

Archery Ontario - Severe Weather Policy

Archery Ontario (AO) (formerly *The Ontario Association of Archers*) will utilize this severe weather policy at all AO sanctioned events. Severe weather is that which may or will have an immediate impact on the safety of participants, judges, staff, spectators or the venue.

Severe weather may be defined as, but is not limited to, the following conditions:

Lightning, excessive heat, excessive winds and excessive rain.

Lightning:

If the event is held in a region that can typically be affected by lightning or if lightning producing storms are forecasted, then a lightning detector shall be part of the standard venue equipment.¹

When lightning is detected within a 13 kilometer (8 mile) distance from the venue, shooting will immediately cease, and archers, spectators and event staff will be directed to take shelter.²

The best shelter would be located in a substantial building, i.e. buildings with wiring and plumbing are the safest. Once inside, stay away from windows, doors and anything that conducts electricity such as corded phones, wiring, appliances, plumbing and anything connected to these.

In the absence of a building at the event site, hard-topped metal vehicles with the windows closed also provide good protection. Avoid contact with metal in the vehicle and try to keep away from windows.

Tournament activities will resume no less than 30 minutes after the last report of lightning.

¹ *as well as a lightning detector, online lightning detection apps such as [blitzortung.org](http://en.blitzortung.org) or LightningMaps.org http://en.blitzortung.org/live_lightning_maps.php <https://www.lightningmaps.org/blitzortung/america/index.php?lang=en> may be used to **monitor** approaching storms.*

² *regardless of whether a lightning detector or online apps is used, if thunder is heard, the lightning is within 13 to 16 kilometers and shelter should be taken. (Thunder can be heard from a maximum distance of about 10 miles (16 km) under good atmospheric conditions. National Lightning Safety Institute)*

Excessive Heat:

It is recommended that when the Heat Index reaches up to 40.5°C (105°F), that competition may be delayed, postponed or cancelled. This decision is made in consultation with the Tournament Director.

Determination of excessive heat is a measurement of the Temperature and Relative Humidity readings using a Digital Sling psychrometer, then calculated using the NOAA Heat Index Chart.

It is important to note that media-related temperature readings (such as the Weather Channel, local radio, etc.), or even other readings in the general proximity are not permitted, as they may

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not yield defensible results when considering the recommended scale. The readings must be made at the site.

Monitoring procedure:

- Thirty (30) minutes prior to the start of activity, temperature and humidity readings should be taken at the practice /competition site.
- The information should be recorded, and these records shall be available for inspection upon request.
- The temperature and humidity should be factored into the Heat Index Calculation and Chart and a determination made as to the Heat Index. If management is utilizing a digital sling psychrometer that calculates the Heat Index, that number may be used to apply to the regulation table.
- If a reading is determined whereby activity is to be decreased (above 105 degrees Heat Index), then re-readings would be required every thirty (30) minutes to determine if further activity should be eliminated or preventative steps taken, or if an increased level of activity can resume.

Excessive Wind:

Excessive wind is a condition that results in target stands, umbrellas, tents and other venue equipment to fall over or be blown away. This is dangerous to all people in the vicinity and competition should be delayed/postponed until winds subside.

Excessive Rain:

Excessive rain is a condition that results in scorecards becoming illegible or the field becoming flooded. Neither of these situations is conducive to a well-run event and competition management should weigh the possible continuation of competition.

Communication:

Whenever there is a threat of severe weather, the policy for handling such needs to be announced prior to the start of competition.

There will be a “place holder” in the DOS script for this announcement.

The severe weather announcement shall contain, but is not limited to the following:

- A description of the severe weather conditions that will cause a delay, postponement, or cancellation of part or all of the remainder of the event,
- The safest and nearest location for shelter where participants, staff and spectators are advised to relocate, and
- The mode or method that the event management will use to communicate any re-start, postponement or cancellation of the day's event(s).

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Definitions:

Delay - a smaller increment of time, i.e. 15 or 30 minutes, after which competition may resume.

Postponement - a larger increment of time, i.e. 2+ hours, after which competition may resume.

Cancellation - a point at which the current competition phase is stopped and the determination is made that the schedule cannot be adjusted to complete the phase.

