

SMS Softball Lightning Safety Policy

The below policy is in place to follow when a practice or game (together defined as “Event”) has not been cancelled and people have already started to show up to the Event.

When should activities be stopped?

An Event should be stopped if:

- 1- lightning has struck less than 10 miles away in the last 30 minutes.

Where should people go for safety?

People should go to a hard-topped metal vehicle with the windows closed.

The dug-out or ramadas, or any other outdoor primitive shelters and open fields/spaces are NOT SAFE. Do not seek shelter in these locations.

When should activities be resumed?

The Event may resume at least 30 minutes after the last lightning strike has occurred within 10 miles.

Who should monitor the weather and make the decision to stop activities?

When there is a possible threat of thunderstorms, which can be identified from weather forecasts, lightning detection technology for developing or approaching storms, or visual identification of developing or approaching storms, the coach at practice or the umpire at the game should designate a parent to monitor for lightning strike distance on the weather radar app, WeatherBug.

What should be done if someone is struck by lightning?

Call 911 immediately for medical help. In many cases, the victim’s heart and/or breathing may have stopped. CPR may be needed to revive them. Continue to monitor the victim until medical help arrives. If possible, move the victim to a safer place inside away from the threat of another lightning strike.