



**NORTH KINGSTOWN  
WICKFORD LITTLE LEAGUE  
LEAGUE # 2390307**





# ASAP Safety Plan 2023

## North Kingstown/Wickford Little League

*The North Kingstown/Wickford Little League (NKWLL) believes that the safety of our players should be the first concern of all members of the Little League community. Every league member, Executive Board Member, volunteer and parent is a Safety Officer. Prevention is the key to reducing and eliminating accidents. Report all hazardous conditions to the safety officer or other board members immediately. Do not play on a field that is unsafe or with unsafe playing equipment. Be sure all players are always properly equipped, especially catchers and batters. Check your team’s equipment often to ensure proper condition and fit. Finally, adhere to state/league regulations to mitigate the spread of Covid -19.*

- 1. **League Safety Officer:** Robert Mezzanotte  
 Email: rmezzanotte@gmail .com                      Cell: 401-499-1051

When creating the 202 3 safety plan, recommendations made available in Little League’s Best Practices, information provided by the CDC, the RI Department of Health, The Aspen Institute , and the State of Rhode Island “Youth Sports Guidelines” were reviewed and integrated as appropriate.

- 2. **Safety Manual :** North Kingstown/Wickford Little League posts the safety manual on the league’s website. An electronic copy is sent to the RI District 3 Administrator, NKWLL Executive Board members, league coaches, volunteers, and parents. A printed copy of the league manual is available in the storage/equipment areas at each field location.
- 3. **Emergency Plan :** Dial 911 for Emergency!

Important Numbers	Phone Number
North Kingstown Police Emergency	<b>401-294-3316</b>
North Kingstown Fire Emergency	<b>401-294-2244</b>



North Kingstown Public Works Dept.	401- 268-1561
League President – Joe Baker	401-323-0249
League Vice-President – Frank McGee	401-439-0499
League Fields Officer – Jesse Adelson	774-203-8826
League Player Agent – Rob Maybach	401-667-0287
League Treasurer - Chad Bjorklund	401-499-1747
League Safety Officer – Robert Mezzanotte	401-499-1051

The above list will be posted in league concession stands, storage areas, and dugouts along with the complete list of contact information for the 2023 NKWLL Board Members.

The “Emergency Procedure” flyer found on page 12 will be emailed to all league personnel and posted in concession stands, storage areas, and dugouts.

Covid -19 Guidelines will align to those provided by the Rhode Island Department of Health, specifically as they pertain to schools.

4. **Volunteer Application** – The league utilizes the JDP system to complete volunteer applications and background checks. The safety officer enters the name and email address of each prospective volunteer under “Quick App”. Once that information is added, JDP will automatically send those individuals their link to complete their own volunteer application, including social security number. This volunteer application is tied with the background check and all information is stored and viewed in the secure JDP Portal by the league safety officer.
  
5. **Fundamentals Training** will be held on **Thursday, March 30th at 7pm**. The training will be conducted by an experienced league coach and the league safety officer. This training qualifies volunteers for 3 years, but one team representative is required to attend each year. Participants will be required to adhere to current RI Department of Health Covid -19 guidelines to participate.



