



## Weather & Lightning Guidelines

### Suspension of Practice or Playing as a result of Lightning

While no one can predict when or where lightning will strike, we can use common sense best practices to ensure the safety of our participants, families, coaches and personnel whenever storms are present. Below are guidelines for determining the suspension of practice or play as a result of Thunderstorms and lightning:

1. When thunder is heard, or a cloud-to-ground lightning bolt is seen, the thunderstorm may be close enough to strike your location with lightning. Seeking shelter is the best practice in this situation.
2. When lightning-detection devices or mobile phone apps are available, this technology may be used to assist in making a decision to suspend play.
3. **When using a device or application, If a lightning strike is noted to be within 10 miles of the event location. Suspend play and take shelter immediately!**
4. 30 - minute rule. Once play has been suspended due to lightning in the area, wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard or flash of lightning is witnessed prior to resuming play.
5. When lightning-detection devices or mobile phone apps are available, this technology may be used to assist in making a decision to resume safe play.
6. **If a device or application is being used to assist in determining the distance of lightning from the playing field for resuming play, a minimum distance of 10 miles from the location and the last lightning strike must be reached before considering the resumption of play.**

#### Our Recommended Weather devices or applications parents, coaches and personnel:

1. Weatherbug with Spark Lightning (available on the google play store)
2. My Lightning Tracker & Alerts (available on the google play store)

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** It is our recommendation and policy to cross reference these applications when being used to assist in determining the safe distance of lightning and use the closest known strike to determine how to enact the lightning safety guidelines. If and when this is not possible refer to guideline #1 above.

