

## WSA Field Closure Policy/Procedure

### **Highlights:**

- *Only Wilton Parks & Rec can close a Wilton field (the WSA does not close fields nor do its coaches and/or managers) due to weather.*
- *If fields are open, all training is ON as regularly scheduled (at regularly scheduled locations) and coaches and players should show up to train as scheduled regardless of the weather.*

### **Procedure for closing fields:**

- Wilton Parks & Rec will notify WSA by email of field closings.
- WSA Fields Director will notify all WSA members (including coaches) by email blast, hotline update & web site update. If there is no update, fields are open.

### **If fields are closed:**

- If fields are closed regularly scheduled training is cancelled.
- If there are alternative training arrangements in place for travel teams (WSF, Lilly, etc), or can be made in a timely manner, managers should communicate directly with their teams to confirm those alternate plans prior to scheduled training times.

### **Cancelling training if fields are open:**

- Training may be not be cancelled ahead of regularly scheduled time by the coach or manager for weather related reasons.
- Training may be cancelled by the coach **on the field at/during regularly scheduled training** (not ahead of time) for the following reasons:
  1. Thunder/lightening (see guidelines below).
  2. Unsafe playing conditions (as determined by the coach).

### Thunder/Lightening Policy (we follow CJSA guidelines):

Apply the 30-30 rule: When you see lightning, count the time until you hear thunder. If this time is 30 seconds or less, stop playing and seek proper shelter. If you can't see the lightning, just hearing the thunder is a good back-up rule. Wait 30 minutes or more after hearing the last thunder before leaving shelter. Coaches must protect the safety of all participants by stopping training/game activities quickly, so that participants may retire to a safer place before the lightning threat becomes significant. Remember, if you can hear the thunder, you are within range of lightning.