6. **First Aid training** will be held **on Thursday, March 30th at 7pm**. The training will review basic first aid training and contents of first aid kits, procedure for reporting medical incidents, concussion information (see below link), use of AED, and review of current Covid-19 player/youth sports guidelines. Mandatory coaching attendance is required. The Safety Officer will track attendance and ensure participants are adhering to current RI Department of Health Covid-19 guidelines.
7. **Check Field Conditions** - Managers should contact the Fields Manager, league commissioner or safety officer if they find any issues that need to be addressed. Coaches and umpires are required to walk and inspect fields prior to all practices and games:
1. Inspect field for holes, slippery spots, rocks, broken glass, and any other debris
  2. Inspect bases and base mounting to ensure proper installation
  3. Inspect dugout for cleanliness, protective fencing, and benches
  4. Inspect helmets, bats and catchers' equipment and ensure that all appropriate safety equipment is used during game
  5. Inspect and maintain first aid kit provided by the league
  6. Know emergency numbers and ensure access to phone
  7. Loose equipment such as bats, gloves, masks, balls, helmets, etc. must be kept off the ground and inside the dugout
  8. Personal jewelry, badges, pencils, etc. can be a hazard to the wearer and should not be permitted
  9. **Safety** should be the major factor when deciding on canceling a practice or game because of bad weather or darkness.
  10. Lights will be utilized for AAA and Majors in a manner which is protective of the children. Lights will not be used after 9pm on school nights or after 10pm other nights.
8. **Facility Survey** - The League Fields Director and Safety Officer, together with the Town of North Kingstown Facilities Manager, will conduct a field survey each year prior to the start of each of the season. The purpose of the pre-season inspection is to identify any unsafe conditions that must be remedied before teams can use the field for practice or play. In addition, a lights safety audit will be conducted for all lighted fields in April of each year. The 2023 facility survey for each field was updated in the LL Data Center.
9. **Concession Stand Safety** – All North Kingstown/Wickford Little League concession stands are Rhode Island Board of Health approved and governed by a license through the Town of North Kingstown. The concession stands have a league Concession Manager who oversees



the safe operation through meetings and volunteer coordination and oversight. All volunteers/workers will have completed a background check performed prior to their shifts in the concession stand. All equipment should be constantly monitored and maintained. A certified fire extinguisher suitable for grease fires will be in plain sight and accessible in the stand. A full stocked first aid kit will be in the concession stand. Concession Stand menu shall be posted after approval by the North Kingstown/Wickford Little League Executive Board. Below is the link to the league's concession stand safety procedures and safety tips:

[Concession Stand Safety Tips: 12 Steps to Safe, Sanitary Food Service - Little League](#)

**10. Equipment Check** : The Equipment Manager will inspect all equipment prior to the distribution to team managers. Managers, coaches and umpires will inspect equipment prior to each game. Players should utilize their own equipment when possible and place their individual equipment in a well-spaced-out manner for inspection. Current CDC and LL Baseball guidelines will be utilized for equipment disinfection. If replacement equipment is needed, please notify the League Commissioner or Safety Officer.

All baseball bats to be used in the Major Division and below, must be affixed with the USA Bat Standard marking, and deemed to be in accordance with Little League Rule 1.10 as outlined in the current edition of the Little League Rules, Regulations, and Policies. Batting helmets must be affixed with the NOCSAE symbol, be free of cracks or other visible damage, and all the internal padding must not be missing, tattered, torn or frayed. No stickers are permitted on the helmets, unless there is a letter of certification from the helmet manufacturer affirming the stickers are permitted to be affixed to the helmet.

**11. Accident Reporting** : North Kingstown/Wickford Little League will use the accident reporting and tracking forms provided from the Little League website. Completed forms shall be submitted to the League Safety Officer within 48 hours of incident. Contact the Safety Officer, Robert Mezzanotte, to receive injury report forms and assistance in completion.

### Accident Reporting Procedures

- **What to Report** – An incident that causes any player, manager, coach, umpire or volunteer to receive medical treatment and/or first aid must be reported to the Safety Officer. This includes even passive treatments such as evaluation and diagnosis of the extent of the injury or periods of rest.
- **When to Report** – All such incidents described above must be reported to the Safety Officer or other League Officer within 48 hours of the incident. The Incident/Injury



Reporting Form can be downloaded from the [North Kingstown/Wickford Little League website](#), picked up at the concession stand or from the Safety Officer.

- **How to Make the Report** – Incidents can also be made by telephone conversations to the Safety Officer. At a minimum the following information must be provided:
  - The name and phone of the individual involved
  - The date, time and location of the incident
  - As detailed a description of the incident as possible
  - The preliminary estimation of the extent of any injuries
  - The name and phone number of the person reporting the incident
  
