



HEAT INDEX PROCEDURES

Administration of Heat Index Procedures:

- Feels Like Temperature (Heat index) or THI using a Wet Bulb indicator on the field will be checked 1 hour before the contest/practice by a certified athletic trainer, athletic director, or school designee when the air temperature is 80 degrees (Fahrenheit) or higher.
- Download WeatherBug app to your phone or log into www.weatherbug.com. Schools may also use a Wet Bulb indicator on the field that will be used.
- Enter zip code or city and state in the location section of the app or on-line or determine the THI by using a Wet Bulb indicator.
- If the Feels Like temperature (heat index) or the Wet Bulb Indicator is 90 degrees or above, the athletic trainer, athletic director, or school designee must re-check the Feels Like temperature (heat index) or Wet Bulb indicator at halftime or midway point of the contest. If the Feels Like temperature (heat index) or Wet Bulb indicator is 96 degrees (Fahrenheit) or more, the contest will be suspended.

Please refer to the following chart to take the appropriate actions:

	Feels Like Temp(Heat Index) or Wet Bulb indicator under 79 degrees	Full activity. No restrictions
R E C O M M E N D E D	Heat Index Caution: Feels Like Temp (Heat Index) or Wet Bulb indicator 80 degrees to 85 degrees	Provide ample water and multiple water breaks. Monitor athletes for heat illness. Consider reducing the amount of time for the practice session.
	Heat Index Watch: Feels Like Temp (Heat Index) or Wet Bulb indicator 86 degrees to 90 degrees	Provide ample water and multiple water breaks. Monitor athletes for heat illness. Consider postponing practice to a time when Feels Like temp is lower. Consider reducing the amount of time for the practice session. 1 hour of recovery time for every hour of practice (ex. 2hr practice = 2hr recovery time).
	Heat Index Warning: Feels Like Temp (Heat Index) or Wet Bulb Indicator 91 degrees to 95 degrees	Provide ample water and water breaks every 15 minutes. Monitor athletes for heat illness. Consider postponing practice to a time when Feels Like temp is much lower. Consider reducing the amount of time for the practice session. 1 hour of recovery time for every hour of practice (ex. 2hr practice = 2hr recovery time). Light weight and loose fitting clothes should be worn. For Practices only Football Helmets should be worn. No other protective equipment should be worn.
REQUIRED	Heat Index Alert: Feels Like Temp (Heat Index) or Wet Bulb indicator 96 degrees or greater	No outside activity, practice or contest, should be held. Inside activity should only be held if air conditioned.



WIND CHILL PROCEDURES

Administration of Wind Chill Procedures:

- Feels Like Temperature (Wind Chill) will be checked 1 hour before the contest/practice by a certified athletic trainer, athletic director, or school designee when the air temperature is 39 degrees (Fahrenheit) or lower.
- Download WeatherBug app to your phone or log into www.weatherbug.com.
- Enter zip code or city and state in the location section of the app or on-line.
- If the Feels Like temperature (wind chill) is 10 degrees or below, the athletic trainer, athletic director, or school designee must re-check the Feels Like (wind chill) at halftime or midway point of the contest. If the Feels Like (wind chill) temperature is -11 degrees (Fahrenheit) or lower, the contest will be suspended.

Please refer to the following chart to take the appropriate actions:

	Feels Like Temp (wind chill) above 40 degrees	Full activity. No restrictions
R E C O M M E N D E D	Wind Chill Caution: Feels Like Temp (wind chill) 39 degrees to 20 degrees	Stay adequately hydrated. Notify coaches of the threat of cold related illnesses. Have students and coaches dress in layers of clothing.
	Wind Chill Watch: Feels Like Temp (wind chill) 19 degrees to 10 degrees	Stay adequately hydrated. Notify coaches of the threat of cold related illnesses. Have students and coaches dress in layers of clothing. Cover the head and neck to prevent heat loss.
	Wind Chill Warning: Feels Like Temp (wind chill) 9 degrees to -10 degrees	Stay adequately hydrated. Notify coaches of the threat of cold related illnesses. Have students and coaches dress in layers of clothing. Cover the head and neck to prevent heat loss. Consider postponing practice to a time when the Feels Like temp is much higher. Consider reducing the amount of time for an outdoor practice session.
REQUIRED	Wind Chill Alert: Feels Like Temp (wind chill) -11 degrees or lower	No outside activity, practice or contest, should be held.

