

# Severe Weather Day Plan - Special Olympics **2024** Stillwater, Oklahoma

The 2024 Special Olympics Oklahoma (SOOK) Summer Games staff is dedicated to the safety and security of every person in attendance. Therefore, a weather liaison has been assigned to the week-long activities associated with Special Olympics in Stillwater. This task has been assigned to the City of Stillwater Emergency Management Office and its staff. All weather observations are validated through the National Weather Service in Norman, with the Tulsa WFO as a backup.

The SOOK games committee staff and the medical committee staff utilize a closed radio system during the Summer Games. This radio system is monitored by Stillwater Emergency Management, Stillwater Police and OSU Police on site during the active hours of the events. Staff has access to, up to the minute weather updates, as well as, receiving important weather updates from the Emergency Management weather liaison.

## Notification:

In the event of significant weather or severe weather, the following communication types are used to notify games committee, medical committee, venue supervisors, judges, coaches and law enforcement. In addition, the Information Booth receives these same alerts and updates. Methods used to relay critical weather information:

- Radio
- Mass Notification System - All participants of Summer Games (SOOK) - WOVA
  - Text Messages – WOVA System - from Paige
  - Phone – Wova System - (voice announcement)

## Lightning:

All outdoor sporting venues on the OSU campus have been outfitted with lightning detection. This lightning detection consists of a horn and strobe light combination. Any time lightning is detected inside of an eight (8) mile radius of the OSU campus, these alert horns and lights are activated. The alert tone sounds with 3 short blasts and flashing strobe light. The all clear tone sounds with one (1) long steady blast and the strobe light turns off. The lighting system works on a thirty (30) minute timer. After the last observed lightning strike, the all clear will sound.

If the lightning monitoring system is activated, we will announce over the radio of the impending danger due to lightning. When the all clear has been issued, we will announce over the radio that the threat of lightning has passed. Please be very familiar with your lightning safety plan, during the warning phase is not the time to try to find or identify your safe location.

SEMA staff will monitor lightning for 15 miles and make notifications over the radio, to event staff to **ALL STOP**. This extra time gives you an opportunity to notify your event coordinators, recall everyone to your lightning area of refuge, complete a roll call and receive updates. We will still abide by the 30 minute timer for the last observed lightning strike and resume play.

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## Venues

While athletes are participating in competition, ample time must be given to transport them and event personnel to their housing locations or areas of refuge. Below is a list of venues and their assigned area of refuge when responding to a severe weather notification.

### Gallagher-Iba Arena

- Olympic Village
- Turbo Jav / Softball Throw
- Corn-hole
  
- Lightning – East Lobby
- Tornado - Downstairs

### Colvin Center Annex – Restrooms @ West end of Annex (*Overflow @ Colvin Center*)

- Registration - Wed
- Motor Activities - Thurs
- Young athletes
- Basketball – Friday
  
- Follow the facility weather plan

### Colvin Center – Overflow from Annex - Seek refuge and follow their weather plan

- Basketball - Friday
- Motor Activities
  
- Follow the facility weather plan

### Boone Pickens Stadium

- Bocce
- Powerlifting – Shelter in place
- Olympic Village
  
- Lightning – under the bleachers into the concourse and inner concourse areas
- Tornado – west end zone to weight lifting

### Gallagher-Iba Arena

- Olympic Village
- Turbo Jav
- Softball Throw
- Bocce
  
- Lightning – east lobby of GIA
- Tornado - Downstairs

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## • **Campus Housing or Hotel**

- Unified Softball

*Use Team transportation to return to housing and follow campus or hotel plan for severe weather*

## **Lakeside Golf Course**

- Golf Skills or Play
  
- Lightning - Will seek refuge in the Clubhouse
- Tornado – Follow facility weather plan

## **Frontier Lanes**

- Bowling

*Will remain at the bowling alley and seek refuge in accordance with the facility weather plan*

## **High School Track – Lightning – under the bleachers/Tornado**

- Track
- Field
- SOOK Dance
- Closing Ceremonies
  
- Lightning – under the bleachers/concourse area
- Tornado - *Will use the High School as a refuge in accordance with the facility weather plan*

## **Student Union - Thursday**

- Movie Theatre
- Bingo Starlight Terrace – move downstairs
  
- *Will follow the facility weather plan and work with SU staff to seek areas of refuge*

## **YMCA - Thursday**

- Swim Party
- Will shelter in place and follow the facility weather plan*

## **Wes Watkins – Thursday**

- Healthy Athletes – Eyes – Hearing – Sound Minds
  
- *Will follow the facility weather plan and work with SU staff to seek areas of refuge*

In the event of a severe notification – if relocation is required – a roll call **shall** be conducted. Anyone determined to be missing will be reported to the Command Post via radio or phone. The missing person information will be broadcast to all personnel via the radio. In addition, it will be broadcast to local law enforcement and support staff.