

# EXTREME WEATHER POLICY

## Lightening & Storm Policy

Players must use common sense when golfing in weather conditions which may be conducive to lightning strikes. It is the players responsibility to take cover and/or leave the golf course to prevent injury during lightning strikes. The Clubs siren is not to be expected or relied upon to be sounded at any time, if the siren is used it is only to warn that lightning is in the area. If a player hears the siren, then the player must make their own decision to leave the course or take cover. The following safety tips will assist in identifying & avoiding injury during lightning strikes:

- Before playing golf, check the forecast. View internet sites to see up to date weather forecasts - [www.weatherzone.com.au](http://www.weatherzone.com.au) or [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au).
- Check in with the Pro Shop to advise staff that you are on the golf course. Watch the sky for changes in weather conditions. Thunderstorms can grow from “fluffy” cumulus clouds in as little as thirty minutes.
- Darkening skies and increased wind may also indicate an approaching storm.

### 1. Identifying when lightning is near using the 30/30 or “flash to bang” rule:

- The timelapse between the flash of lightning and the clap of thunder, thus determining the proximity of the storm
- A three (3) second delay between the flash of lightning and the audible clap of thunder equates to approx 1km. Storm activity 10kms or less is believed to be dangerous.
- A build-up of static electricity in the air e.g. hair standing on end. A “buzzing” sound coming from rocks, fences etc.

### 2. Safety on Course - Safe places to take cover

- Large enclosed structures - Clubhouse or Machinery shed
- Low to ground areas (ditches & gullies) as last resort, but do not lie flat on the ground
- Crouch with your hands over your head and elbows to your knees

### 3. Unsafe places to take cover

- Open fields and high places
- Umbrellas and poles
- Isolated trees
- Small structures and gazebos
- Water
- Metal fences
- Golf carts

### 4. First Aid

- Provide whatever First Aid you can & seek medical assistance immediately