Special Note: Alpine Skiing will be exempt from this policy and will follow the regulations of the host ski center where the practice or event is being held.

Approved May 1, 2010
Updated July 27, 2016

NYSPHSAA THUNDER & LIGHTNING POLICY

*(Effective 10/25/04)
(Revised October 20, 2008)*

Applies to regular season through NYSPHSAA Finals:

1) Thunder and lightning necessitates that contests be suspended. The occurrence of thunder and/or lightning is not subject to interpretation or discussion - thunder is thunder, lightning is lightning.

a) With your site administrator, set up a plan for shelter prior to the start of any contest.

2) When thunder is heard and/or when lightning is seen, the following procedures should be adhered to:

a) Suspend play and direct participants to go to shelter, a building normally occupied by the public or if a building is unavailable, participants should go inside a vehicle with a solid metal top (e.g. bus, van, car).

b) Do not permit people to stand under or near a tree; and have all stay away from poles, antennas, towers and underground watering systems.

c) After thunder and/or lightning have left the area, wait 30 minutes after the last boom is heard or strike is seen before resuming play or competition.



Tornado Policy

- Tornado Watch-indicates tornados are possible. Event staff must continue to monitor the situation.
- Tornado Warning-Tornado siren sounds signaling tornado sighted or tornado indicated by radar

GUIDELINES/PROCEDURES

- If a tornado warning is initiated, immediate event delay shall be implemented, and all participants, spectators and athletic staff shall seek shelter immediately. Once inside a secure location, tune to local weather alert radio to be informed of the storm location, path and duration of tornado warning.
- Warning may be extended, or a new warning issued at any time, so continue to monitor.
- Safe shelter from tornado inside lowest building level, away from exterior walls/windows, with windows closed.

All Clear-tornado warning will expire after duration specified by the National Weather Service and the site director will notify all involved that the warning has ended, and the event may resume.

July 2022



New York State Public High School Athletic Association Drone Policy

The New York State Public High School Athletic Association prohibits the use or possession of unmanned aircraft or aerial systems (UAS), also known as drones, for any purpose by any person or entity at all scrimmages, regular season and post season events.

This prohibition applies to the area above and upon all spectator areas, fields of play, courts, arenas, stadiums, mats, gymnasiums, pools, practice facilities, parking areas and or other property being utilized for the purpose of the interscholastic activity.

If there is a report of UAS activity at an athletic event school, Section and/or State Association officials will, in consultation with the sports officials, suspend the play until such time as the UAS is removed from the area as defined above or the school, Section/ State and sports officials determine it is safe to proceed.

For purposes of this policy, a UAS is any unmanned airborne device or aircraft. The NYSPHSAA, Section and/or Member School reserves the right to refuse admission to anyone operating or attempting to operate a UAS or to request the immediate removal of any person using or attempting to use a UAS in violation of this policy.

The NYSPHSAA Executive Director has the authority to grant an exception to this policy to law enforcement, public safety agencies, NYSPHSAA media partners, or other entities or individuals. Any request for an exception to the policy must be submitted to the Executive Director at least a week prior to the event. The exception is limited to the specific event requested and requires the consent of the host venue.

Any use granted under this provision must comply with the applicable FAA regulations as well as any and all requirements set forth by NYSPHSAA. News media must have the necessary FAA authorization. Any individuals granted an exception would be required to sign a document acknowledging and agreeing to the terms of use and agreeing to hold the NYSPHSAA and its member schools harmless from damage to persons or property.

**Approved May 5, 2017 (Executive Committee)*