



Magistrates Court of Western Australia

Civil Jurisdiction

Fact Sheet 14B – General Procedure Status Conference

This fact sheet is intended to help people in preparing themselves for a status conference. The attempt to settle the case at a pre-trial conference has not been successful.

What is a Status Conference?

The purpose of a status conference is to allow for the management of a case. A status conference will be listed **before a Magistrate**.

When will a status Conference be listed?

A status conference will be listed by a Registrar at the pre-trial conference. Parties will receive notice in writing as to the date, time and location of the status conference.

Who attends the Status Conference?

A party **must** attend a status conference and may do so in person or they may be represented by their lawyer or counsel. If the Magistrate deems it necessary, they may order that a party's solicitor or counsel attends the status conference in person. If the court orders a person to attend a status conference in person, the party will be notified in writing.

If a party's attendance is likely to cause undue expense or the party is of ill health, a party may **apply prior** to the status conference for the hearing to be conducted by **audio-link**.

What will happen at a Status Conference?

At a status conference, the Court may order:

- Order the parties to attend before a mediator
- Order the parties attend a further pre-trial conference
- Order the parties attend a further status conference
- Allow the parties to amend its case statement
- Order the parties to provide additional information by disclosing documents the parties may tender in evidence at the trial and exchange any other documents or information
- Order the parties to produce witness statements
- Order the parties to provide further particulars
- List the case for trial
- Make any other orders to progress the matter to trial

What happens if I do not attend the Status Conference?

If a party fails to attend the status conference, the Court may:

- order the party to pay costs; or
- give judgment against the party without a trial.

This is a guide only. The content is subject to change.

If you are unsure about any of the information in this fact sheet, contact your nearest registry or seek legal advice.