

# INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

In the event of inclement weather, the following steps shall be followed:

1. If there is a built in lightning detector at the site, it shall take precedence over all other forms of detecting lightning. It shall activate when the lightning is too close for safety and it shall activate again to indicate that it is safe to be on the field again. During the time when lightning is at an unsafe distance, the field shall be cleared. The officials shall only begin play again once the lightning detector activates and sounds the alert that it is safe to resume normal activities.
2. In the event that there is no built in lightning detector, then a hand held detector shall be utilized. This hand held shall indicate when the lightning is too close for normal activities. The hand held will also indicate when lightning is at a safe distance to resume normal activities. The site director shall assume responsibilities of observing the hand held. Upon request the Referee may request that the site director remain close so that the Referee may view the hand held for reasons of safety. However, it is the responsibility of the site director to notify the Referee when the hand held indicates lightning is at a dangerously close distance.
3. In the event that there is no lightning detector on the premises and there is no hand held detector either, then the officials shall use the guidelines sanctioned by the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS).
  - a. When thunder is heard or a cloud to ground lightning bolt is seen, suspend play for twenty (20) minutes and take shelter immediately.
  - b. Once play has been suspended, wait no less than 20 minutes after the last thunder is heard or flash of lightning is witnessed prior to resuming play.
  - c. Any subsequent thunder or lightning after the 20 minute suspension has begun shall cause the clock to reset and restart a new 20 minute count.
4. The use of any phone applications (apps) is not an acceptable means of lightning detection. Under no circumstances shall an official monitor, view and/or utilize any mobile phone apps for determining if the activity should be stopped and/or started. PBCYFL has no way of determining the validity and/or accuracy of any mobile phone apps.

Please understand that these policies are in place for the safety of all participants.