- **Safety Officer Responsibility** – Within 48 hours of receiving the incident report, the Safety Officer will contact the injured party or party's parents and 1) Verify the information received 2) obtain any other information deemed necessary 3) check on the status of the injured party, 4) if the injured party required other medical treatment, will advise the parent or guardian of the North Kingstown/Wickford Little Leagues insurance coverage and provisions for submitting and claims
  - If the extent of the injuries is more minor in nature, the Safety officer shall periodically call the injured party to check on the status of any injuries and check if any assistance is necessary in areas such as the submission of insurance forms until such as the incident is considered closed.
  - If a player misses seven (7) or more continuous days of participation, a physician or other accredited medical provider must give written permission for a full return to baseball/softball activity.
  - In cases involving a possible concussion, the league will adhere to RI state law with respect to removal of the player and return to play protocols after being released by a physician. It is recommended a player suspected of sustaining a concussion be removed for at least the remainder of that day and then comply with RI state law for return to play guidelines.

12. **First Aid Kits:** Each team will be provided with an updated First Aid Kit that is required to be at every game and practice. Notify the League Safety Officer or your League Commissioner if replacement supplies are needed. Extra first aid supplies and ice packs will be stored in the equipment sheds and concession stands at each field.



**13. Enforcing Little League Rules** : Each Manager is provided with a 2023 Little League Rules handbook and required to review prior to the start of the season. North Kingstown/Wickford Little League requires all teams to enforce all Little League Rules practices and games including:

- Players have required equipment including catcher’s equipment warming up on the field;
- no on-deck batters;
- coaches will not warm up pitchers and are not allowed to stand at the backstop; and
- bases are required to disengage at all fields.

Coaches will adhere to the Code of Conduct.

**14. Player/Coach Data** : Player/coach rosters and registration data will be submitted electronically via Sports Connect to the Little League Data Center.

**15. 2023 North Kingstown/Wickford Little League Important Dates to Remember:** See League Calendar on pages 8, 9, 10.

**16. 2023 North Kingstown/Wickford Little League Board:** Listed on page 11.



## NKW Little League 2023 Calendar

This schedule is only a portion of the events expected this year. Many tournament dates will be determined later. Some scheduled dates are susceptible to last minute changes (check league web site - NKWLL.COM - to determine if late changes are made).

### January

- **January 1<sup>st</sup>** (Sun) – Online registration opens
- **January 2<sup>nd</sup>** (Mon) - Submit Field Use Permits to Town/School Depts. – Kyle Boddington
- **January 5<sup>th</sup>** (Thurs) – NKWLL Community Meeting 7:00 PM at Lischio Field House.
  - Agenda: Confirm All-Star Selection Committee)
  - Confirm times/places/dates for registration/tryouts/managers' meeting; date/time for picture day; schedule off-site location for makeup tryouts.
  - Complete registration forms – flyers to NKSD/Facebook/Patch/Rec Department
- **January 23<sup>rd</sup>** - (Mon) Finalize & mail tax return (due February 15)

### February

- **February 2<sup>nd</sup>** (Thurs) – Cold Spring Community Center
  - 6:00 – 7:00 PM in Person Registration and Questions Session
  - 7:00 –8:00 PM NKWLL Community Meeting

**PEOPLE INTERESTED IN MANAGING ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED TO ATTEND.**

### March

- **March 4<sup>th</sup>** (Sat) – Tryouts - Majors & AAA (North Kingstown High School) Times TBD.
- **March 11<sup>th</sup>** (Sat) – Tryout Makeup - (SnapDragon in Exeter). Times TBD. **March 15<sup>th</sup>** (Weds) – 2024 Draft Night at Lischio Field House
  - 6:00 PM Majors Draft
  - 7:30 PM AAA Draft
- **March 20<sup>th</sup>** (Mon) – Uniforms & Equipment Need To Be Ordered
- **March 30<sup>th</sup>** (Thurs) – NKWLL Community Meeting at Lischio Field House 7:00 PM
  - Mandatory Coach Pitch and T-Ball Meeting)
  - Mandatory Managers Attendance (Safety Info shared)

