



Inclement Weather/Lightning Policy

The following plan will be in effect for all Morristown Parks and Recreation Youth and Adult athletic events, including practices and special events:

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUSPENSION OF ACTIVITY: Once it is determined that there is a danger of inclement weather/lightning/thunder, the Umpire or Field Supervisor will immediately request the removal of all players, coaches, and support staff from the playing field. The Field Supervisor will sound a siren to notify the park that there is currently a weather delay. The Umpire or Field Supervisor will then notify the Athletic Staff of the postponement of play. The Umpire or Field Supervisor will announce what the projected restart time of the game will be.

EVACUATION OF THE PLAYING FIELD AND STANDS: Immediately following the announcement of suspension of play, all players, coaches, officials, support personnel and spectators are to evacuate the facility to their vehicles. Participants and spectators should be advised that we DO NOT consider the bathrooms, dugouts, bleachers, playground equipment and/or areas under the picnic shelters within our facilities to be deemed a safe location in the case of lightning. All parties will be urged to evacuate the entire facility immediately and remain in a safe location until conditions improve unless otherwise notified by appropriate representatives.

RETURN TO PLAY: Play cannot be resumed until 30 minutes following the last lightning/thunder strike. The last lightning/thunder strike will be determined by either a detection system or visual confirmation. The 30 minute time frame will immediately start over with each additional lightning/thunder strike.

CANCELLATION OF GAMES: The Athletic staff will consult with the Umpires and Field Supervisor during the delay to determine if conditions have improved enough to return to play. If conditions have not improved or lightning/thunder continues, the Athletic Staff will instruct the Umpires and Field Supervisor to cancel the current game and all remaining games at that facility.

Coaches need to remain at the field until official word has been given to them on the status of the game. If a team leaves and a game is declared to be restarted, that team will forfeit.

CANCELLATION OF GAMES BEFORE 4:00 PM: A decision to cancel games is made by Athletic staff generally around 4:00 p.m. unless there has been heavy rain and it is clear earlier in the day that we cannot play.

CANCELLATION OF GAMES AFTER 4:00 PM: After 4:00 pm a decision will be made by Umpires at each field or the Field Supervisor at each park in conjunction with the Athletics staff. Any cancellation will be sent out in a text alert and also posted on social media (Facebook and Twitter). All coaches, parents and staff are encouraged to register for text alerts at www.citizentribune.com.