

**Rochester Board of Women's Lacrosse Officials
NYS Section V**

**THUNDER & LIGHTNING POLICY
SUSPENSION & RESUMPTION PROCEDURES**

Review NYSPHSAA Lightning Policy (below) & NFHS Rule Appendix E

Schools will follow these guidelines for suspension and resumption of play if thunder is heard or lightning seen. Exchange cell phone numbers with coaches and Site Supervisors so that contact can be maintained.

As the game official, you have the right to suspend a game or declare the game complete if 80% (40 minutes) or more have been played. Opposing coaches may agree to consider game complete if less than 80% has been played. Before that decision is made, confer with coaches and Site Supervisor.

After players are allowed back onto field, allow teams up to 15-minutes warm-up time if coaches request it.

**NYSPHSAA
THUNDER & LIGHTNING POLICY
(Effective 10/25/04)**

Applies to regular season through NYSPHSAA Finals:

1) Thunder and lightning necessitates that contests be suspended. The occurrence of thunder and/or lightning is not subject to interpretation or discussion - thunder is thunder, lightning is lightning.

a) With your site administrator, set up a plan for shelter prior to the start of any contest.

2) When thunder is heard and/or when lightning is seen, the following procedures should be adhered to:

a) Suspend play and direct participants to go to shelter, a building normally occupied by the public or if a building is unavailable, participants should go inside a vehicle with a solid metal top (e.g. bus, van, car).

b) Do not permit people to stand under or near a tree; and have all stay away from poles, antennas, towers and underground watering systems.

c) After thunder and/or lightning have left the area, wait 30 minutes after the last boom is heard or strike is seen before resuming play or competition.