

OKLAHOMA SECONDARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
P. O. Box 14590, Oklahoma City, OK 73113
(405) 840-1116 FAX (405) 840-9559

TO: Class 5A-6A Principals/Soccer Coaches

FROM: Todd Goolsby, Assistant

RE: 2019 Soccer Play-Off Series Information

DATE: April 23, 2019

Below you will find an OSSAA play-off bracket and other pertinent information for the soccer play-offs.

The financial form and play-off tickets will be sent to the host school for each round of the play-offs. You are to return the financial form along with the unused tickets after each play-off game you host. Admission will be \$7.00 for adults and students.

Match officials from the OSSAA certified official's list shall be selected and contracted by the two schools involved in all first and second rounds of the play-offs. The OSSAA will assign officials for the semi-final and final rounds. A list of certified officials can be found on the OSSAA website at www.ossaa.com. Click on the Officials link, then scroll down to List of Eligible Officials. The access code has been sent to your high school principal. THERE MUST BE MUTUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS BEFORE OFFICIALS ARE ASSIGNED. These officials will be paid by the game manager. Officials should be selected from within a reasonable distance. The officials shall be paid \$55.00 for the center official and \$40.00 for each line judge, plus an amount equal to their distance from the site as per the per diem chart (chart is below). If officials ride together, only the driver shall be paid the per diem amount. A three-person officials' crew will be used in all play-off matches. **In the first, second and third rounds there should be mutual agreement between competing teams concerning the match officials. The host school will contact the visiting school for input prior to hiring officials. If an official has to be replaced after mutual agreement has been reached, the host team should notify the visiting team.**

The host school should provide security for officials as they enter and leave the soccer match.

All other expenses incurred in handling the play-off matches shall be borne by the team designated as the home team. The home team shall have all concession rights. The home school shall furnish a new ball or an acceptable used ball for the match. After the fee for the match officials has been taken out, the host school will be reimbursed the following amount: Class 6A \$300 per game, Class 5A \$250 per game and Class 4A \$200 per game. Any remaining proceeds will be sent to the OSSAA.

Winners of each match should immediately post scores on ossaarankings.com.

The following criteria will be used to determine the home field in the play-off series:

1. The first round of the play-offs shall be played on the home field of the district winners and runners up on **April 30, 2019**.
2. The second round of the play-offs shall be played on **May 3, 2019**. The home field for all second round games shall be played on the home field of the district winner providing the district winner advances. In the event that they do not advance, the team that did not host a game in the first round shall have the home field unless neither team had a home game in the first round, then the team on the even-numbered line of the respective championship bracket in the even-numbered calendar years will host and the teams on the odd-numbered lines of the respective championship bracket in the odd-numbered calendar years will host.
3. The semi-final round shall be played **May 7, 2019**. Total the number of home play-off matches each team has played. If one team has played more matches at home than the other team, the home team shall be the team with the least number of home matches.

If both teams have played the same number of home matches, the home field shall be determined by the team which did not host a home match in the immediate preceding round.

If both teams have played the same number of home matches and in the event both teams hosted or did not host a match in the immediate preceding round, the home field shall be determined by the team representing the odd-numbered lines on the play-off series bracket in the odd-numbered calendar years and the even-numbered lines in the even-numbered calendar years.

The visiting team shall wear white jerseys and white socks.

By mutual agreement between schools, either home field or a neutral field may be selected for the play-off site.

A representative of the home school shall serve as the play-off match manager. If the match is to be played on a neutral field, a school official shall be mutually agreed upon to serve as match manager. The match manager shall be responsible for all match arrangements.

In the playoffs, unless mutually agreed upon by the participating schools, game times shall be 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm for sites hosting two playoff games, and 7:00 pm for sites hosting one game.

Schools that are hosting both a girls game and a boys game shall play the girls game first throughout the play-offs.

In the State Tournament, no contest may be started or (resumed) after 3 hours from the original scheduled start time. (Unless mutually agreed upon prior to the game.) For example, a game is scheduled to start at 6:00 p.m. if interrupted and not resumed by 9:00 p.m. it shall be considered a complete game if 60 minutes have been played. If less than 60 minutes have been played it shall be suspended for that day. (This creates a 3 hour window from the start of the scheduled kick-off.)

In the State Tournament games, all matches will not be considered complete until at least 60 minutes have been played.

Teams may suit up a maximum of 22 squad members for the play-off series.

