



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

NSAA LIGHTNING & GOLF SAFETY INFORMATION

“Lightning is one of the most underrated severe weather hazards, yet ranks as one of the top weather killers in the United States. Lightning strikes in America kill about 58 people and injure hundreds of others each year.”

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - ‘NOAA Knows... Lightning’ December 2009

LIGHTNING HAZARDS

- ⚡ Lightning is a rapid discharge of electrical energy in the atmosphere.
- ⚡ Lightning often strikes the same place repeatedly if it is a tall, isolated object.
- ⚡ Most lightning victims are in open areas or near a tree.
- ⚡ Lightning is attracted to metal objects and tall objects.
- ⚡ Gazebos, rain/picnic shelters, dugouts & golf carts *do not* provide protection from lightning.
- ⚡ When lightning can be seen or thunder heard, the danger is already present.

LIGHTNING TIPS FOR THE GOLF COURSE

- 🚩 When lightning is seen and thunder is heard within 30 seconds of the flash, take cover immediately.
 - 🚩 Stay clear of tall and/or metal objects and higher terrain.
 - 🚩 Avoid proximity to sprinkler lines or metal fences.
 - 🚩 When outside during a thunderstorm if skin tingles and/or hair stands on end: *Assume a crouching position (like a baseball catcher) with feet together, head tucked down & heels off the ground. Cover the ears and close the eyes. DO NOT LIE DOWN!*
- Weather Channel Commando- ‘Outdoor Lightning Tips’ www.weather.com

USGA & NSAA LIGHTNING SUSPENSION OF PLAY

Suspension of Play—When Permitted

The player must not discontinue play unless:

- (i) the *Committee has suspended play;*
- (ii) *he/she believes there is danger from lightning;*

- 📣 Suspension of Play will be signaled by one prolonged airhorn note. When play is suspended get to the clubhouse as quickly as possible. Use of golf carts is allowed.
- 📣 Resumption of play will be signaled by two short airhorn notes, repeated.
- 📣 When play is suspended each competitor must mark his ball if still in play on a hole before lifting. During Suspensions of play all practice areas at the affected golf course are closed. Competitors should remain indoors until given permission to resume play.
- 📣 When play is resumed by the Committee, the competitor must replace the original or a substituted ball on the spot from which the original ball was lifted. If the original ball was not lifted during suspension of play, it may be lifted, cleaned and a substitute or the original ball replaced on the spot from which the original ball was lifted. If the marked ball or marker is moved during the suspension, the original spot must be estimated so contact a Rules Official for guidance.