

## **Willow Creek II Wahoos Inclement Weather Policy 5/2009**

The Head Coach will make the decision to remove the swimmers from the water. If a parent comes to the Head Coach and requests their child leave the pool, ALL swimmers will be instructed by the Head Coach to leave the pool immediately and possibly the deck should that be deemed necessary. The Head Coach must monitor the weather closely and pull the kids immediately when lightning is observed close by, or thunder is heard nearby. The other Coaches, Parent Reps and parents on the deck are also to watch this closely. There may be parents on the deck who see some lightning that others do not see.

Most importantly, the swimmers are to be removed from the pool immediately if you see lightning or hear thunder close by. If it is necessary for the swimmers safety, they should also be removed from the pool deck until it is safe to be there.

We respect a parent's concern for their children's safety, and request this policy and process be followed closely.

Below is the lightning policy generated by the Lightning Institute in Louisville, CO, and should be followed:

### **4.5.3 Swimming Pools**

#### **General Information**

Lightning's behavior is random and unpredictable. Preparedness and quick response are the best defenses towards the lightning hazard.

Our pools are connected to a much larger surface area via underground water pipes, gas lines, electric and telephone wiring, etc. A lightning strike in one place to this metallic network may induce shocks elsewhere. Indoor and outdoor pools are the same for lightning.

#### **Lightning Safety Program for Pools**

At the first signs of lightning or thunder, the pools will be evacuated. ("If you can hear it (thunder), Clear It (suspend activities).") They will remain cleared for 30 minutes after the last observed lightning or thunder.

Patrons should leave the pool and the surrounding area. Seek shelter inside the main building, or in a fully enclosed metal vehicle with the windows up.

**AVOID** waiting under tall trees, umbrellas, or near electric power lines.

**AVOID** use of showers or other contact with water.

**AVOID** use of the telephone.

**AVOID** contact with metal objects.