

## Lightning Policy (Charlotte County Soccer Federation)

Lightning strikes are a difficult thing to predict, we as a club use the Pool Area Detection systems provided by Charlotte County as one of our primary detection tools for lightning. In addition to the County provided systems, we also use the WeatherBug app as well.

Centennial and South County have the pool area detection system in place that sometimes can be heard from the Soccer fields. Charlotte County also has an app that links directly to both pool system that will show if there is lightning in the area.

In the event of lightning, the guidelines below will be followed during **Charlotte County Soccer Federation sanctioned events:**

### Suspension and Resumption of Activity

Outdoor activity must be suspended when lightning is within **10 miles**.

The "10/30 Rule" will be followed when lightning is in the area. If lightning is within 10 miles, any practice or game will be suspended for a minimum of **30 minutes**. Use both the Charlotte County App or WeatherBug to determine if there is lightning in the area and when it is safe to return to the field.

In the event that play is suspended, all individuals, including athletes, coaches, referees, and spectators, are required to immediately go to their cars to wait for the storm to pass. If unable to reach safe shelter, stay away from the tallest trees or objects (such as light poles or flag poles), metal objects (such as fences or bleachers), individual trees, standing pools of water, and open fields.

### Resumption

For resumption follow the 30 minute rule: Once the active alert from the Charlotte County Pool Detection system is cleared, CCSF is safe to return to the fields for their sanctioned event. Play should not be resumed until 30 minutes have passed since the last flash of lightning or clap of thunder in the event that both the Charlotte County Pool detection system as well as WeatherBug are not available for use.

### Chain of Command

The team coaches and managers are responsible for ensuring that their players are safe during the storm. If lightning occurs during a practice or a clinic, the team coaches and/or the technical staff coaches are responsible for monitoring weather conditions. The coaches are responsible for ensuring that all players are safe during the storm.

Example of Application Alerts:

Lightning in the area:

**Lightning Alert-County Pools**

**Centennial Park Pool**

Alerts	Connection
<b>Active Alert</b>	<b>Up</b>

**Estimated Time to All Clear**

HOURS	MINUTES	SECONDS
00	29	11

Last Stroke Time	2022-07-07 17:44:29 EDT
Last Stroke Distance	9.13
System Hours	5:00 AM - 10:00 PM

**EARTH NETWORKS**



**All Clear:**

**Centennial Park Pool**

Alerts	Connection
<b>No Alert</b>	<b>Up</b>

**Estimated Time to All Clear**

HOURS	MINUTES	SECONDS
--	--	--

Last Stroke Time	--
Last Stroke Distance	--
System Hours	5:00 AM - 10:00 PM

**EARTH NETWORKS**