The OSSAA may adjust play-off dates due to head coaching conflicts or any other unforeseen circumstance.

Schools should notify the OSSAA in advance of the play-offs of potential prom or end-of-school conflicts. The OSSAA will cooperate with all the member schools to aid in avoiding end-of-school conflicts.

No plaques, trophies, or medals will be awarded in the first two rounds of play-offs. Team plaques will be awarded to the quarter-final round winners and the semi-final round winners. Plaques will be mailed to the winning schools.

The overtime procedure for all playoff games is located on pages SC7 of the 2018-2019 OSSAA soccer manual.

Anytime during a match when the score differential reaches ten, the match will be over.

Teams and fans shall be placed on opposite sides of the playing field unless facilities would prohibit it.

Only the team, coaches, trainers, managers, school personnel, etc., shall be permitted on the sideline during a contest.

The OSSAA recommends that the host school provide ball shaggers in all play-off matches to eliminate wasted time.

Noise makers are allowed at outdoor activities unless they interrupt the normal game/contest procedure of announcers, bands, cheer squads, drill teams or any other game/contest related activities. The game officials have the authority to stop the use of any noisemakers or disruptions that interrupt the normal game/contest procedures. This rule applies to both regular and post-season games or contests.

Academic Achievement Application form is to be faxed or emailed by April 30, 2019

The 2019 State Championships will be played at University of Tulsa, Hurricane Soccer Stadium.

Friday or Saturday, May 10-11, 2019
Times TBA

In the event two west side teams meet in the finals, the games will be played at Taft Stadium in Oklahoma City. If you have questions, please call.

Note: Principals, please copy and give this information to your soccer coach and play-off manager.

Travel by Car: *(Do not claim mileage expense if you are driving a school vehicle)*

ROUND TRIP TRAVEL

MILES CLAIMED	AMOUNT PAID
0 – 600 miles	\$0.35/mile
over 600 miles	\$0.25/mile
above scale is round trip	

2019 OSSAA BOYS CLASS 6A SOCCER



SEMI FINAL GAME TIMES ARE SET BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS, CHECK WITH THE HOST SCHOOL TO VERIFY THE GAME TIMES

2019 OSSAA GIRLS CLASS 6A SOCCER



SEMI FINAL GAME TIMES ARE SET BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS, CHECK WITH THE HOST SCHOOL TO VERIFY THE GAME TIMES

Inclement Weather and Outside Activities

In the event of possible inclement weather during an outside activity, best practice is to have an agreed procedure in place to determine when play should be interrupted. The following information is offered to assist in the decision making process but in no way should be taken as an OSSAA or NFHS mandated rule or guideline for interruption of play. Sole authority for starting the contest rests with the home team administration and sole authority for play interruption after the contest begins rests with the lead official, however; best practice is that these decisions involving inclement weather and interruption of play are a collaborative effort made by administration from both schools and the officials assigned to the contest.

Prior to the Beginning of the Contest

- Identify the decision makers on site: administrators from each school and game officials.
- Identify shelters in case evacuation of game facility is needed.
- Identify resources available: such as lightening detectors and radar access.
- Discuss non-acceptable limits: distances for lightening, flashes vs thunder.
- Identify liaison to the official from the home administration.

For more detailed information, refer to the NFHS Sports Medicine Committee's "Guidelines for Lightening Safety" a link on the Home page of the OSSAA website.

Terminating a Contest Due to Inclement Weather

Termination and/or rescheduling of the contest must be agreed by both schools. District contests may have specific re-scheduling provisions in OSSAA policy; such as, football district games must be completed by the following Monday and baseball/softball/soccer district contests have a district play completion date in the OSSAA manual.



NFHS GUIDELINES ON HANDLING CONTESTS DURING LIGHTNING DISTURBANCES

**National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS)
Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC)**

The purpose of these guidelines is to provide a default policy to those responsible for making decisions concerning the suspension and restarting of contests based on the presence of lightning. The preferred sources from which to request such a policy for your facility would include your state high school association and the nearest office of the National Weather Service.