### April

- **April 1<sup>st</sup>** (Sat) – Field Clean-up Day, Location TBD (Make-Up Date: April 9)
- **April 10<sup>th</sup>-April 14<sup>th</sup>** School Spring Break
- **April 17<sup>th</sup>** (Mon) – Major League Games Begin
- **April 18<sup>th</sup>** (Tue) – AAA Games Begin
- **April 29<sup>th</sup>** (Sat) – Opening Day: League Parade. Kid Pitch, Coach Pitch, & T-Ball Games Begin





## May

- **May 4** (Thurs) – NKWLL Community Meeting – Lischio Field House at 8:00 PM
  - ALL STAR Selection Committee Chosen
  - ALL STAR Selection Committee Solicits candidates for All Star Managers
  - Fall Ball Registration On-Line Selection
- **May 13th** (Sat) - Home Run Derby- Fundraiser, Family and Sponsor Night; 5:00 PM at Wilson Park. In person Fall Ball Registration will be available. (Rain Date May 20th)
- **May 15<sup>th</sup>** All- Star Submission Deadline
- **May 15<sup>th</sup>** Cooney and Dignan Nominations
- **May 26/27** (Fri/Sat) – Estimated Regular season ends for AAA & Majors
- **May 30<sup>th</sup> Tues. All Star Selection** Lischio Field House
  - Majors 12/11 - 6:30pm
  - AAA 10/11 -8pm

All Star players can be contacted and very first day All Star teams permitted to practice: June 1st

## June

- **June 1<sup>st</sup>** Weds - AAA/Major Playoffs begin. Have Fall Ball registration forms at Wilson during playoffs.
- **By June 1<sup>st</sup>: All Star Teams Finalized and Announced**
- June 2<sup>nd</sup>** – NKWLL. Community Meeting – 8 PM at Lischio Field House
  - Super Saturday and End of Year Cookout Plans Finalized
- **June 10<sup>th</sup>** (Sat)
  - Major/AAA Division Championship Games, Wilson Park, Times TBD
  - Super Saturday T-Ball
  - End of Year Cookout, Wilson Park, Time TBD
- **June TBD. Mandatory All Star/District Managers Meeting**
- **June 24<sup>th</sup>** Sat - Super Saturday Kid Pitch and Coach Pitch
- **TBD** - 12 year old, 11 year old and 9/10 District Games
- **TBD** - Summer Select Squad/Friendship Tournament Team Rosters Formed

## July

- **July** – Possible Lombardi Tournament for Kid Pitch Tournament
- **July** – No NKWLL Community Meeting
- **TBD** – Districts Games for All Ages
- **TBD** – State Championship Games for All Ages

## August

- **Aug 3<sup>rd</sup>** (Thurs) – NKWLL Community Meeting : Lischio Field House
  - 6 – 7 pm: In-Person Fall Ball Registration, Nominations for New Board Members
  - 7 – 9 pm: Fall Ball Commissioner/Fall Ball managers to select Fall Ball team rosters
- **Aug TBD:** Jaxon Morocco and Charette Tournaments



- **Aug (Last Week):** Fall Ball Games Start

### **September**

- **Sept 7<sup>th</sup>** (Thurs) – NKWLL Community Meeting 7:30 pm Lischio Field House
  - Elections for 2024 board members.

### **October**

- **Oct 5<sup>th</sup>** (Thurs) – NKWLL Community Meeting 7:30 pm Lischio Field House
  - Review of League Rules & Constitution

### **November**

- **Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>** (Thurs) – NKWLL Community Meeting 7:00 pm Lischio Field House
  - Annual Budget Meeting

### **December**

- **Dec 7<sup>th</sup>** (Thurs) – NKWLL Community Meeting 7:00 pm Lischio Field House
  - 2024 Calendar Setting
  - Sponsor Program/Ideas



