NICA NATIONAL INTERSCHOLASTIC CYCLING ASSOCIATION

Thunderstorms, Lighting, Tornado

Weather Reference

Code GREEN

- No thunderstorms affecting or will affect the activity.
- Clears a Code YELLOW/ORANGE/RED. This will be announced ONLY by the Weather and Emergency Committee

Code YELLOW

- There is a high confidence that thunderstorms will develop during a given time frame (I.E. 1 PM to 5 PM)
- A Severe Thunderstorm Watch is issued by the NWS for the venue location
- This is a "Heads-Up" for the emergency committee, operations director and race director only

Code ORANGE

- Lightning has been detected within 10 miles/16 km (LDT) of the venue meaning a thunderstorm is imminent or occurring. Add 1 mile/1.6 km to the LDT for every minute beyond 20 minutes that it takes to evacuate the activity.
- A Severe Thunderstorm Warning is issued by the NWS for the venue
    - Scattered to numerous thunderstorms are possible that could produce tornadoes across large portions of the state/ several counties
    - Short-term thunderstorms are expected
- A Tornado Watch is issued by the NWS for the venue
- Evacuate to a designated area of shelter until either Tornado Watch or Thunderstorm Warning has expired or been canceled
- If an evacuation of the trails is no longer safe, Course Marshals will be directed to "Shelter-In-Place"
    - If accidentally caught-out:
        - Avoid open areas
        - If on a ridge top or hilltop, head down the hill quickly
        - Don't be the tallest object in the area
        - Stay away from isolated tall trees, towers or utility poles. Lightning tends to strike the taller objects in an area
        - Get OFF your bike
        - Crouch low with feet together. Never lay on ground
        - Don't group together
        - Stay away from metal conductors such as wires or fences
        - For more lightning information, please see the NOAA Lightning Safety Brochure

Code RED

- A Tornado Warning is issued by the NWS (https://www.spc.noaa.gov/products/watch/)
    - A tornado has been detected by radar or by the public within the same county
    - After tornado warning has expired or been canceled, event officials will determine if event can continue
- Prolonged thunderstorms are expected
- The Storm Prediction Center issues a High Risk of Severe Storms in their Convective Outlook (https://www.spc.noaa.gov/products/outlook/day1otlk.html)

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