

# **ADVERSE WEATHER PLAN**

**VERSION 1.0**

### Table of Contents

- 1. Introduction ..... 3
  - 1.1. Background..... 3
  - 1.2. Objectives ..... 3
- 2. Responsibilities ..... 3
- 3. Monitoring ..... 3
  - 3.1. Long Term Weather Monitoring ..... 4
  - 3.2. Short Range Forecast ..... 4
  - 3.3. Identification of Adverse Weather ..... 5
    - 3.3.1. Max Temp..... 5
    - 3.3.2. Wind Speed ..... 5
    - 3.3.3. Rainfall..... 5
    - 3.3.4. Storms ..... 5
  - 3.4. Warning Information..... 5
- 4. Arrangements and Procedures..... 5
  - 4.1. Wet Weather..... 5
  - 4.2. Strong Winds ..... 5
  - 4.3. Electrical Storms..... 6
  - 4.4. Sun Exposure ..... 6
  - 4.5. Event Closure..... 7
- 5. APPENDIX A - ACTION PLAN ..... 8

## **1. Introduction**

Arena Sports Live Ltd (ASL) mainly organises outdoor and indoor public attended events. These temporary events take place outdoors. As such they are susceptible to inclement weather, and poor conditions can prove to be very hazardous to all involved. As an outdoor event, temporary demountable structures are used. These are a cause for consideration in inclement weather.

### **1.1. Background**

ASL has a broad portfolio of events and has experience in dealing with all types of weather conditions across the country.

The two main contributing factors to the safe onsite movement during inclement or hazardous weather are track matting and the layout of the service routes. Sturdy metal track matting is used at key points such as bottle necks, entrance and exit routes, and particularly busy points such as behind the main stage if required.

### **1.2. Objectives**

The Objectives of this plan are to ensure that adverse weather is dealt with appropriately and that any injuries or accidents caused by inclement conditions are avoided. The priority is to ensure the safety of all persons on the site at the time of hazardous conditions and to ensure that no damage is done to property of site or in the surrounding area.

## **2. Responsibilities**

It is the policy of ASL to monitor weather forecasts for three weeks prior to the event. Should these forecasts predict hazardous weather then the appropriate actions will be taken in order to prepare the site. If dangerous or severe weather is forecast, then the event will be cancelled or postponed. Should the conditions on site become inclement without warning then the appropriate action will be taken as listed below for each condition.

The event Manager will be responsible for monitoring the weather forecast prior to and during the event. The weather monitoring method is detailed below. Should inclement weather be forecast for the event dates then managers will ensure that the marquee company and other suppliers are aware and Emergency Plan provisions are put into place. Should inclement weather be forecast for a time period before the event then all on site staff will be informed and work will be altered or cancelled accordingly.

## **3. Monitoring**

Weather monitoring is key to any outdoor event as weather conditions can not only make or break an event but can also be potentially hazardous and cause attendees to be put at risk. As a result, all precautions must be taken to ensure that any adverse weather can be dealt with and to be reliably informed of what to expect in order to be suitably prepared. Weather monitoring is the best defence against adverse weather conditions as it allows you to act before the conditions take hold and so avoid dangerous situations. The event team will monitor weather through conventional systems such as BBC Weather and Met Check

BBC Weather (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/weather>) and Met Check (<http://www.metcheck.com/UK>) will be used to monitor the weather. The long-range forecast monitors 10 days in advance. Top temperatures, wind speed and whether rain has been forecast or not will be recorded.

### **3.1. Short Range Forecast**

Short Range Forecasts will also use BBC weather (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/weather>) and Met check (<http://www.metcheck.com/UK>). These forecasts offer more in depth and accurate information. These will also be recorded in the above tables.

The below conditions and times at which they are forecast to occur will be recorded:

- Heavy rain
- High Temperature
- Storms
- Wind speed

These reports will be continued after the event in order to monitor weather during the load out.

### **3.3.1. Max Temp**

On the general forecast sheet and using the short-term forecast data layout shown above in Figure 3 and the key shown in Figure 4, the top temperature will display as red when the temperature is predicted to be above 25°C, it will display as Yellow at around 5°C and this will turn to orange gradually as the temperature approaches 20°C. Below 5°C it will display as White. If the Temperature is dangerously high a warning will appear next to it.

### **3.3.2. Wind Speed**

Wind speed will display as red when the wind is predicted to be above 30MPH on that day, yellow to orange for forecasts of 7 to 23 MPH and White for wind speeds forecast below 7 MPH.

### **3.3.3. Rainfall**

Rainfall will display as red if forecast is predicted to be heavy, yellow to orange if it is forecast is moderate to light and white if it is forecast no rain.

### **3.3.4. Storms**

Should any type of storm be forecast then it must be entered in to the extreme weather column. This will raise a WARNING in the adjacent column and Management must be on alert.

## **3.4. Warning Information**

If any of the monitored types of weather reach potentially dangerous proportions then a **WARNING** will appear next to it in the adjacent column. Should this happen during the event the weather monitor will report it to the management team, either the operational planning officer or the Festival Director.

## **4. Arrangements and Procedures**

This section lays out the arrangements and procedures in the event of adverse weather. In order to ensure these procedures can be effectively implemented, an action plan (see Appendix A - Action plan) has been produced and should be held at event control during the event.

