

SAFETY • HOT WEATHER • USER WELFARE

Extreme Heat Guidance

RI-GD-001 | Version 2.0 | APPROVED

Document Ref	Version	Status	Issue Date	Review	Owner
RI-GD-001	2.0	APPROVED	August 2026	Annual / material change	Rugby Inflatables

Purpose

To manage risks from hot inflatable surfaces, dehydration and heat-related illness during warm or extreme conditions.

Scope

Applies to outdoor inflatable hires during warm or extreme conditions. Management decides whether a hire can proceed; the responsible adult supervises users.

Hot-weather safety principle

- Inflatable surfaces can become very hot in direct sunlight and may cause burns or discomfort.
- Active play in high temperatures increases dehydration and heat-related illness risk.
- Use should be shortened, paused or stopped where the surface or conditions become excessively hot.
- No user should be encouraged to continue when the equipment or conditions are excessively hot.

Safety takes priority

Where heat cannot be safely controlled, Rugby Inflatables may pause or cancel the hire. The responsible adult must continue monitoring users and conditions throughout use.

1. Review the conditions

- Review the forecast and consider temperature, direct sunlight, humidity and the expected duration of use.
- Consider whether shade is available for users to rest.
- Where heat cannot be safely controlled, pause or cancel the hire.

2. Assess the inflatable

- Consider the inflatable's surface temperature, colour, exposed areas and available shade.
- Check the surface temperature by hand before allowing children to play.
- Continue checking during hot conditions because the surface can heat further in direct sunlight.
- Pause use if the surface becomes uncomfortably hot.

3. Hydration

- Encourage regular water breaks even if children do not feel thirsty.
- Keep drinking water nearby and readily accessible.
- Provide a shaded area for resting and drinking where possible.
- Drinks must not be taken onto the inflatable.

4. Footwear & clothing

- Shoes must be removed before entering the inflatable.
- Socks can help protect feet from hot surfaces.
- Light, breathable clothing is recommended to help users remain cool and comfortable.

5. Breaks & limiting exposure

- Encourage children to step off the inflatable periodically to cool down.
- Use shorter play sessions during hot conditions.
- Avoid extended bouncing during the hottest parts of the day.
- Resting in a shaded area can help reduce overheating and fatigue.

6. Signs of heat-related symptoms

- Watch for dizziness, nausea, excessive sweating, fatigue, headache or confusion.
- Hot, dry skin can occur in severe cases.
- If heat-related symptoms occur, stop use immediately.
- Move the affected person to a cooler/shaded area and seek medical attention if needed.

7. Food & energy

- Light, easy-to-digest snacks such as fruit, crackers or sandwiches may help maintain energy levels.
- Food must not be taken onto the inflatable.

8. Supervision

- An adult must supervise the inflatable at all times.
- Supervision is particularly important for younger children to encourage safe play, regular breaks and hydration.
- The supervisor should watch both user behaviour and changing heat conditions.

9. Stop / pause criteria

- Pause or stop use if the inflatable surface becomes uncomfortably hot.
- Pause or stop use if a user shows heat-related symptoms or distress.
- Pause or cancel where heat cannot be safely controlled.
- Do not resume until the surface, users and conditions are considered suitable for safe use.

10. Records & incidents

- Keep a weather/heat decision record where a hire is paused or cancelled because of extreme heat.
- Complete an incident report where a heat-related incident occurs.
- Follow RI-EP-001 Emergency Procedures where a serious medical emergency develops.

11. Roles & responsibilities

Role	Responsibility
Rugby Inflatables management / operator	Review conditions, assess whether the hire can safely proceed, brief the customer and pause/cancel where heat cannot be controlled.
Responsible hirer / nominated adult	Maintain supervision, encourage hydration and breaks, monitor users and surface conditions, and stop use when heat creates an unsafe condition.

12. Related controlled documents

- RI-SOP-002 - Supervision & Safe Operation of Inflatables
- RI-EP-001 - Emergency Procedures
- RI-RA-001 - Bouncy Castle Risk Assessment
- RI-RA-002 - Bounce & Slide Combo Risk Assessment
- RI-GD-002 - Wind & Adverse Weather Guidance (to be refreshed)

Document approval

Prepared by	Approved by	Approval date	Next review
Rugby Inflatables	Macaulay Peel - Owner	08 August 2026	August 2027

Revision history

Version	Date	Change	Status
2.0	August 2026	Rebuilt from the existing Extreme Heat Guidelines and RIMS extreme-heat procedure. Retains surface-temperature, hydration, clothing, symptom, break, supervision, stop/cancel and record controls in the refreshed document format.	Approved