



MIF Severe Weather & Event Cancellation

Due to the temporary structures in place at the event it is important to manage and monitor all weather conditions. The Event Manager (or a designated weather monitor) on site shall monitor meteorological data supplied by national services via the internet and any measuring instruments supplied on site.

Wind

Recording devices on site to assess wind speeds at regular intervals. The Site manager and suppliers of structures which may be effected by wind will monitor wind speeds at ground level using a handheld anemometer and wind speed indicators affixed to temporary structures which may be at risk of wind damage or failure due to excessive wind load. Operational limits to be agreed in advance and written down on a data sheet within the Event control room along with maximum gust speeds. Work should only be carried out in and around the structures when the wind speed is within the agreed operational limits.

ALERT - When monitoring registers a sustained gust wind speed in excess of 36kph (Beaufort 5) in conjunction with an increasing general trend of recorded wind speeds, event staff should be put on alert that action may be required if conditions deteriorate. Event staff on site shall begin to monitor and record wind speeds more closely to easily identify upward or downward trends.

AMBER WARNING - When monitoring registers a sustained gust wind speed in excess of 45kph (Beaufort 6) in conjunction with an increasing general trend of recorded wind speeds, event staff should be put on alert that action may be required and if installation is still in progress, consideration should be given to delaying further installation. It may become necessary for structures to be lowered to make them more stable and reduce windage.

RED WARNING - When monitoring registers a sustained gust wind speed in excess of 56kph (Beaufort 7) in conjunction with an increasing general trend of recorded wind speeds then the event staff shall de-rig the structures entirely if safe to do so.

10m/s = 36kph = 22mph 12.5m/s = 45kph = 28mph 15.5m/s = 56kph = 35mph
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Electrical Storms

Thunderstorms always include lightning. Any thunder you hear is caused by lightning!

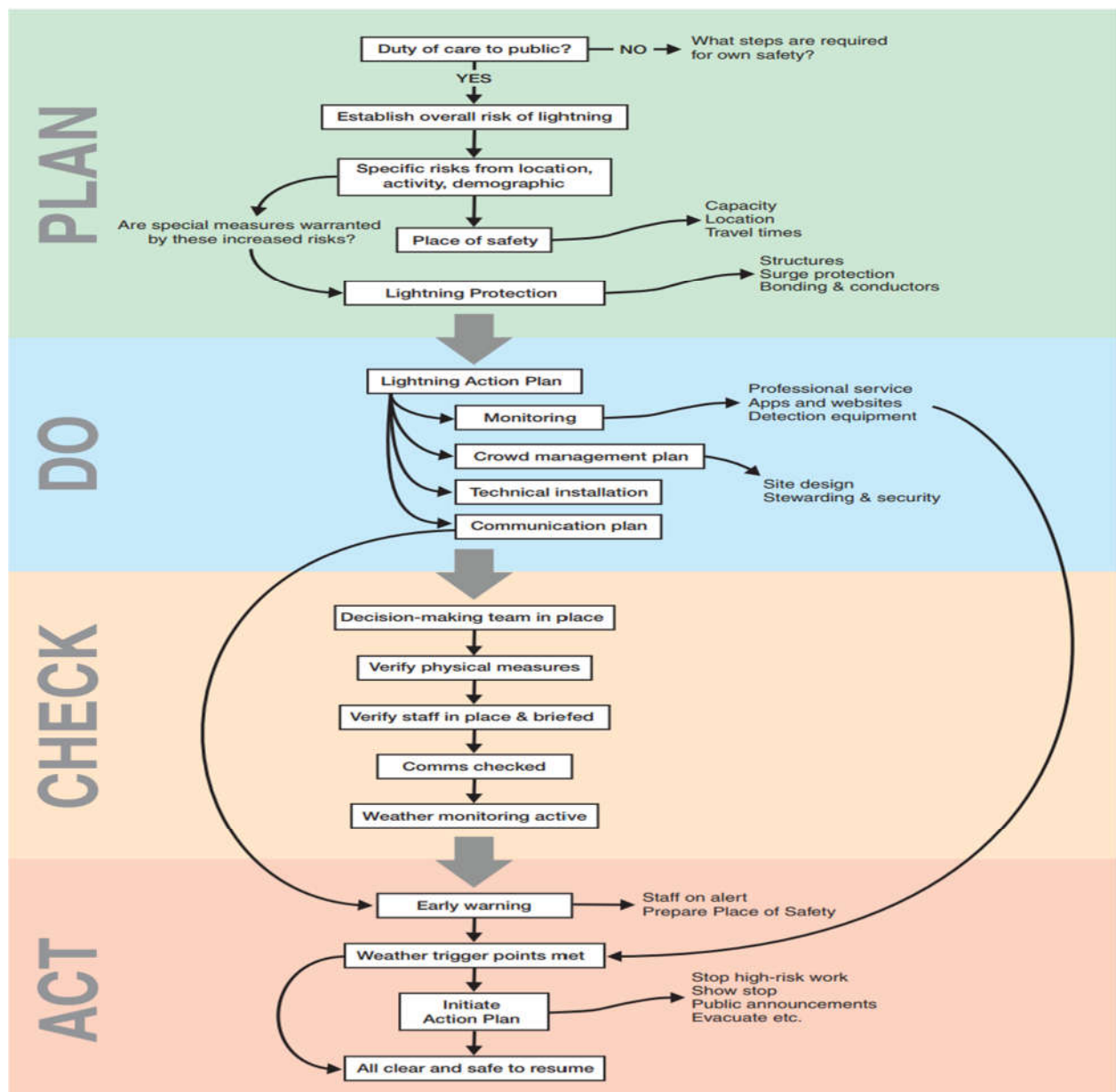
The height of some structures present a risk as potential lightning conductor especially when sited in open land and as such the following plan will be applied by the Event Management Team to reduce any likelihood of structures becoming live and causing injury to personnel working on the structure.

