed.
- Coaches should monitor players for signs of heat-related illness.
- Shade should be utilized whenever reasonably available.

95°F–99°F Heat Index – Increased Precautions

Games and practices may proceed with additional precautions.

- Frequent hydration breaks should be provided.
- Players should be encouraged to remain in shaded areas when not actively participating.
- Coaches should closely monitor players for signs of heat stress.
- Catchers and other players wearing additional protective equipment should remove that equipment whenever practical while not actively participating.
- WCPWL may modify schedules or game times when conditions warrant.



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100°F–103°F Heat Index – High Heat Conditions

WCPWL may delay, modify, shorten, or postpone activities based on current conditions and the expected heat index during the scheduled activity.

When activities are conducted:

- Hydration breaks should occur frequently and players must be allowed additional hydration whenever needed.
- Players should remain in the shade or dugout whenever possible when not actively participating.
- Additional time may be allowed between innings to provide players an opportunity to cool down and hydrate.
- Coaches should reduce unnecessary warm-up activity and other physical exertion outside of actual game play.
- Coaches should closely monitor every player for signs of heat-related illness.

For D1 games, teams are strongly encouraged to play without a player at Catcher when conditions are particularly hot. A coach may collect the pitched ball and return it to the coach pitcher when permitted under league procedures.

For D2 games, teams are strongly encouraged to rotate the Catcher position each inning to limit the amount of time any individual player spends in catching equipment. Teams should also frequently rotate players at Pitcher because of the protective face mask required at that position.

104°F or Greater – No Outdoor Activity

When the applicable NWS Heat Index is 104°F or greater, WCPWL outdoor practices and games will not begin or continue.

Activities may be delayed until the heat index falls below 104°F.

For example, if the NWS Heat Index is forecast to be 107°F at 5:00 PM, 104°F at 6:00 PM, and 100°F at 7:00 PM, WCPWL may delay games until 6:30 PM or another appropriate time based on the expected improvement in conditions.

The WCPWL Board will monitor conditions and communicate league-wide schedule changes when necessary.



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Ongoing Monitoring

On high-heat days, the WCPWL Board will monitor NWS conditions and forecasts throughout the day. Decisions may be adjusted as conditions or forecasts change.

The Board may delay or cancel activities even when the heat index is below 104°F when other conditions create an unreasonable risk to participants.

Likewise, a scheduled delay does not guarantee that play will begin at the revised time. Conditions will continue to be evaluated.

Coach Responsibility

Regardless of the heat index, coaches are responsible for closely monitoring their players.

Players should never be discouraged from requesting water, shade, or a break because of the game situation. Coaches should make time for players to hydrate while in the dugout and should communicate hydration expectations frequently during periods of elevated heat.

Any player showing signs of heat-related illness should be removed from activity immediately and not encouraged to “push through” symptoms.

The health and safety of the player takes priority over the completion or pace of a game.

League Authority

The WCPWL Board reserves the right to delay, modify, shorten, suspend, or cancel games and practices when weather conditions create a concern for participant safety.

Individual coaches may also stop their team’s participation when they believe conditions are unsafe for their players. No coach or player should be pressured to continue participating when there is a legitimate heat-related safety concern.