## North Kingstown Wickford Little League Executive Board Members 2023 Season

Position	Name	Email
League President	Joe Baker	Joe.baker.1012@gmail.com
League Information Officer	Giulio Lugini	<a href="mailto:glugini@gmail.com">glugini@gmail.com</a>
League Safety Officer	Rob Mezzanotte	rmezzanotte@gmail.com
League Vice President	Frank McGee	mcgee06@cox.net
League Player Agent	Robert Maybach	<a href="mailto:robmaybach@cox.net">robmaybach@cox.net</a>
Sponsorship/Fundraising	John Whitney	<a href="mailto:Johnwhitney2005@yahoo.com">Johnwhitney2005@yahoo.com</a>
League Past President	Arnie Sarazen	<a href="mailto:asarazen@cox.net">asarazen@cox.net</a>
League Secretary	Dan Benson	danielcbenson@gmail.com
League Treasurer	Chad Bjorklund	wick26@icloud.com
League Marketing and PR	Giulio Lugini	<a href="mailto:glugini@gmail.com">glugini@gmail.com</a>
T-ball Commissioner	Ryan Gardiner	ryan.gardiner@cox.net
Fall Ball Commissioner	Jason Welesko	jdw682@msn.com
AAA Commissioner	Dan Benson	danielcbenson@gmail.com
Majors Commissioner	Jason Welesko	<a href="mailto:Jdw682@msn.com">Jdw682@msn.com</a>
Jr/Sr Commissioner	David Andrews	wazoo1111@yahoo.com
Coach Pitch Commissioner	Michael Richard	miker68@yahoo.com
Player Pitch Commissioner	Dan Benson	danielcbenson@gmail.com
League At Large Officer	George Porter	<a href="mailto:gporter1970@cox.net">gporter1970@cox.net</a>
League At Large Officer	Dino Ciarnello	<a href="mailto:adciarnello@cox.net">adciarnello@cox.net</a>
Fields Officer	Jesse Adelson	<a href="mailto:friars10@yahoo.com">friars10@yahoo.com</a>
Equipment Officer	Giulio Lugini	<a href="mailto:glugini@gmail.com">glugini@gmail.com</a>
Purchasing	Jason Welesko	<a href="mailto:Jdw682@msn.com">Jdw682@msn.com</a>
General Officers		
Concessions	Cagney Foods	<a href="mailto:cagneyfoodservice@yahoo.com">cagneyfoodservice@yahoo.com</a>
Banquet Manager	Justin Amaral	<a href="mailto:justinamaral@verizon.net">justinamaral@verizon.net</a>



## Emergency Contact Procedure

### North Kingstown/Wickford Little League

1) Dial 9-1-1.

2) Give the dispatcher the necessary information about the incident. Answer all questions to the best of your ability.

- Addresses:

- Wilson Park  
Roosevelt Avenue
- McGinn  
174 School Street
- Signal Rock  
15 Signal Rock Drive

3) Do not hang up until the dispatcher hangs up.

- The dispatcher may be able to tell you how to best care for the victim.

4) Continue to care for the victim until professional help arrives.

5) Appoint someone to go to the street and look for the ambulance or fire engine and flag them down if necessary. This saves valuable time.

6) Contact the NKWLL Safety Officer, Robert Mezzanotte, to inform him of the incident and complete appropriate league paperwork.

Email: [rmezzanotte@gmail.com](mailto:rmezzanotte@gmail.com) Cell: 401-499-1051



## 2023 NKWLL Covid -19 Guidelines

NKWLL will adhere to the current recommendations and mandates from the RI Department of Health Youth Sports Guidelines, the CDC Recommendations on Youth Sports, Little League Baseball, and RI Little League District 3 Safety Guidelines.

The safety officer will be responsible for monitoring and implementing changes in recommendations and mandates.



### NKWLL LIGHTNING PLAN FOR ALL SITES

1. Monitor weather forecasts and assign a responsible adult to monitor weather conditions and/or weather app with a smartphone.
2. If a storm is approaching and thunder can be heard, or lightning is observed, then activities should be halted.
3. Players, coaches, umpires, and fans should be directed to go to a hard-topped metal vehicle with the windows closed in the absence of a substantial building (has wiring and plumbing). Dugouts and storage sheds do not count as substantial buildings.
4. People should wait at least 30 minutes after the storm ends before resuming activities.

