



## Haddam-Killingworth Soccer Club Weather Policy

### Severe Storms

If a severe storm approaches the playing area, the safety of the players is the number one priority of coaches and referees, and may require that the game/practice be suspended while shelter is sought. In the event the game/practice is suspended, ALL participants MUST clear the field immediately and move into their cars or other permanent shelter.

### Thunder and Lightning

Lightning can strike up to 10 miles outside of a thunderstorm, literally a bolt from the blue. The danger from lightning can persist for 20-30 minutes or more after a thunderstorm has passed. The National Weather Service does advise that if you see a lightning bolt and hear the thunder in 30 seconds or less, you seek shelter and wait 30 minutes before resuming outdoor activity.

Referees and Coaches should adhere to the following:

- If lightning is within five miles, with or without hearing thunder, the game(s) or practice(s) should be suspended and shelter sought. A simple rule: **If you can see it or hear it, clear it!**
- **Games should not be restarted for at least 30 minutes** after the last lightning strike is seen or roll of thunder is heard.

### Cold Weather

For fall play, cold becomes a factor. Players should be allowed to dress in appropriate clothing. Field conditions will be affected by freezing rain, sleet and snow. Below is some examples of allowable additional clothing:

- Long sleeves (Layered beneath uniform) - No hooded sweatshirts allowed
- Long pants/tights (Layered beneath uniform)
- Additional socks (Layered beneath uniform)
- Gloves
- Stocking caps without straps