



Lightning Risk Policy

The risk of severe injury or death is very high in climates prone to thunderstorms. All coaches and team managers should be well versed with the risk to players, and actively postpone or suspend match commencement should the risk exceed acceptable levels.

Lightning is an immediate threat if it is within 16km of the playing area. Measure the time between a lightning flash and the accompanying thunder clap to determine the distance away from you, at 3 seconds per km. Use this table to assess the risk based on distance between you and the lightning.

Yellow condition	30-60 km (90-180 seconds) Threat may exist.	Keep alert
Amber condition	16-30 km (48-90 seconds) Threat is nearby	Prepare defences
Red alert	0-16 km (0-48 seconds) No one is permitted outdoors.	Seek immediate safe shelter

Considerations Should Lightning be Evident

- Assess the distance of lightning to the playing area
- Discuss with the referee prior to the match
- Agree to postpone the game by 30 minutes should the lightning encroach closer than 16km, and stay in an area of **Safe Shelter** during this time
- Do not recommence play until at least 30 minutes has elapsed since the last thunderclap indicating lightning within the 16km range.

Safe Shelter

Safe Evacuation Sites Include	Unsafe Areas
Fully enclosed all-metal vehicles	DO NOT SEEK SHELTER UNDER TREES!! Avoid proximity to all metal objects, such as power poles, lighting masts, fences and gates, light poles, metal machinery, electrical equipment, hauling machinery, and radio equipment. Avoid: rooftops, water, all open areas.
Permanent, substantial buildings	
Designated metal shelters especially designed	