

Edgewood Athletics Association

Severe Weather Policy

Policy Statement

The safety of all participants and observers of athletic events is extremely important. Therefore, the Edgewood Board of Directors has developed the following policy in order to ensure the safety of both athletes and observers in the case of severe weather during an athletic event.

Severe Weather

The Edgewood Board of Directors will monitor the weather daily prior to any competition. Up-to-date weather reports can be obtained via the internet to receive updates from the Doppler radar system. During games, a lightning detection device may be used to help determine the occurrence of and/ or distance of lightning in the area. The weather reports and systems will be monitored for storms that may develop during games.

When the lightning detection device has detected lightning, or thunder has been heard, the Rep on Duty in charge will monitor the distance on the lightning detection device. In the event the Rep on Duty feels the need to cancel events due to severe weather, he/ she has the right to suspend the event at that time. Once an event has been suspended, the President, VP's or Executive Board members will be contacted.

Any time the civil warning sirens are activated by the local authority, due to a Tornado Warning, or combination of Tornado Watch and Severe Thunderstorm Warning, all activities will be suspended until the end of the warning period.

Any parent who feels their family/ child are in danger of any severe weather will have the right to leave the field or event site to seek safe shelter without fear of penalty or repercussion.

If play is suspended due to severe weather, everyone (including observers) should seek shelter in their car or other safe structure. A "safe structure" is defined as "any building normally occupied or frequently used by people, i.e. a building with plumbing and/or electrical wiring that acts to electrically ground the structure." This structure does not include: baseball/softball dugouts or canopies/awnings/ tents.

Play will resume thirty minutes following the last flash of lightning or sound of thunder. Blue skies and absence of rain are not protection from lightning. Lightning can strike up to ten miles from the rain shaft, and it does not have to be raining for lightning to strike.

Notification Process

Notifications of severe weather will be announced over the Public Announcement system, located in the Edgewood Athletics clubhouse. Parents are strongly encouraged to visit the Edgewood Athletics web site home page for updates during or after the event has occurred.