

Marion County High School Emergency Action Plan **for Lightning/ Inclement Weather**

If inclement weather is forecasted or sighted in the area, the on site certified athletic trainer (ATC) and appropriate administrators will use the WeatherBug cell phone app to monitor for lightning strikes.

WeatherBug will send a notification to the user's phone that will inform the user if lightning is within a 10 mile radius of the school.

Safe Shelters

The on site ATC shall have the authority to remove participants from athletic venues or activities when lightning may be a threat to student athlete or spectator safety. If lightning is in the advisory area, the on site ATC will notify and prepare the head coach, game officials, AD, etc. as to the status of the inclement weather and the need to take shelter.

Safe shelter for all outdoor activities will be as follows:

Soccer - Home Team: MCKA Gym, Away Team: MCKA Gym or Team Bus

Softball - Home Team: Press Box, Away Team: Press Box or Team Bus

Baseball - Home Team: Press Box/Roby Dome, Away Team: Roby Dome or Team Bus

Football/Track - Home Team: Locker Room, Away Team: Fitness Center Weight Room

Tennis: Home and Away Team: Fitness Center Weight Room or Roby Dome

If safe shelter is not within a reasonable distance than other safe areas include enclosed buildings and fully enclosed metal vehicles with windows up (no convertibles or golf carts).

Unsafe shelter areas should be avoided: water, open fields, dugouts, golf carts, metal objects (bleachers, fences, etc.), individual tall trees, and light poles. Those seeking shelter should also refrain from being the highest object in an open field.

Suspension and Resumption of Athletic Activities

As a minimum, the NFHS and the NATA strongly recommend that all individuals have left the athletic site when the distance of lightning is within a ten mile range. It will be deemed safe to resume activity 30 minutes after the last lightning strike or once the WeatherBug App shows no lightning in the area.