The 30:30 Rule as advised by PLASA

This is a simplistic rule of thumb developed in the USA following incidents where strikes have killed & injured people at sports and other events. The first '30' is about judging how far away lightning might be. The flash of light travels pretty much instantaneously from the lightning to the viewer, but the boom of the thunder progresses more slowly through the air (at the speed of sound, around 340 metres per second). If you are right under the lightning strike, there wouldn't be much opportunity for these travel speeds to make much difference and you'd see & hear the lightning/ thunder simultaneously. As you get further away, there will be more delay to the sound. Counting the gap between the lightning flash and the time it takes for the noise to arrive (flash & bang) can be a simple way of estimating how far away a strike was. If there is a gap of 10 seconds; the strike was around 3.5 kilometres away. Storms produce lightning strikes across a very wide area and anything under 30 seconds between flash & bang means you are in the danger zone. The storm won't neatly count down where it puts the lightning; the next strike could be right on top of you. Under 30 seconds = Danger - Activate your action plan! The second '30' refers to safety once the storm has passed. Throughout the period when there is less than 30 seconds between flash & bang there is a risk of a strike, but once the gap goes back above 30 seconds this is an indication the storm may be passing. You have to wait 30 minutes after the last sub-30 second flash-to-bang to be sure the storm is far enough away. If you are counting the time & another sub-30 second strike happens; reset your clock & wait the full 30 minutes. If you have more sophisticated tools at your disposal your lightning action plan can be set on the specific range away from your site of detected strikes. It is up to the organiser to determine what is appropriate, depending on the level of risk & the speed at which they can respond; however rangerings of 10km and 6km are common.

Activity	Action
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Organiser checks forecast for the few hours ahead. There is a threat of thunderstorms.	Advise all crew/contractors/participants to be alert and aware. Remind them of the policy. Step up frequency of weather monitoring.
Lightning detected within 10km (<30 seconds Flash to Bang)	Amber Alert High level working stopped and people return to ground (security watchtowers, follow-spot operators, construction & scaffolding etc.) Tall rides or activities such as Ferris Wheels stopped and cleared of public. Exposed seating or tribunes evacuated. Crew prepare for bad weather (wind & rain, hail etc.)
Lightning detected within 6km	Red Alert Evacuation of at-risk areas. Dispersal of public to safe shelter (if possible). Crew switch off and secure vulnerable technical systems which are critical to event operation. Activate preparations for bad weather.
Last strike within 10km	After 30 minutes activity can be recommenced. Public messaging and crew communication can obviously continue during the storm to provide updates and assurance. Re-starting an event is not necessarily a quick or simple process, and crew may require some time to get ready. These preparations may begin before the full 30 minutes, but the re-start needs to wait until there is a clear margin of safety



Heat

Extreme or unusually high temperatures will require ensuring staff take adequate precautions against dehydration and exposure to UV radiation. This should include a ready supply of water, provision of sun creams, sunhats, shading work areas. It could also include misting fans, forced cooled air or cool down rooms and other similar precautions depending on the severity. The conditions are a complex function of general heat, humidity and wind velocity and all will affect the body's ability to maintain its internal temperature within its standard (narrow) range. Conditions outside of this range can lead to imposing stresses on the body which may result in heat injury.

Show stop or postponement

The decision to postpone or cancel the event will be the responsibility of the event manager or designated show stop authorised members of the team. These will have a dedicated laminate showing they are able to stop the event or show.

All changes will be communicated on site via the specific show stop procedures within the EMP.

PA, screens and staff as well as Social Media and press outlets will also be used to inform people of any required changes or cancellations.