

MBSC - Coach's Emergency Guidelines at the Ball Park

Severe Weather

As a matter of Safety and Precaution, all activities must come to a stop if thunder is heard or lightning is seen during a practice or game (thunder far off in the distance, moving away excluded- no immediate threat).

- **Seek Safety:** All players, coaches, officials, and spectators are to return to their cars.
 - When a fully enclosed building is available, staff members may remain inside the building until the "All Clear" is given (*see below).
 - Some may have arrived on foot or bike and do not have a car to go to. Help these people seek safe shelter when possible.
- **Monitoring Weather:** It is common for wireless phones to have access to real-time weather radar and warnings. You are encouraged to monitor this kind of information to verify any severe weather warnings (tornado warning/watch, fire storm alert, hail) or even the persistence of continued rain.
- ***All Clear:** 30 minutes after the last sound of thunder or sight of lightning, play may resume.
 - **Multi-Field Complexes:** Staff must have a "*Unanimous Agreement to Continue*" in order to resume play relative to severe weather in the area. A single coach cannot decide to continue play while others are following protocol to stop play for severe weather. Once all coaches agree, an "ALL CLEAR" may be given. Work together.
- **Weather Delay:** Before deciding to continue play, determine if there is enough time left to complete the game or practice. If conditions persist, practices and games will be cancelled. MBSC or senior staff (this may be you) will determine if play can continue. Umpires discretion should be taken into consideration.
 - **Field Conditions:** Use discretion before continuing play when the field is wet. Player safety is your first concern. Also consider what damage may occur to the field if not dry enough to play on. Diamond dry can be used to improve a few small areas on the field.
- **Weather Damage Incident:** Your personal safety and that of your team is your first priority. Damaged buildings and structures can pose life threatening hazards. Consider how to keep people away from any hazards you observe or are made aware of. Seek assistance from staff or MBSC commission member.
- Keep in mind the rare events of extreme cold or heat when deciding to play or reschedule.

Injury/Illness

- **Take Action:** Be prepared to respond to a sudden injury or illness.
 - Call 911 when appropriate.
 - First Aid kits are issued to coaches and some on-site facilities also have a First Aid Kit available (FFMP).
 - An AED may be available at FFMP.
- **Document the incident:** In the event of a sudden injury/ illness, take time to note the name of the person involved, the day and time, describe any details you may have including the names of at least a few witnesses when possible. Share this with your league director or an MBSC commission member as soon as you are able. An incident form is available at www.mbscwi.com or copies may be found in concession stand.

Violence or Threat of same

- **Examples:** Domestic Dispute, Irate Coach or Parent, Gang activity, Mental illness or episode.
- Consider your personal safety and that of your players and all others in the area.
- Getting directly involved to curb violence can have legal ramifications to you personally and the MBSC. Use your best judgment to determine if intervening or calling 911 is your best course of action.
- **Document the Incident:** Note date, time, description of incident, and any details to help authorities' follow-up if necessary. Include names of witnesses.
- Report incident to staff or MBSC commission member.