Proactive Planning

1. Assign staff to monitor local weather conditions before and during events.
2. Develop an evacuation plan, including identification of appropriate nearby shelters.
3. Develop criteria for suspension and resumption of play:
 - a. When thunder is heard, or a cloud-to-ground lightning bolt is seen, the thunderstorm is close enough to strike your location with lightning. Suspend play and take shelter immediately.
 - b. Thirty-minute rule. Once play has been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard or flash of lightning is witnessed prior to resuming play.
 - c. Any subsequent thunder or lightning after the beginning of the 30 minute count, reset the clock and another 30 minute count should begin.
4. Hold periodic reviews for appropriate personnel.

For more detailed information, refer to the "Guidelines for Lightning Safety" section contained in the NFHS Sports Medicine Handbook.

Reviewed and Approved in October 2010

SPORTS MEDICINE

Handbook



**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF
STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS**

PO Box 690

Indianapolis, Indiana 46206

Phone: 317-972-6900, Fax: 317.822.5700

www.nfhs.org

Fourth Edition

May 2011

Updates and final documents prepared for the NFHS by: NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee

NFHS Staff Liaison: Bob Colgate, Assistant Director

NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Chair/Editor: Michael C. Koester, M.D., ATC

NFHS is a registered trademark of the National Federation of State High School Associations and use in any manner is prohibited without prior approval of the NFHS.

Member state associations and schools in those associations may reproduce information in this publication for their own use, provided the NFHS copyright is included in the material. The Preparticipation Physical Evaluation Chapter may not be reproduced.

Copyright 2011, by National Federation of State High School Associations.
Printed in the United States of America.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Lightning Safety

By Kevin D. Walter, M.D., FAAP

- Education and prevention are the keys to lightning safety.
- Practice and competitions should be immediately suspended as soon as lightning is seen or thunder is heard.
- All athletes and spectators should seek safe shelter during severe weather.
- Play should not resume for at least 30 minutes after the last lightning strike or thunderclap.

SIGNIFICANCE

Lightning is one of the most consistent causes of weather-related deaths and injury in the U.S. According to the National Severe Storms Laboratory, there are approximately 100 lightning-related deaths and over 1000 injuries yearly.

BACKGROUND

Lightning-related injuries mainly occur between May and September. Most lightning-related casualties happen between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m., with the majority of those occurring between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Therefore, the risk of lightning-related injury appears to be highest during some of the most active periods for outdoor athletic activities. The average distance between successive lightning flashes is about two to three miles, which means that **risk is present WHENEVER lightning can be seen or thunder can be heard.**

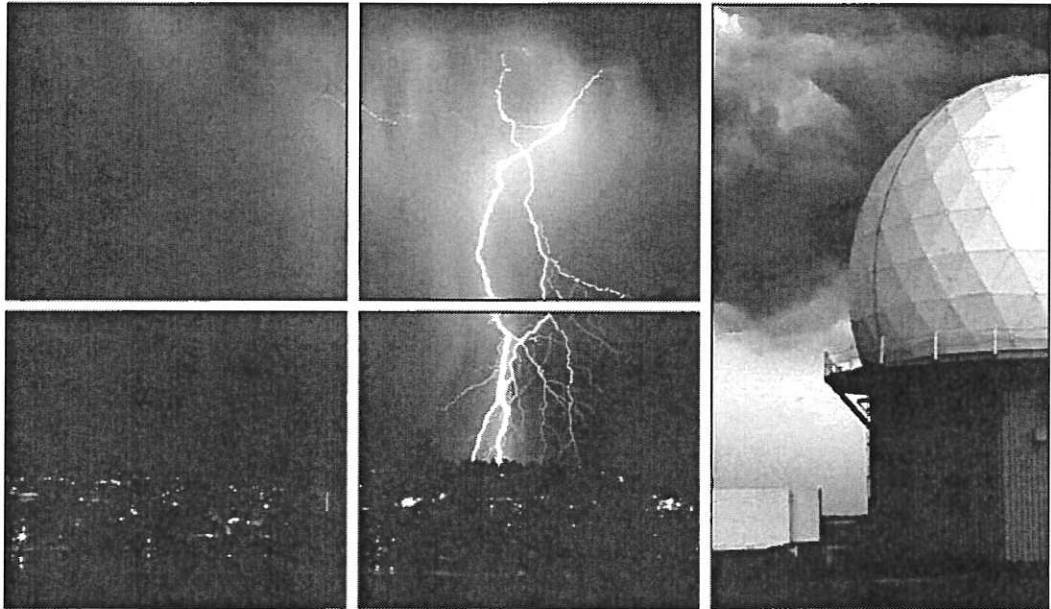
Game administrators, officials and the sports medicine staff can be aware of adverse weather by following local forecasts and by monitoring the National Weather Service (NWS). The NWS issues storm watches and warnings during times of severe weather. A watch means that the conditions are favorable for severe weather to develop, while a warning indicates severe weather has been reported and appropriate precautions should be taken. It must be remembered that any thunderstorm poses a risk of injury, even if not deemed "severe" by the NWS.

