

Dublin Youth Athletics

Lightning Policy



DYA has adopted policies from various organizations and established guidelines to follow regarding lightning:

If lightning is seen (during daylight), thunder is heard, or the lightning prediction system is triggered, activities are immediately suspended and all participants/families should seek shelter.

Avery Park, Darree Fields, Earlington Park and Emerald Fields are equipped with a **lightning prediction system** which measures and analyzes the electrostatic field in the atmosphere and ground to predict the risk of a possible lightning strike.

When the system has predicted a possible lightning strike, the system will emit a loud 15-second horn and an amber light atop park buildings will begin flashing.

When conditions are all clear, the lightning prediction system will sound three consecutive horns and the amber light will stop flashing.

Teams may return to the field and resume activities after waiting 30 minutes following the last observation of lightning/thunder or if the all-clear has sounded from the lightning prediction system (if a lightning prediction system is on site).

At Avery Park diamonds #5-9, teams can shelter in dugouts. Fans should shelter in vehicles. At all other facilities, everyone should take shelter in vehicles. Coaches must ensure teams are sheltered during the delay and not on the field practicing, running around, etc.

For recreational league games interrupted by weather, teams may remain at the park for up to 30 minutes to wait for the all-clear signal. If the all-clear is not sounded within 30 minutes, delayed games are done for the day. For baseball/softball, games that are interrupted and then resumed will have 20 minutes added to the time limit. Any games that have a second lightning delay are done for the day.

At night, under certain atmospheric conditions, lighting flashes may be seen from distant storms. If no thunder can be heard and the flashes are low on the horizon, the storm may not pose a threat. In these cases, it may be safe to continue an event. Independently verified lightning detection information would help eliminate any uncertainty.