

SCUC ISD LIGHTNING GUIDELINES

While the probability of being struck by lightning is extremely low, the odds are significantly greater when a storm is in the area and proper safety precautions are not followed. Prevention and education are the keys to lightning safety. The athletic trainer, head coach and/or administrator of the home team will use Weather Sentry weather alert system to monitor conditions.

Weather Sentry -This is an internet based weather reporting system that utilizes GPS to record real time active lightning strikes nearby.

1. When a suspicious cloud/storm approaches or an alert is sent, the athletic trainer/ head coach, assistant coach or administrator will monitor Weather Sentry.
2. Once the cloud/storm reaches the 10 mile range, the field should be evacuated.

Evacuation Procedures

The students should be evacuated to a safe shelter. Staying away from tall or individual trees, lone objects (light or flag poles), metal objects, and open fields. Examples of safe shelter are a bus, dressing room, or other building. A dug out or awning are not considered safe shelter. Administrators should evacuate spectators from the stadium.

Resume Practice and Competition Once a game or practice has been suspended the storm should continue to be monitored. No contest or practice should be resumed until the lightning has moved out of the ten mile radius on the Weather Sentry system and an all clear has been sent.

Although the home team is responsible for each game or match, it should be noted that the athletic trainer, head coach and/or administrator is wholly responsible for the safety and well-being of adults and students in his/her charge. If no policy is in effect at the out of town site, it is recommended that the SCUC ISD guidelines be followed.