



Johannesburg Bowls Association

The District where it's at

The Wanderers Club

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TO: CLUB PRESIDENTS
CLUB SECRETARIES

CIRCULAR 32/2020 LIGHTNING METERS AND PLAY STOPPAGES

As Johannesburg has a high incidence of lightning, especially on summer afternoons, strict regulations are in place to mitigate against possible injury to, or death of players and officials. It has been brought to the attention of the Executive that during the last Perfect Delivery Saturday League, several clubs failed to comply with the regulations.

From Conditions of Play:

1.5 LIGHTNING DETECTORS

The Home Club shall make a portable electronic lightning distance measuring device available, irrespective of whether the venue being in earshot of similar devices being used for other sporting activities. Cell phone applications may not be used instead of a lightning meter.

6.2 LIGHTNING & DARKNESS

6.2.1 The umpire of the most senior Division (Men or Women) will make all decisions regarding lightning by means of the lightning meter (Cell phone applications may not be used). This decision will apply to all the divisions present. When men and women each have a side in the same Division at the same venue, the men's umpire will be responsible in this regard.

6.2.2 Play must cease whilst lightning activity is at or closer than 16km.

6.2.3 The umpire of the most senior Division will also oversee calling an official stoppage due to darkness. This decision will apply to all divisions present.

In future, non- compliance with these regulations will result in the hosting club being fined R1,000.

JBA Executive Committee

President: Debra Ferguson

Members: Hon. Treasurer Keith van der Linde, Cindy Hoffman, Dave Naughton,
Colin Schneiderman, Terry Turner



In addition, there appears to be confusion about what should happen if a stoppage of play is called. The law book states:

32.2 If an end has started but all the required bowls have not been played, it must be declared dead. (The end must be declared dead even if one or more players choose to remain on the green during the stoppage.)

32.3 If all the required bowls in an end have been played but the process of deciding the number of shots scored (as described in law 23) has not been completed, the number of shots scored must be decided before the game stops.

This means that play must cease immediately, except if all bowls have been delivered when the stoppage is called. In which case, counting of shots may be completed before leaving the green. When the lightning has passed, the end must be replayed if it was not completed. Play must then continue until the completion of the games or when bad light is called by the umpire.

We request that the above is strictly adhered to in order to ensure that all remain safe and fair play prevails.

Yours in Bowls



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Johannesburg Bowls Association

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