

GRU League Lightning Policy

Based on the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports and the National Severe Storms Laboratory guidelines.

GRU uses the flash-to-bang method (amount of seconds between when a flash of lightning is seen and the clap of thunder is heard). A GRU board member or league coordinator will act as monitor. In the event that no league representative is there, the game must be halted. This is not a discretionary decision in which players or captains can decide to continue play. Such behavior endangers not only individuals, but also the GRU organization and its ability to have insurance.

When a flash-to-bang count of 30 seconds is reached (30/5 means lightning is six miles away), the fields **MUST BE CLEARED** by all players, regardless of points or time left in a game. Do not attempt to finish a point in progress. Players should seek shelter immediately (ideally, a building) and move away from open areas and high ground. Avoid proximity to metal objects (if in your car, do NOT touch the sides) or tall, free-standing objects such as light posts and trees. If no shelter is available, move to the lowest point possible and minimize your body's surface area by sitting in a crouched position on the balls of your feet. Do NOT lie flat. A vehicle is safe as long as it is not a convertible or golf cart—do NOT touch the sides of the vehicle while inside.

Play can **ONLY** resume 30 minutes after the last flash of lightning or sound of thunder. In the event that play cannot be resumed after 30 minutes, please apply the following guidelines:

- If play cannot resume that day without delaying other games, captains have the option, if they agree, to reschedule the game or let the scores stand.