



DEVON SOCCER ASSOCIATION (DSA)

AIR QUALITY POLICY

Soccer is considered a high exposure sport when it comes to Air Quality. Devon Soccer Association may cancel practices and games if the Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) will remain high for the day. If games/practices are CANCELED, this will be posted on the website and all effected members will be emailed. At all other times, please follow these guidelines.

1. Go to <http://environment.alberta.ca/apps/aqhi/aqhi.aspx>
2. Check the nearest station to the field being used.
 - a. This brings up a pop-up box with the AQHI for that station.
3. Note the station, time, and date, and Index calculation.
 - a. Updates usually occur hourly (at the top of the hour).
 - b. Use the index calculation that is within one hour of scheduled kick-off or practice time.
4. Games
 - a. If the Home Team has not cancelled games in advance all teams and match officials should arrive ready to play.
 - b. If the AQHI is still above “7” at the next calculation the teams involved and the match official should consider delaying kick-off or cancelling the game.
 - i. The match official reserves the final right to cancel the game if the conditions are considered dangerous, in the match official’s opinion.
 - ii. Referee to write on game sheet reason for abandonment with the Index calculation, time & date number calculated and AQHI station used.
 - c. If air quality changes dramatically during a game (e.g. sudden smoke event caused by wind direction change) referees and team officials are advised to use their discretion. Record all decisions and relevant information on the game sheet.

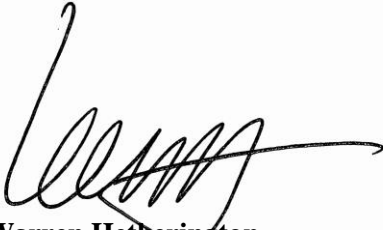
5. For Practices

- a. If air quality is “3” or below continue with training as normal.
- b. If air quality is an index of 4 – 6 then be prepared to adjust the practice by:
 - Reducing the intensity.
 - Reducing the duration of the practice.
 - Providing resting periods.
- c. If air quality is “7” or above cancel or reschedule.

6. Be aware of weather and other conditions:

- a) Current forest fires and their locations in the province.
- b) Local burning of stubble on fields or agricultural fields – these can increase particulate matter in the air without impacting the AQHI for a city.
- c) Sudden and dramatic changes in wind strength and direction.
- d) Proximity of any major road or highway.
- e) Near or downwind of any industrial areas or other significant emission sources.

Endorsed by



Warren Hetherington

Devon Soccer Association President

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