MANAGEMENT

As soon as lightning is seen or thunder is heard, practice and competition should be suspended immediately. A **Lightning Safety Plan** should be a component of the Emergency Action Plan (see Emergency Action Plan chapter) and should be in place for every sport and facility. This plan should contain instructions for participants and spectators, designation of safe shelters, and designation of warning and all clear signals. This plan must be disseminated to the proper personnel and reviewed and practiced on a routine basis.

There should also be a systematic plan for monitoring weather. The weather forecast should be closely followed throughout the day prior to any practice or competition. A weather radio is helpful in providing current information. Weather can also be monitored over the Internet or through the use of lightning strike monitors. However, such

technology should never be a substitute for directly hearing or seeing dangerous weather. There should also be one person designated to monitor threatening weather and make decisions regarding participation. However, if anyone hears thunder or sees a lightning strike, appropriate action should begin.



If lightning is imminent or a thunderstorm is approaching, all personnel, athletes and spectators should be evacuated to safe structures. A list of the closest safe structures should be announced and displayed on placards at all venues. The ideal safe structure is a fully enclosed building with plumbing, telephone and electrical service, which aid in grounding the structure. A fully enclosed automobile or school bus with all of the windows rolled up is a reasonable shelter, although care must be taken to avoid contact with any metal inside the vehicle. The hard metal frame and roof, not the rubber tires, dissipate the current around the vehicle. Golf carts and convertible cars are not safe shelters. Dugouts and golf shelters are not safe shelters and are not grounded for the effects of lightning.

Avoid the use of shower facilities for shelter and do not use showers or plumbing during a thunderstorm as the electrical current from lightning can enter the building through plumbing connections. It is also unsafe to stand near utilities or use a landline telephone during a thunderstorm because of the risk of the current traveling through the lines. Cellular and cordless telephones are considered to be safe.

If a suitable safe shelter is not available, it is best to avoid tall objects (trees, light poles, etc) that allow lightning an easy path to the ground. It is important to avoid being the tallest object. In an open field, people should crouch with their legs together, the weight on the balls of their feet, arms wrapped around their knees, and head down with their ears covered. The person should minimize contact with the ground and should NOT lie flat.

People who have been struck by lightning do not carry an electric charge. Therefore, it is safe to perform CPR, if needed. Ideally, injured persons are moved into a safe shelter. Lightning-strike victims who show signs of cardiac or respiratory arrest need emergency help.

RETURN TO PLAYING FIELD

The NFHS recommends following the 30-minute rule when making return-to-play decisions. After the last flash of lightning is witnessed or the last thunderclap is heard, it is recommended to wait at least 30 minutes before resuming practice or competition. Given the average rate of thunderstorm travel, the storm should move 10 to 12 miles away from the area, reducing the risk of local lightning strike. **Any subsequent lightning strike or thunder after the beginning of the 30-minute count should reset the clock and another count should begin.**

PREVENTION

In order to prevent lightning-related injuries, it is important to formulate and implement a Lightning Safety Plan and provide adequate education for all athletes and personnel. The plan needs to be reviewed and practiced periodically. The plan also must include a systematic approach for monitoring local weather activity and recognizing signs of nearby danger (thunder and lightning strikes). Criteria for suspension and resumption of activity should be clear. Appropriate safe shelters for each athletic venue should be clearly identified.

References

- Bennett BL. A model lightning safety policy for athletics. *Journal of Athletic Training* 1997;32:251-253.
- Cooper MA, et al. Lightning injuries. In: Auerbach PS, ed. *Management of Wilderness and Environmental Emergencies*. 5th ed. C.V. Mosby, 2007:68-108.
- Holle R, Lopez R. Lightning-impacts and safety. *WMO Bulletin* 1998;47:148-155.
- National Collegiate Athletic Association. Guideline 1d: Lightning safety. 2010-11 *Sports Medicine Handbook* (21st edition).

Resources

www.lightningsafety.com
www.weather.com
www.weather.gov