

## LIGHTNING SAFETY –



### STOP PLAY POLICY



**STOP GOLF PLAY AND RETURN TO CLUBHOUSE OR YOUR VEHICLE IMMEDIATELY WHEN YOU HEAR THUNDER OR SEE LIGHTNING OR YOU HEAR THE WARNING SIREN.**

#### Before Lightning Strikes..

- If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to the storm to be struck by lightning. **Go immediately TO YOUR CAR OR CLUBHOUSE**
- Avoid using telephones

#### Lightning Safety...

- Seek shelter in an enclosed grounded structure immediately.
- Golfers and others should get off golf carts run into a forest under shorter trees. Drop metal objects like golf clubs, umbrellas. Remove shoes with metal spikes.
- If you are caught in an open field, seek a low spot, stay away from poles or metal objects. Avoid creeks and areas subject to flooding.
- Be a very SMALL TARGET. Squat low to ground. Place your hands on your knees with your head between them. DO NOT Lie flat – you are a bigger target.

#### Reference:

National Weather Service – [www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov](http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov)

- ✓ In the ten year period from 1990-2000, lightning killed an average of 55 people annually in the U.S. Florida led the way in lightning fatalities, typically followed by Michigan, **Pennsylvania**, North Carolina and Texas.
- ✓ Of course, some golfers refuse to believe that they could possible be struck by lightning and must be dragged off the course. Odds are, those are the same dreamers who are confident they hold that winning lottery ticket!

Reference: [www.beauproductions.com/golfswings](http://www.beauproductions.com/golfswings)

- ✓ Everyone associated with the game of golf should participate in lightning safety. Golfers know that the USGA Rules of Golf (Rule 6-8) allow players to discontinue play if they believe there is a danger from lightning. No other sport has any regulations relating to lightning.

Reference: National Lightning Safety Institute