CSA LIGHTNING POLICY

MADE EASY

Important Facts to Note:

· A single bolt of lightning can carry **up to 100 million volts** of electricity.
· April to October have the highest range of lightning, while July has the highest number of cloud-to ground lightning flashes on average.
· Metallic objects, such as soccer goalposts, are **highly conductive materials** and can effectively transmit electrical currents.
· Thunder is created by a lightning strike heating the air around to extreme temperatures, leading to quick expansion and contraction, creating the crack and continual rumble auditorily.

Procedure when Lightning is Present:

1. When thunder is heard, **the game is stopped** or the start of the game is suspended if not yet begun.

2. **All officials, players, fans should leave the vicinity of the field to a safe area** (ex. fully enclosed buildings, vehicle, etc). Remaining on the field or any outdoor area not only puts a safety risk on those present but creates liability issues if an incident occurs.

3. The game will be suspended for **minimum 30 minutes** from the last auditory thunder.

4. If thunder occurs more than once, the 30-minute delay will **restart from the beginning** after each occurrence.

5. Players may return to the field and the game started or restarted **once the 30 minutes have fully expired and no additional thunder is heard.**
   a. Competitions may have written policy for timelines or when games will be abandoned due to lengthy delays.

ADDITIONAL Lightning may be seen in the far distance, even without thunder being heard. This should be closely monitored due to lightning strikes having the ability to move long distances quickly. Be alert and ready to stop the game if thunder is heard, or lightning strikes in the imminent area leading to unsafe conditions.

ALBERTA SOCCER