

# **Thunder & Lightning Guidelines for ALL contests assigned by IEBU**

**\*Failure to comply with this policy will be dealt with swiftly and severely\***

**When thunder is heard or a bolt of lightning witnessed, it is close enough to strike your location with lightning.**

**Per National Federation of High School Baseball guidelines:**

## **THE 30 MINUTE RULE**

- 1. Suspend play immediately and take shelter.**
  - a. If you are at a complex where multiple fields are playing ALL FIELDS must suspend play immediately. Please notify all fields.**
  - b. Open-sided structures, especially those attached to or underneath metal fences are extremely unsafe. Many are directly attached to the backstop, the tallest metal object around. Absent an enclosed structure, umpires, players and coaches should go to their vehicles and or bus. Players are not supposed to remain in the dugouts**
- 2. Begin a 30-minute countdown**
  - a. Each thunder event or lightning bolt witnessed during this countdown starts the 30-minute clock over at the 30-minute mark.**

**This rule is in place not only for your safety and the safety of players and coaches. This rule is in place to protect your liability as the official representative of Baseball.**

**Do not allow coaches, players, fans, tournament directors, athletic directors to deviate this policy as they are not responsible.**