



## Risk Management policies:

The Mountain District Netball Association accepts and abides by the guidelines advised by Netball Victoria.

See **Risk Management Infonets**: Heat Policy RM 5, page 6 / Wet Weather Policy RM 3, page 12.

Netball is traditionally a WINTER, outdoor sport and our preference is to NOT cancel games. However, player / umpire safety is paramount and, if the courts are deemed to be unsafe, matches will have to be cancelled. This decision is made **round by round** by Saturday Court and Umpire Supervisors and Committee of Management present at the venue.

### Our Guidelines:

- Our court surface is SYNPAVE, a flexible, gripping surface which minimises the risk of slipping. Therefore games will not be cancelled simply because it is raining.
- Matches will be routinely cancelled in the event of local hail &/or lighting.
- Games will not be cancelled because it is cold. However, players / umpires will be permitted to wear tracksuit pants and warm tops (colour and style as nominated by the club at the beginning of the year) in these conditions.
- Match cancellations will not be based on player / umpire / spectator comfort - only safety.
- Player age will also influence decisions made as young children are more susceptible to adverse weather conditions.
- Ultimately, if parents / coaches do not agree with our informed decisions, they have the option to prevent players from playing or forfeiting their match.

### **Acceptable Risk?**

When playing any sport you are voluntarily exposing yourself to a variety of risks for the sake of fun. YOU must decide whether the risks you choose to take are ACCEPTABLE risks to YOU / YOUR child.

If players / coaches wish to forfeit their match they are free to do so. If both teams agree, each team will be awarded 0 points and 0 percentage. If only one team wishes to cancel, they will receive no points, opposition 4 points and highest score of the section for that round.

If parents do not want their children to play for whatever reason, they obviously have that option. "Peer pressure" is less relevant than your child's perceived safety.

Please do not question our legal and moral responsibilities OR our "insurance cover". Our decision will always be a balance between the enthusiasm of players who generally want to play, and their health and safety which is paramount.