



# **Lightning Protocol**

## MONITORING

ISP uses the 'Strike Alert' storm systems device. This device detects lightning strikes, their distance from campus and their likely time of arrival.

This device is managed by the Lifeguard or Pool Staff, and at times by other coaches or personnel. When not in use, the device is stored in the swimming pool office.

The Lifeguard or other adult in charge (coaches/teachers/admin) should use the device to guide the decision to evacuate to covered areas.

If severe weather is imminent, consider postponing the activity.



## WHEN TO EVACUATE OPEN SPACES AND TAKE COVER?

- Always use professional caution and conservative judgment.
- Adults in charge should evacuate open spaces and move to a covered area immediately after seeing lightning or hearing thunder. Don't wait for any announcement, use your initiative!
- If the lightning meter shows the closest strike within 8 miles, the device holder will inform coaches/teachers/admin to move to covered areas.
- Each coach is responsible for ensuring that his or her group evacuate safely to a covered area and to continue supervision of the group.

## WHEN TO RETURN TO OPEN SPACES?

- Continue to monitor the storm.
- A minimum of 15 minutes must pass after the latest lightning is seen or thunder is heard. This applies to 'closest strike' and 'most recent strike' on the device.
- Any subsequent lightning strike or thunder after the beginning of the 15 minute count should reset the clock and another count should begin.
- The device holder will inform coaches/teachers/admin when it is safe to return to open spaces.

If activities or games cannot resume because of weather, don't even try. Safety is always our priority and erring on the side of caution is never an error.