

***THE GORDIE RICHARDSON  
OAKLAND COUNTY 7<sup>TH</sup> AND 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TRACK MEET***

***INCLEMENT WEATHER GUIDELINES***

In the event of inclement weather, the following guidelines will be used. These guidelines are based on the MHSAA policies. For the full text, see the MHSAA website. If the below guidelines do not cover a certain situation, the decision on the matter shall be that of the meet management. Per MHSAA guidelines, no event may be held after the MHSAA state tournament for that sport. Since the state track meet is the same weekend as our meet, there will be no make up date if the meet is cancelled.

**Thunder and Lightning**

**Suspension of the Meet**

When lightning is observed or thunder is heard, the meet will be suspended. Teams and spectators will be directed to clear the stands and the track. Teams and spectators may seek shelter inside the school. Use the entrance at the top of the stairs by the admission gate or use the entrance behind the school by the back admission gate. Use the cafeteria, and the hallways surrounding the gym. Please do not enter onto the gym floor.

When lightning is observed or thunder is heard and the meet is suspended, teams shall not return to the track until lightning has been absent from the local sky and thunder has not been heard for 30 minutes.

**Cancelling the Meet**

Depending on the severity of the weather, it may become necessary to cancel the meet.

- The meet will be cancelled if the total delays throughout the meet exceed three hours.
- The meet will be cancelled if the finals for the 55 meter hurdles do not begin by 7pm.

**Cancelling an Event**

It may become necessary to cancel one or more events due to conditions and/or time.

- An event may be cancelled if the meet officials decide the conditions are unsafe to participate. Example: Shot Put surface becomes too slick to throw.
- In the event of delays to the meet, no event shall start after 10:30pm. If an event starts before 10:30pm, we will finish that event. Example: The 4x400 starts at 10:15, we will continue until we finish both the boys and girls 4x400.

**Resuming the Meet**

A decision to resume the contest within the time frame will be made by the meet officials who will consult the meet management.

**Scoring**

In the event the meet is cancelled or one or more events are cancelled due to inclement weather, the score will be official if we complete at least 12 of the 16 events.

## Tornado

While procedures due to a tornado warning may be obvious, what happens when there is a tornado watch is not as obvious. These policies are regarding a tornado watch issued for the Clarkston area. If your area is under a watch but Clarkston is not, the meet will be held.

Each school may follow a different policy regarding tornado watches. Please contact your administration for your school's policy. Example: Some schools automatically cancel their participation due to tornado watches while other schools are allowed to participate.

In Clarkston, if a Tornado watch is issued, we are allowed to continue an event on a case by case basis. Again, these guidelines are based on the MHSAA policies.

### **Tornado Watch issued at least three hours prior to the first event start time:**

If our administration closes the facility, all teams will be notified of the cancelation immediately.

If our administration does not close the facility, the meet shall be conducted as long as a reasonable number of teams (60 percent) can be present.

- Please contact the Clarkston athletic office to confirm your participation (248-623-4002)
- We will also attempt to contact schools who have not called us in order to verify participation.
- If there is less than 60 percent participation, the meet will be cancelled.

### **Tornado Watch issued less than three hours prior to the first event start time:**

Most teams at this point are either en-route to the meet or about to board a bus. No decision will be made until teams have arrived.

- If our administration closes the facility, the meet will be cancelled.
- If our administration does not close the facility, the meet shall be conducted as long as a reasonable number of teams (60 percent) are able to stay and compete due to their own district policies.

### **Tornado Watch issued during the meet:**

The meet will be suspended. Spectators and athletes will be notified of steps to take in case of a warning. Once all participants are aware of the emergency procedures, the meet will resume.

### **Tornado Warning issued during the meet:**

The meet will be suspended (obviously). Teams and spectators will be directed to clear the stands and the track. Teams and spectators will seek shelter inside the school. The shelter location is the hallway that surrounds the gym.

Enter the school using the doors at the BACK of the school. First door is located next to the back gate. Second door is located through the back gate and past the gym doors on the right. When you enter the hallway, please continue down as far as you can go until there is no more room. There will be lots more people behind you who will also need some space.