



SYSA Lightning Policy

Officials and Coaches make decisions based on recommendations from the National Severe Storms Laboratory (NSSL) using the flash-to-bang method regarding suspensions & terminations of games due to lightning.

Flash-to-bang method:

- count the seconds from the time the lightning is sighted to when the clap of thunder is heard
- If the clap of thunder is heard within 30 seconds of the lightning flash, then all games are suspended for a minimum of 30 minutes.
- Games do not resume for at least 30 minutes after the last flash-to-bang of less than 30 seconds.

When games are suspended due to lightning, individuals should leave the game site and seek out a safe structure or location.

Updated October 2009