



# Thunder & Lightning Policy

The following is the proper procedure put forth by Komets FC in conjunction with Indiana Soccer Severe Weather Policy.

If lightning is witnessed or thunder is heard during a practice or game or if lightning is detected on the lightning detector within 10 miles of Pioneer Park (or other Komets FC facilities) all fields must be cleared, all participants must return to their vehicles, and await further updates from the Komets FC Staff and/or Coaches. There is no exception to this rule. Everyone including players, coaches, and spectators are to take immediate shelter. Games and practices will be delayed a minimum of 30 minutes from the last lightning strike or thunder heard. If lightning and/or thunder persists the activities for the day may be cancelled.

It has been determined that open style shelters such as under the awning of the concession stand or the open style shelter houses is not adequate protection from lightning. If shelter is being taken inside of the equipment garage the door must remain closed. Not only are the vehicles a safer location for sheltering but this will also allow Komets FC staff to quickly identify any players that may not have an adult with them to allow Komets FC Staff to take appropriate action to ensure every player is safe.

## Quick notes:

- ✚ Safety is the number one priority of Komets FC.
- ✚ Lightning and/or Thunder will delay activities a minimum of 30 minutes.
- ✚ The only appropriate place to take shelter at the park is in your vehicle.
- ✚ Clear sky, blue sky, and sun shining does not mean the area is safe to resume practice and games.
- ✚ All practice sessions will finish at their designated time unless field space and coaches' availability permit for a practice extension.
- ✚ Watch for communication via TeamSnap and/or Facebook for weather delays, updates on when it is appropriate to return to play, and to alert parents/guardians that their player may need to be picked up earlier than expected and make arrangements accordingly as needed.
- ✚ Children at activities without parental guidance will be cared for by Komets FC licensed staff (Board Members, Coach, Team Manager) until parent/guardian returns.
- ✚ Failure to comply with this policy may result in practice or game suspension.

## Thunder/Lightning Safety Informational References:

- US Youth Soccer - [http://www.usyouthsoccer.org/news/lightning\\_safety\\_outdoors](http://www.usyouthsoccer.org/news/lightning_safety_outdoors)
- National Weather Service - <https://www.weather.gov/safety/lightning-sports>