



Batavia Youth Baseball

Lightning and Thunder Policy

Lightning is one of the most consistent and underrated causes of weather-related deaths or injury in the United States. Most lightning-related injuries occur between the months of May and September and between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

CRITERIA FOR SUSPENDING PLAY

Whenever thunder is heard or lightning is seen, there is a risk present and play should suspend. The field should be immediately evacuated.

EVACUATION PLAN

Safe Areas: The safest structure is any fully enclosed building frequently used by people. Since a safe structure will usually not be available during baseball practices / games, players, families, coaches and spectators should go to a vehicle with a hard metal roof. Roll up the windows and do not touch the sides of the vehicle. If no safe structure or vehicle is available find a thick grove of small trees surrounded by taller trees or a dry ditch. Assume a crouched position on the ground with only the balls of your feet touching the ground. Wrap your arms around your knees and lower your head. Minimize contact to the ground since lightning often travels through the ground.

Avoid: Fences, dugouts, tall trees or objects like light poles or flagpoles, individual trees, standing pools of water, and open fields. Also avoid being the highest object on the field. Do not take shelter under a single tall tree. Avoid bathrooms and using the land-line telephone.

RESUMING ACTIVITY

Everyone should wait at least 30 minutes after the last flash of lightning or sound of thunder before returning to the field.