

## **NYS Baseball Lightning Policy**

We encourage all coaches and parents to download the Weatherbug app for their smartphones, which does a good job of showing how far lightning is from your present location.

If there is lightning in the area (visible at all or within 6 miles on the Weatherbug app) the head coaches and umpires (if an umpired game) will meet to determine if the game can be played safely.

If only ONE of the coaches or umpires decides to suspend play, the game will be suspended for a minimum of 30 minutes. Do not try to finish the inning. Do not try to "wait it out." Leave the playing field immediately at that time and head for your cars.

Again - any ONE person has to decide that a game should be suspended. There is no majority vote.

Players, parents and umpires should move to their cars immediately. Do NOT stay in the dugout. Do NOT stay on the bleachers. Do NOT stand by the fences or a tree. Umpires should NOT sit in the umpire shed. These are all conductors and are not safe.

At the end of the 30 minute delay, coaches and umpires will meet and have an open and honest conversation to determine whether:

A. Conditions are safe (no lightning within 6 mile range on the Weatherbug app and no visible lightning) and the game can be resumed.

B. Conditions are still unsafe, but there is a possibility that the game could be played with a slightly longer delay. Everyone moves back to cars and another 30 minute wait ensues.

C. Conditions have not improved at all and the game should be suspended/rescheduled.