# GGS - WEATHER POLICY

**WEATHER POLICY:** A GGS Soccer Academy staff member will monitor the weather on-site. If weather patterns create a dangerous environment, such as the event of lightning, the staff member will recommend the suspension of activity. Exceptions will be made for any activity where a GGS staff member is not in attendance, and supervising coaches can also suspend the activity.

The decision to suspend activity will be based on:
- (Primarily and if available) Any reported lightning strike on a **Weather Sentry Lightning/Storm Detector** within the 10-mile range, regardless of the presence of visible lightning
- Utilization of the **Flash-to-Bang Method**. Count the seconds from when the lightning is sighted to when the clap of thunder is heard. Divide this number by five to obtain how far away, in miles, the lightning is occurring. If it reveals lightning to be within 10 miles (a 50-second count between the flash of lightning and the bang of thunder), activity is to be suspended, and everyone should seek shelter immediately.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUSPENSION OF ACTIVITY**: Once it is determined that there is a danger of inclement weather, a staff member or head coach will notify and request that all players, coaches, and parents get off the playing field and seek shelter.

**EVACUATION OF THE PLAYING FIELD AND STANDS:** Immediately following the public address announcement (if available) of suspension of play, all players, coaches, staff members, and parents are to evacuate the facility to a safe location. Please be advised that we do not consider the areas under the picnic shelters, bathrooms, or dugouts to be safe in the case of lightning. All parties will be urged to remain in the safe location until conditions improve unless otherwise notified by appropriate representatives.

**RETURN TO PLAY:** Play will be resumed 30 minutes following the last lightning strike. The detection system or visual confirmation will determine the last lightning strike. The 30-minute time frame will immediately start over with each additional lightning strike.