Heat Index Chart

NOAA national weather service: heat index

		Temperature															
		80 °F (27 °C)	82 °F (28 °C)	84 °F (29 °C)	86 °F (30 °C)	88 °F (31 °C)	90 °F (32 °C)	92 °F (33 °C)	94 °F (34 °C)	96 °F (36 °C)	98 °F (37 °C)	100 °F (38 °C)	102 °F (39 °C)	104 °F (40 °C)	106 °F (41 °C)	108 °F (42 °C)	110 °F (43 °C)
Relative humidity	40%	80 °F (27 °C)	81 °F (27 °C)	83 °F (28 °C)	85 °F (29 °C)	88 °F (31 °C)	91 °F (33 °C)	94 °F (34 °C)	97 °F (36 °C)	101 °F (38 °C)	105 °F (41 °C)	109 °F (43 °C)	114 °F (46 °C)	119 °F (48 °C)	124 °F (51 °C)	130 °F (54 °C)	136 °F (58 °C)
	45%	80 °F (27 °C)	82 °F (28 °C)	84 °F (29 °C)	87 °F (31 °C)	89 °F (32 °C)	93 °F (34 °C)	96 °F (36 °C)	100 °F (38 °C)	104 °F (40 °C)	109 °F (43 °C)	114 °F (46 °C)	119 °F (48 °C)	124 °F (51 °C)	130 °F (54 °C)	137 °F (58 °C)	
	50%	81 °F (27 °C)	83 °F (28 °C)	85 °F (29 °C)	88 °F (31 °C)	91 °F (33 °C)	95 °F (35 °C)	99 °F (37 °C)	103 °F (39 °C)	108 °F (42 °C)	113 °F (45 °C)	118 °F (48 °C)	124 °F (51 °C)	131 °F (55 °C)	137 °F (58 °C)		
	55%	81 °F (27 °C)	84 °F (29 °C)	86 °F (30 °C)	89 °F (32 °C)	93 °F (34 °C)	97 °F (36 °C)	101 °F (38 °C)	106 °F (41 °C)	112 °F (44 °C)	117 °F (47 °C)	124 °F (51 °C)	130 °F (54 °C)	137 °F (58 °C)			
	60%	82 °F (28 °C)	84 °F (29 °C)	88 °F (31 °C)	91 °F (33 °C)	95 °F (35 °C)	100 °F (38 °C)	105 °F (41 °C)	110 °F (43 °C)	116 °F (47 °C)	123 °F (51 °C)	129 °F (54 °C)	137 °F (58 °C)				
	65%	82 °F (28 °C)	85 °F (29 °C)	89 °F (32 °C)	93 °F (34 °C)	98 °F (37 °C)	103 °F (39 °C)	108 °F (42 °C)	114 °F (46 °C)	121 °F (49 °C)	128 °F (53 °C)	136 °F (58 °C)					
	70%	83 °F (28 °C)	86 °F (30 °C)	90 °F (32 °C)	95 °F (35 °C)	100 °F (38 °C)	105 °F (41 °C)	112 °F (44 °C)	119 °F (48 °C)	126 °F (52 °C)	134 °F (57 °C)						
	75%	84 °F (29 °C)	88 °F (31 °C)	92 °F (33 °C)	97 °F (36 °C)	103 °F (39 °C)	109 °F (43 °C)	116 °F (47 °C)	124 °F (51 °C)	132 °F (56 °C)							
	80%	84 °F (29 °C)	89 °F (32 °C)	94 °F (34 °C)	100 °F (38 °C)	106 °F (41 °C)	113 °F (45 °C)	121 °F (49 °C)	129 °F (54 °C)								
	85%	85 °F (29 °C)	90 °F (32 °C)	96 °F (36 °C)	102 °F (39 °C)	110 °F (43 °C)	117 °F (47 °C)	126 °F (52 °C)	135 °F (57 °C)								
	90%	86 °F (30 °C)	91 °F (33 °C)	98 °F (37 °C)	105 °F (41 °C)	113 °F (45 °C)	122 °F (50 °C)	131 °F (55 °C)									
	95%	86 °F (30 °C)	93 °F (34 °C)	100 °F (38 °C)	108 °F (42 °C)	117 °F (47 °C)	127 °F (53 °C)										
	100%	87 °F (31 °C)	95 °F (35 °C)	103 °F (39 °C)	112 °F (44 °C)	121 °F (49 °C)	132 °F (56 °C)										

Key to colors: Caution Extreme caution Danger Extreme danger

Adapted from the USA Archery Severe Weather Policy.