

Lightning Policy (Game Suspension)

Officers who can make the call: (Safety Team Members)

President

Referee Coordinator

Any Board Member

Field Marshal

Referee

Coach

Note: Any person who feels their child or themselves are in danger may choose to seek safety anytime they deem necessary.

WHEN TO SUSPEND ACTIVITIES:

WHEN INSTRUCTED TO DO SO BY A SAFETY TEAM MEMBER WHO IS MONITORING THE THUNDERSTORM WITH A LIGHTNING DETECTOR, OR BY A GAME REFEREE OR COACH, OR WHEN THE FLASH TO BANG METHOD (F-B) COUNT IS LESS THAN "25 SECONDS".

[The Flash-to-Bang (F-B) Method requires no dedicated detector: only counting the time in seconds from seeing a lightning flash, to seeing the associated thunder or bang. For each five seconds, lightning is one mile away. Thus, an F-B of 10 = 2 miles; 15 = 3 miles; 20 = 4 miles; etc.] . THE "CLEAR THE FIELDS" SIGNAL IS THREE LONG BLASTS FROM THE AIR HORN.

Every person should become aware of lightning safety practices. Everyone should take responsibility for clearing the fields when lightning is observed nearby or if loud thunderclaps occur in the vicinity of the fields. Safety precautions take precedence over the desire to play soccer.

SAFE/NOT SAFE SHELTERS:

SAFE: PLAYERS AND SUPPORTERS MUST GO TO THEIR CARS, GET INSIDE THEM, AND ROLL UP THE WINDOWS. REMAIN IN YOUR CARS UNTIL THE ALL CLEAR IS SOUNDED BY A SAFETY TEAM MEMBER.

NOT SAFE: DO NOT REMAIN ON THE FIELDS, UNDER TREES, NEAR FENCES, IN SHEDS, IN TENTS, OR STANDING IN THE PARKING LOT.

WHEN TO RESUME ACTIVITIES

WAIT FOR 30 MINUTES TO RESUME ACTIVITIES AFTER THE LAST OBSERVED LIGHTNING OR THUNDER. THE "ALL CLEAR" SIGNAL IS A SINGLE LONG BLAST FROM THE AIR HORN.

Ranchwood has a lightning detector and will be managed by a Safety Team Member. If Lightning Detector is not in use then use the Flash to Bang Method. Regardless of method determined to call a game Safety Team Members are the Authority on making the call.

Please err on the side of caution to keep our kids safe.