

Temperature and High wind guidance for OH&S

Gould League do not run programs on extreme or catastrophic fire rating days at Toolangi or Beaconsfield. Consideration will be given for incursions and programs at Cheltenham and Ricketts on Extreme fire rating days. No programs will run on catastrophic fire rating days.

We monitor winds so as to minimise the risk of branches falling and safety on rockpool platforms. Below is an international guide. We need to monitor if winds are up to **50 km** hour and cease programs if **50km** or above. If winds of 50km and above are forecast, we will reschedule.

Some beach programs could continue at Ricketts up to Gale Force 63km and above **if northerly winds only; however, educators and students should NOT go up into the trees.**

Below becomes our guide to discuss options with schools.

Observed tree movements	Beaufort Scale	Description	Km/h	Mph	Knots	Action you should take
Only leaves and small twigs in motion.	3	Gentle breeze	13-19	8-12	7-10	Monitor
Branches moving as well.	4	Moderate breeze	20-29	13-18	11-16	Monitor
Entire small trees swaying in the wind.	5	Fresh breeze	30-39	18-24	17-21	Monitor
Large branches on large trees moving. Difficult or near-impossible to use an umbrella.	6	Strong breeze	40-50	25-31	22-27	Dangerous walking conditions due to falling branches. Consider changing route or seek shelter.
Entire large trees being pushed around. Difficult to walk.	7	Near gale	51-62	31-38	28-33	Very dangerous walking conditions due to falling branches. Change route or seek shelter.
Twigs and small branches being snapped off trees. Extremely challenging to walk.	8	Gale	63-75	39-46	34-40	Very dangerous conditions. Do not walk. You must be sheltered.
Larger branches snapping off and some smaller trees being blown over. Impossible to walk.	9	Strong gale	76-87	47-54	41-47	Extremely dangerous conditions. Do not walk. You must be sheltered.
Entire large trees snapping at the trunk or being blown over from the roots.	10	Storm	88-102	55-63	48-55	Extremely dangerous conditions. Do not walk. You must be sheltered.
Extensive and widespread damage, including numerous tree blow downs and structural damage to roofs and buildings.	11	Violent storm	103-117	64-72	56-63	Catastrophic conditions. Do not walk. You must be sheltered.
Atmospheric Armageddon, with debris and unsecured objects flying around and widespread devastation.	12	Hurricane force	≥117	≥73	≥63	Catastrophic conditions. Do not walk. You must be sheltered.

- **0 / Calm / under 1 mph:** smoke rises vertically
- **1 / Light Air / 1-3 mph:** direction shown by smoke drift but not by wind vanes
- **2 / Light Breeze / 4-7 mph:** wind felt on face; leaves rustle; wind vane moved by wind
- **3 / Gentle Breeze / 13-19/kmph / 8-12 mph:** leaves and small twigs in constant motion; light flags extended
- **4 / Moderate Breeze / 20 – 29 kmph / 13-18 mph:** raises dust and loose paper; small branches moved
- **5 / Fresh Breeze / 30 – 39kmph/ 19-24 mph:** small trees in leaf begin to sway; crested wavelets form on inland waters

Above this level, you will begin to notice resistance while walking...

- **6 / Strong Breeze / 40 – 50 kmph / 25-31 mph:** large branches in motion; whistling heard in telegraph wires; umbrellas used with difficulty

Above 30 mph, things escalate quickly...

- **7 / Moderate Gale / 51 – 62kmph / 32-38 mph:** whole trees in motion; clear inconvenience felt when walking against the wind; will affect balance; avoid exposed ridge lines and cliffy edges; if the temperature is below freezing, you risk [first degree frostbite](#) on any exposed skin.

- **Programs at Toolangi and Beaconsfield to be cancelled if over 50kmph**

Above this level, staying upright is extremely difficult...

- **8 / Fresh Gale / 63 – 75kmph / 39-46 mph:** twigs break off trees; wind force impedes progress; walking is arduous
- **Some beach programs could continue at Ricketts up to Gale Force 63km and above if northerly winds only but shouldn't go up into the trees.**

Above this level, you're in serious physical danger at even the lowest elevations...

- **9 / Strong Gale / 76 – 87 kmph / 47-54 mph:** slight structural damage (chimney pots and slates removed)
- **10 / Whole Gale / 55-63 mph:** seldom experienced inland; trees uprooted; considerable structural damage
- **11 / Storm / 64-73 mph:** very rarely experienced; accompanied by widespread damage
- **12 / Tornado or Hurricane / 74+ mph:** devastation