

KSHSAA GUIDELINES FOR LIGHTNING SAFETY

1. WHEN THUNDER IS HEARD OR CLOUD-TO-GROUND LIGHTNING IS SEEN, THE LEADING EDGE OF THE THUNDERSTORM IS CLOSE ENOUGH TO POSE A LIGHTNING RISK. SUSPEND PLAY AND TAKE SHELTER IMMEDIATELY.

- 2. ONCE PLAY HAS BEEN SUSPENDED, WAIT AT LEAST 30 MINUTES FROM THE LAST SOUND OF THUNDER OR LIGHTNING STRIKE WITNESSED BEFORE RESUMING THE ACTIVITY.
- **3.** ANY SUBSEQUENT THUNDER OR LIGHTNING STRIKE DURING THE 30 MINUTE WAITING PERIOD RESETS THE CLOCK, AND A NEW 30 MINUTE WAITING PERIOD BEGINS.

ANYTIME LIGHTNING CAN BE SEEN OR THUNDER HEARD, RISK IS PRESENT!

SCHOOL CONSIDERATIONS:

- 1. A documented plan for handling severe weather situations such as lightning should be in place.
- 2. The persons responsible for monitoring weather activity and determining when to suspend practice or competition should be identified.
 - * Ideally this person will **NOT** be a coach or an official involved in the game or practice, as they may to too involved with their other duties to monitor the weather.
- 3. There are many different methods of monitoring the weather. The internet and mobile device weather applications are one option. Weather radios are available through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Weather Service. The Weather Channel can also provide good information on storm movement and strength. Each school will need to determine their most effective means of monitoring the weather. *National Weather Service contact information, areas of coverage, and weather radio frequencies are*

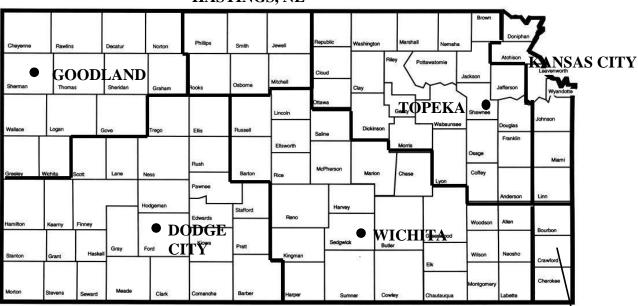
National Weather Service contact information, areas of coverage, and weather radio frequencies are provided on the back of this document.

- 4. All personnel, athletes, and spectators should be clearly informed in advance of available safe structures or shelters in the event of severe weather.
- 5. The most ideal safe structure is a fully enclosed building with plumbing, electrical wiring, and telephone service which all aid in grounding the structure.
- 6. Fully enclosed automobiles with metal roofs, including school buses, provide adequate shelter as well.
- 7. Avoid using bathrooms or showers as shelter areas as the plumbing pipelines provide a path for the lightning to enter the structure. Also avoid using corded telephones or headsets during a thunderstorm, and avoid standing near utilities.
- 8. If communication is necessary during the storm, cellular and cordless phones are considered reasonably safe.

National Federation of State High School Associations. NFHS Guidelines on Handling Practices and Contests During Lightning and Thunder Disturbances. www.nfhs.org/SportsMed.aspx.



SEVERE WEATHER CONTACT INFORMATION NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE GENERAL REGIONS OF COVERAGE



HASTINGS, NE

REGION

Goodland Hastings, NE Dodge City Kansas City, MO Springfield, MO Topeka Wichita PHONE 785.899.7119 402.462.4287 620.227.3311 816.540.6021 417.869.4491 785.234.2592 316.942.3102

SPRINGFIELD, MO

WEBSITE

www.crh.noaa.gov/gld www.crh.noaa.gov/gid www.crh.noaa.gov/ddc www.crh.noaa.gov/eax www.crh.noaa.gov/sgf www.crh.noaa.gov/top www.crh.noaa.gov/top

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE WEATHER RADIO FREQUENCIES

| NWR TRANSMITTER | FREQ. | CALL SIGN | NWR TRANSMITTER | FREQ. | CALL SIGN |
|-----------------------|---------|-----------|------------------|---------|-----------|
| Abilene | 162.525 | WXL71 | Joplin, MO | 162.425 | WXJ61 |
| Bartlesville, OK | 162.425 | WNG644 | Kansas City, MO | 162.550 | KID77 |
| Beaumont | 162.500 | WWH22 | Kirwin | 162.500 | KWN59 |
| Belvidere | 162.525 | WNG534 | Lenora | 162.425 | WWF87 |
| Blue Rapids | 162.425 | KZZ67 | Meade | 162.425 | WNG555 |
| Cambridge, NE | 162.525 | KEC39 | Neosho, MO | 162.450 | KJY82 |
| Chanute | 162.400 | WXK95 | Parker | 162.525 | WZ2512 |
| Concordia | 162.550 | WXK94 | Ponca City, OK | 162.450 | WWF42 |
| Dighton | 162.525 | WNG535 | Saint Joseph, MO | 162.400 | KEC77 |
| Dodge City | 162.475 | WXK93 | Sharon | 162.400 | WZ2511 |
| El Dorado Springs, MO | 162.475 | KZZ30 | Shubert, NE | 162.500 | KWN41 |
| Ellsworth | 162.400 | WXK92 | Topeka | 162.475 | WXK91 |
| Gem | 162.400 | WXK96 | Tribune | 162.550 | WWG22 |
| Great Bend | 162.500 | KPS511 | Ulysses | 162.450 | WXN81 |
| Halls Summit | 162.425 | KGG98 | Wichita | 162.550 | KEC59 |
| Hays | 162.450 | WXM35 | Wray, CO | 162.475 | WXM87 |