

Franklin ISD “The Ranch” Severe Weather Best Practice

The Franklin Ranch Community Park recognizes the importance of safe practices during outdoor activities as they relate to weather hazards. The following “Best Practice” recommendations have been adopted by the FISD as guidelines for decision-making related to outdoor activities during hazardous weather conditions. The safety of the park guests is of utmost importance to us!

All participants and guests of “The Ranch” facilities are advised to be aware of developing or approaching weather hazards before arriving and during all outdoor activities. League officials, event managers and sports officials (referees and umpires) are responsible for monitoring all available resources concerning weather hazards and determining suspension or continuation of outdoor activities. Coaches and parents are responsible for monitoring weather developments during activities where no official, referee, or umpire is present, and for determining suspension or continuation of outdoor activities.

Recommended Resources Include:

- **Local Radar** – Information can be obtained from websites containing local satellite information such as intellicast.com, weather.com, or KBTX.com. (KBTX.com has the most current radar.)
- **KBTX-TV** – KBTX frequently has a meteorologist on-duty and will go live with weather reports if conditions warrant. They also have live Doppler radar.
- **Observation** – All persons are advised to use sight and sound when monitoring possible weather hazards.
- **NOAA Weather Radio** – Continuous broadcasts on weather radio, with updated weather information are available through NOAA Weather Radio, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Recommended Actions Include:

- At the first sound of thunder and /or sight of lightning, **suspend activities and notify participants to seek shelter in the safest location available** for a minimum of fifteen minutes. With each audio/visual warning, start a new fifteen minute count.
- An enclosed substantial building or metal vehicle with the windows rolled up is suggested as safest shelter.
- Avoid metal fences, dug outs, water, light poles, trees, hills, and electrical equipment
- The presence of excessively high winds, heavy rain, hail, and/or funnel clouds should also be cause for suspension of play and evacuation to a safe shelter.
- **If you continue your outdoor activities when severe weather approaches you do so at YOUR OWN RISK.**

Reassess the Hazard/Utilize Available Resources

- When thunder has not been heard and lightning has not been seen for fifteen minutes, activities may then be resumed, at your own risk.
- When weather conditions change, all available resources should be consulted again to aid in the determination of resuming activities.