



Educating for life

## LIGHTNING POLICY

### PROCEDURES AND PRECAUTIONS IN THE EVENT OF LIGHTNING ON CAMPUS OR WHILST VISITING OTHER SCHOOLS

- The Christian Brothers' College Boksburg Sports Staff all have access to lightning detectors. It is the MIC's responsibility to ensure that a lightning detector is present at all summer fixtures both home and away.
- These detectors are able to detect lightning between 0 – 10 km, 10 - 19 km, 19 - 38 km and further than 38 km. The detectors should always be used in conjunction with common sense.
- When lightning approaches the 0 – 10 km range, the following safety precautions apply.
- All pedestrians on a campus are to seek shelter in a safe venue.
- All sports activities (regardless of whether they are being played at home or away) taking place in any external venue (fields, swimming pool, etc.) are to be stopped immediately and all players, sports officials and spectators are required to seek appropriate shelter.
- Failure to comply with this requirement by any employee or registered pupil of Christian Brothers' College Boksburg may result in disciplinary action.
- Any competitive game so stopped by the threat of lightning shall be considered a game suspended due to poor weather until such time the lightning has moved into a safe zone. Human safety must always take precedence over the result of a fixture/
- Any external agencies using any Christian Brothers' College Boksburg facilities will be informed of this policy by the Christian Brothers' College Boksburg employee involved in arranging the use of the facilities. Failure to inform such external agencies by the employee will be considered in a serious light.

**The following structures are deemed safe and every effort will be made, through the auxiliary staff, to ensure that these venues are accessible during a storm**

- School buildings are considered to be a suitable shelter.
- The Gym and the Cricket Centre are considered safe from a lightning strike.
- The wellness centre is considered safe
- The change rooms are considered safe areas

**The areas or structures detailed below are not suitable and are not considered to be safe shelters.**

- Not under trees or under stands.
- If no shelter is available, seek a low-lying area.
- It is advisable to stay away from open areas, water, metal fences, overhead metal or power lines, high ground and small unprotected shelters.

Once the lightning has moved beyond the 10 km radius and after a period of 30 minutes, conditions will be considered safe and external activities may resume.

It is understood that lightning is a natural physical phenomenon, and while Christian Brothers' College Boksburg has taken these measures to minimise the risk of lightning damage or injury, no guarantees against injury or damage can be given and accordingly the School can carry no liability whatsoever should any person be injured or property be damaged.

This protocol is considered to be in effect on all properties owned by Christian Brothers' College Boksburg as well as all venues where away fixtures are played.

If - for whatever reason - a lightning detector is not present, the 30-30 Rule must apply:

### THE 30-30 RULE

The first "30" represents 30 seconds. If the time between when you see the flash and hear the thunder is 30 seconds or less, the lightning is close enough to hit you. If you haven't already, seek shelter immediately.

The second "30" stands for 30 minutes. After the last flash of lightning, wait 30 minutes before leaving your shelter.