Lightning Policy

The responsibility for the suspension of an intercollegiate athletic contest, or practice, due to the presence of lightning, is placed on the host athletic trainer and/or host administration in conjunction with officials (if game related). The safety and well-being of the student-athletes must be the primary concern of any decision.

Region XIX member colleges will utilize **WeatherBug** as their in-game source for lightning detection.

Region XIX will utilize the following protocol for determining whether to “call” or delay a contest:

*The alert ring is a 30-mile radius from your competition site and the warning ring is an 8-mile radius from your site.* Once lightning enters the alert ring, you should begin preparations to protect the student-athletes and spectators and inform the officials. Once lightning enters the **warning ring**, you must stop competition and move student-athletes and spectators to safe areas. You may not begin any activity until 30 minutes have passed since the last lightning strike inside the warning ring.

Each institution must designate the nearest safe shelter for evacuation of teams and spectators. Visiting teams should be informed of the location of the nearest shelter upon arrival at the competition site.

Effective April 18, 2019