



## INCLEMENT WEATHER

Revised: 03/29/2022



Soccer is played in nearly all weather conditions. Because of our relatively short playing season and inability to make-up most games, we try to stay on schedule whenever possible. But safety is still *priority one*.

The challenge with decisions about inclement weather is that everyone has a different opinion as to what is a threatening weather condition.

League officials at Avery Park on Saturday mornings will contact the referees directly or sound an audible alarm to suspend play throughout the park during threatening weather conditions. Parents and players are expected to take cover, preferably in vehicles. Referees are responsible for making the decision to suspend play at Avery when league officials are not present and at Darree at all times.

However, in any situation, parents and coaches should not hesitate to remove players from any weather condition they feel is unsafe or inappropriate. No one will be penalized for taking any safety related actions.

### **DSL Lightning/Tornado Protocol**

The DSL has adopted policies from various organizations of which we are members: Ohio Soccer Association (OSA), Ohio South State Referee Committee (OSSRC) and established guidelines to follow regarding lightning:

Games (or practices) are to be stopped immediately and players/parents to take cover:

- If lightning of any sort is observed,
- If thunder is heard, even in the distance,
- If a lightning detector/predictor sounds an alarm
- If an audible tornado siren sounds an alarm

Return to the field and resume play (or practice) after:

- Waiting at least 30-minutes after the last observation of lightning of any sort, OR
- Waiting at least 30-minutes after the last sound of thunder, even in the distance, OR
- Waiting at least 30-minutes after the initial alarm from a lightning detector/predictor, unless an all-clear has sounded, OR
- Waiting at least 30-minutes after the alarm from an audible tornado siren has last been heard,
- Whichever occurs last!

In the case of an audible tornado siren only, play may resume in less than thirty minutes if the warning/watch which initiated the siren has been discontinued or expired.