### **4.1. Wet Weather**

During periods of bursts of intermittent rain fall, event marquees will provide temporary shelter, though if the rain looks to be extended and heavy, the Management Team will discuss whether to carry on or close the event. The land owner will be consulted as to the conditions of the ground. As shown on the site plan, track matting will be laid in key bottle neck/high risk areas. The relevant contractor will be on call if more is required as the event unfolds. Tractors will also be available to pull vehicles should they become stuck.

## **4.2. Strong Winds**

Should the wind speed approach 30 MPH, then a close watch will be kept on the site and the “on call” teams from the Marquee Company and other suppliers will be alerted and asked to be on standby, should the site need to be cleared and the Marquees Dropped. Should the wind speed threaten the integrity of any small gazebos then these will be dismantled. The fast release sheets will be removed.

All companies providing larger commercial marquees will also provide information regarding wind load factors. As with heavy rain, the Management will discuss the necessity of closing the event should public safety be threatened. It is the Festival’s policy that should strong winds (winds approaching 30 mph) be forecast in the week preceding the forecast date, then an anemometer reading will be taken three times a day. Should calm or very light winds be forecast then no anemometer readings will be taken, but the forecast will be closely monitored as shown in Fig 1 - Fig 4. Should wind speeds exceed 30mph then Marquees will be dropped and all precaution will be taken with the stage. Should they exceed 40mph the site will be evacuated.

## **4.3. Electrical Storms**

In the event of a thunder storm with lightning that may be nearby, public will be reminded to stay away from electrical equipment and take shelter until the storm has passed. All metal poles in Marquees will be covered to prevent people touching them during a storm. Public must be reminded of the dangers of camping in a thunderstorm and informed that if they cannot get to shelter or are in their tent then they should crouch with their shoes on and their hands resting on their knees or covering their ears. They should be reminded not to let their knees or hands touch the ground and not to lie flat on the ground. This will be communicated via signage whilst the communications involved with shepherding people to safety are detailed in Appendix S - Communication Plan. It is most likely that people will shelter in Marquees during a thunder storm. Whilst these do not offer much protection from Lightning it is most likely that lightning will strike the highest object as it will always follow the quickest route to the ground. Should a storm pass directly over a marquee it is therefore assumed that the central pole will be struck being the highest point and made of a conductive material. This could provide injury or death to a person or persons in contact with the pole. Therefore, all marquee poles will be separated from public contact with an insulating material and a barrier. With this precaution taken the Marquees will be a suitable place for shelter in a thunder storm should people not wish to take shelter in their vehicles.

Staff may take shelter in the containers and offices around site as these offer protection from electrical storms, even if not grounded. If strong winds occur as well as an electrical storm then marquees will have to be closed and people will be advised to seek shelter in their vehicles.

Note that all generators will be earthed.

#### **4.4. Sun Exposure**

All event staff, crew and volunteers shall be briefed to wear appropriate clothing and sun block or sun cream. The Compare on each stage will announce a reminder that all attendees should be wearing sun cream and cover any exposed skin and wear a hat in extreme cases. Attendees will also be reminded via the stage and staff that they are welcome to take shelter from the sun in any of the numerous marquees around the site and that free water is available from the main bar.

If high temperatures and high sun exposure is forecast, then the management team will be informed and adequate amounts of sun cream will be made available to the public.

#### **4.5. Event Closure**

The event Manager in consultation with key staff will make any decisions on closing part or the entire event during extreme weather. Please see the Emergency Plan for further information.

## 5. APPENDIX A - ACTION PLAN

### Wet Weather

1. Spread excess straw in the path ways, gates and any wet areas for pedestrians.
2. Encourage people to take shelter.
3. Restrict on site movement to the absolute essential.

Rain	
Degree of Severity	Action
5mm	Monitor
10mm	React
20mm	advise people to go to vehicles
30mm	advise people to go to vehicles
40mm	advise people to go to vehicles
50mm	evacuate
60mm	evacuate
70mm	evacuate
80mm+	evacuate

### Electrical Storms

1. If a storm is forecast then all members of staff must inform public on the correct procedure
2. Inform public and staff to take shelter

### Strong Winds

1. Alert the on call teams for the Marquees and any other significant structure on site.
2. Ensure that the marquee teams drop the marquees and that the staging team removes the fast release sheets from the stage.
3. Any small gazebos must be dropped.
4. Should strong winds be forecast then anemometer readings should be taken 3 times a day.

Wind	
Degree of Severity	Action
5MPH	n/a
10MPH	n/a
15MPH	Monitor
20MPH	Monitor
25MPH	Monitor
30MPH	Close down structures
35MPH	Ensure all structures are closed
40MPH	Evacuate
50MPH+	Evacuate

### Sun exposure

1. Brief all staff to wear appropriate clothing and sun cream.
2. If high heat levels and sun exposure are forecast then sun cream must be made available to the public.
3. Public and staff will be reminded that free water is available from the bar.
4. Public will be reminded to wear appropriate clothing and sun cream.

Temp	
Degree of Severity (°C)	Action
17	n/a
18	n/a
19	n/a
20	n/a
21	n/a
22	n/a
23	advise people to keep shaded and stay hydrated
24	advise people to keep shaded and stay hydrated
25+	advise people to keep shaded and stay hydrated