



WESTSIDE LITTLE LEAGUE

LIGHTNING POLICY

1. Purpose and Authority

This policy governs suspension and resumption of all WSLI activities at Hiley, Higginbotham, and OmniView due to lightning. Perry Weather is the sole source of lightning information for WSLI; no other app, radar, or visual/audible observation may override, delay, or shorten a Perry Weather alert or countdown.

2. Alert Recipients

WSLI subscribes to Perry Weather for lightning alerts. The following receive all alerts: Board members, Division Commissioners, Concessions Managers, and Umpire Coordinators.

3. Alert Tiers and Required Actions

Perry Weather Alert	Required Action
Lightning 9–15 miles	Closely monitor. Play continues; prepare for a possible stoppage.
Lightning within 8 miles	Clear the park. Play stops immediately.

4. Clear-the-Park Procedure (within 8 miles)

- Umpires stop play immediately upon notification.
- All players, coaches, and spectators move to their vehicles. Dugouts, bleachers, pavilions, and trees are not shelter.
- Umpires return to the umpire locker room.
- Concessions staff remain inside the concession stand.
- Coaches account for every player and confirm each has reached a vehicle or a parent/guardian.

5. Countdown and Resumption

- When lightning is detected within 8 miles, Perry Weather starts a 30-minute countdown. The countdown resets on any subsequent strike within 8 miles and is displayed in real time on the league website.
- Play resumes only after the countdown expires and Perry Weather issues an all-clear. Alert Recipients relay the all-clear to coaches. Once the website shows no lightning within 8 miles in the past 30 minutes, coaches, players, and parents may exit their vehicles and return to the fields.
- If a second strike resets the countdown, the President or designated Board Member will consult Perry Weather's meteorologists on whether play can reasonably be expected to resume that day.
- The President or designated Board Member will decide, as soon as reasonably practical, whether to continue waiting or reschedule, and will notify the Board, Concessions Manager, Umpire Coordinator, and Division Commissioners.
- Commissioners will communicate decisions as soon as possible. Coaches should keep their teams in their vehicles until a decision is made. Teams failing to field a team when play resumes are subject to forfeit.
- If games are rescheduled, make-up details will be communicated as soon as possible.