

WESTERVILLE YOUTH BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL LEAGUE

Serving our Community's Young People Since 1951

WYBSL WEATHER AND LIGHTNING POLICY

The safety of our players and damage to fields that might affect future games should be primary concerns of all WYBSL participants.

IN CASE OF RAIN: Prior to a scheduled game, only the WYBSL Fields Director (or other Board Designee) has the authority to cancel a game. If timing is possible, the WYBSL Weather Hot Line (614-523-6220) and Twitter page (@WYBSLalerts) will announce the day's field conditions. However, if conditions are marginal – or if rain occurs after one and one-half hours before game time, teams should go to their field. At that point, and throughout the game, the authority to stop play rests with the umpires and WYBSL staff. Games may be resumed at any time within 30 minutes of stoppage, if fields are playable.

IN CASE OF THUNDER and/or LIGHTNING: If thunder is heard or lightning is sighted:

1) By umpires in Green Red, Blue and Black Hat games, the umpire will immediately clear the field, including the dugouts; if sighted by one umpire in a multiple diamond location, all fields will be cleared.

2) In Coach Pitch and Tee-Ball games, the authority to stop play rests with a Committee member, if present, or with the coaches, in the absence of a Committee member. The Committee member or coaches will immediately clear the field(s), including the dugouts; if sighted by a Committee member and/or coach in a multiple diamond location, all fields will be cleared.

Games may resume no less than 30 minutes after the last thunder and/or lightning occurrence, if fields are playable.

If Westerville's Lightning Prediction System covers a field of play, or is heard at another field, it shall take precedence. When there is a possibility of lightning within the radius of the sensor, one continuous horn burst will be sounded and all games and practices must stop and fields and dugouts will be cleared. Once conditions change, an all clear will be signaled by three short horn bursts.

PLAYABILITY: If a game is stopped during play, players and fans should move to shelter or cars and wait for a notice from the umpire or WYBSL staff. The final decision regarding playability rests with the umpires (in a multiple diamond location, umpires may consult each other if field conditions are marginal.)

IN THE CASE OF A PRACTICE OR SCRIMMAGE: Head Coaches are responsible for canceling the activity and for following this weather policy.

(revised January 2022)