

Section 15 – Weather Policy

Effective: September 2015

Biathlon Saskatchewan

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1. DEFINITIONS

See Definitions Section.

2. INTRODUCTION

Biathlon is a winter sport which has cold weather risks. Biathlon Saskatchewan seeks to mitigate weather risks through this policy.

3. PURPOSE

Temperatures below -20C can cause hypothermia, frostbite and lung damage due to rapidly breathing in large quantities of very cold air. International Biathlon Union (IBU) has a low temperature cut-off for racing of -20C ambient temperature and wind-chill must be considered before starting the race and during the competition.

It is the policy of Biathlon Saskatchewan that the race will not start and, or will be terminated immediately if the wind-chill factor exceeds -24C. The race can be delayed. In the case of a high wind-chill factor, the Chief of Competition will decide whether to start or continue the competition, in consultation with the jury.

4. PROCEDURE

**Temperature** - Biathlon competitions must not be started if the air temperature is colder than minus 20°C measured at the coldest part of the site (range or course), 1.5 m above ground.

**Wind-chill** - If it is colder than minus 15°C, wind-chill and humidity must be considered before starting and during the competition. The course to be skied may also be changed to avoid windy areas.

The following Table 1 shows wind chill temperature equivalents. Temperature readings shall be posted in an area accessible to the coaches as the information will also be important for race waxing and dressing of the athletes.

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TABLE 1

Wind Speed	Temperature (Degree Celsius)°C				
	-5	-10	-15	-17	-20
10kmh	-9	-15	-21	-24	-27
12kmh	-10	-16	-22	-24	-28
15kmh	-11	-17	-23	-25	-29
17kmh	-12	-17	-23	-26	-30
20kmh	-12	-18	-24	-27	-30

Based on Environment Canada Wind Chill Calculator 2014.