

FLORIDA FHSA Heat Safety Requirements - Zachary Martin Act (2025-2026)

Requirements are subject to change. Please consult local authorities for the most up-to-date legislation.

WBGT (WET BULB GLOBE TEMPERATURE) MONITORING REQUIREMENTS:

- » **Law Status:** MANDATORY (Zachary Martin Act - effective July 1, 2020)
- » **Method:** WBGT instruments or approved weather apps required
- » **Timing:** Must check 30 minutes prior to practice start
- » **Frequency:** Monitor every hour during practice
- » **Zone Classification:** Florida is Class 3 statewide

CRITICAL TEMPERATURE THRESHOLDS & REQUIRED ACTIONS

FHSA Activity Guidelines (Class 3):

- » **No Flag:** WBGT < 82.0°F: Normal activities allowed
- » **Green Flag:** WBGT 82.1-86.9°F:
 - » Three 4-minute rest breaks per hour required
 - » Unlimited water access
- » **Yellow Flag:** WBGT 87.1-90.0°F:
 - » Maximum 2 hours activity
 - » Four 4-minute rest breaks per hour
 - » Football: helmets, shoulder pads, shorts only
- » **Red Flag:** WBGT 90.1-92.0°F:
 - » Maximum 1 hour activity
 - » Five 4-minute rest breaks per hour
 - » No protective equipment or conditioning
- » **Black Flag:** WBGT ≥ 92.1°F: ALL activities moved indoors

MANDATORY EQUIPMENT & FACILITIES

Cold Water Immersion Required:

- » Cooling tubs or equivalent means MANDATORY at all times
- » Must allow full-body immersion
- » Ice and water readily available
- » "Cool first, transport second" protocol

Defibrillators:

- » Required at all athletic facilities
- » Staff trained in usage

PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

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- » Fines up to \$2,500 for schools with ineligible players
- » Games may be forfeited
- » Coach violations: Fines up to \$5,000
- » Football coaches: Two-game suspension possible
- » FHSAA investigates complaints and can impose additional sanctions

Resource: Perry Weather: Florida State Weather Policies



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