



Inclement Weather Policy

The purpose of this policy is to provide BSL Coaches with guidelines for making decisions concerning the suspension and restarting of a practice based on the following:

Criteria for suspension and resumption of practice regarding tornadoes:

- When a tornado watch is in effect, indicating that conditions are such that the possibility that tornadoes may develop, BSL Coaches will continuously monitor the weather using an appropriate application on their electronic device.
- When the area is under a tornado warning, indicating that a tornado has been spotted, the pool will be cleared and practice suspended until the warning expires.

Criteria for suspension and resumption of practice regarding thunder and lightning:

- The National Lightning Safety Institute recommends a six (6) mile radius for lightning detection. All BSL Coaches will monitor this utilizing an appropriate application on their electronic devices anytime lightning is suspected. When at the Crossplex, the Crossplex staff will also monitor this.
- Once practice has been suspended for lightning within 6 miles, a 30 minute wait following the last flash of lightning or sound of thunder will be observed prior to resuming practice.
- Vestavia Hills Parks & Recreation has installed lightning detector systems at some of their parks. When the detector system is present and detects lightning is within 20 minutes of the area, the pool will be closed. A horn with 3 long blasts will be sounded and the pool must be cleared. (An appropriate shelter is an enclosed area, i.e. a restroom or a car. The area under the overhead awning at Wald Park is not an appropriate shelter.) If the lightning detectors are installed, all sports will follow this.
- When the lightning detector indicates lightning is more than 20 minutes away an "All-Clear" signal will be given and practice may resume. Parks and Recreation employees will have the final say on "All-Clear".
- If lightning is suspected even if it is outside the 6 mile radius and a parent or swimmer feels uncomfortable for any reason, they may exit the pool and proceed to an appropriate shelter.

Compliance with this policy:

- All BSL members, family members, and guests are expected to follow this policy. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to suspension from practice.