Per the *Little League Rulebook Appendix A – Lightning Safety Guidelines*,  
(<https://www.littleleague.org/playing-rules/appendices/appendix-a/>)

Each year across the United States, thunderstorms produce an estimated 25 million cloud-to-ground flashes of lightning – each one of those flashes is a potential killer. According to the National Weather Service, an average of 73 people are killed by lightning each year and hundreds more are injured, some suffering devastating neurological injuries that persist for the rest of their lives. A growing percentage of those struck are involved in outside recreational activities.

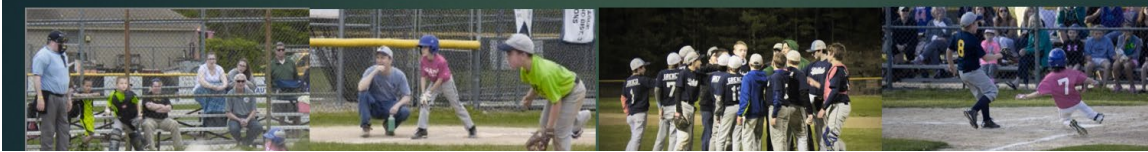
Officials responsible for sports events often lack adequate knowledge of thunderstorms and lightning to make educated decisions on when to seek safety. Without knowledge, officials base their decisions on personal experience and, sometimes, on the desire to complete the activity. Due to the nature of lightning, personal experience can be misleading.

While many people routinely put their lives in jeopardy when thunderstorms are nearby, few are actually struck by lightning. This results in a false sense of safety. Unfortunately, this false sense of safety has resulted in numerous lightning deaths and injuries during the past several decades because people made decisions that unknowingly put their lives or the lives of others at risk.

For organized outdoor activities, the National Weather Service recommends those in charge have a lightning safety plan, and that they follow the plan without exception. The plan should give clear and specific safety guidelines in order to eliminate errors in judgment. Prior to an activity or event, organizers should listen to the latest forecast to determine the likelihood of thunderstorms. NOAA Weather Radio is a good source of up-to-date weather information. Once people start to arrive, the guidelines in your league's lightning safety plan should be followed.

A thunderstorm is approaching or nearby. Are conditions safe, or is it time to head for safety? Not wanting to appear overly cautious, many people wait far too long before reacting to this potentially deadly weather threat. The safety recommendations outlined here based on lightning research and the lessons learned from the unfortunate experiences of thousands of lightning strike victims.

Thunderstorms produce two types of lightning flashes, 'negative' and 'positive.' While both types are deadly, the characteristics of the two are quite different. Negative flashes occur more frequently, usually under or near the base of the thunderstorm where rain is falling. In contrast, positive flashes generally occur away from the center of the storm, often in areas where rain is not falling. There is no place outside that is safe in or near a thunderstorm. Consequently, people need to stop what they are doing and get to a safe place immediately. Small outdoor buildings including dugouts, rain shelters, sheds, etc., are NOT SAFE. Substantial buildings with wiring and plumbing provide the greatest amount of protection. Office buildings, schools, and homes are examples of buildings that would offer protection. Once inside, stay away from windows and doors and anything that conducts electricity such as corded phones, wiring, plumbing, and anything connected to these. In the absence of a substantial building, a hard-topped metal vehicle with the windows closed provides good protection. Occupants should avoid contact with metal in the vehicle and, to the extent possible, move away from windows.



## Who should monitor the weather and who is responsible for making the decision to stop activities?

Lightning safety plans should specify that someone be designated to monitor the weather for lightning. The 'lightning monitor' should not include the coaches, umpires, or referees, as they are not able to devote the attention needed to adequately monitor conditions. The 'lightning monitor' must know the plan's guidelines and be empowered to assure that those guidelines are followed.

## When should activities be stopped?

The sooner activities are stopped and people get to a safe place, the greater the level of safety. In general, a significant lightning threat extends outward from the base of a thunderstorm cloud about 6 to 10 miles. Therefore, people should move to a safe place when a thunderstorm is 6 to 10 miles away. Also, the plan's guidelines should account for the time it will take for everyone to get to a safe place. Here are some criteria that could be used to halt activities.

1. If lightning is observed. The ability to see lightning varies depending on the time of day, weather conditions, and obstructions such as trees, mountains, etc. In clear air, and especially at night, lightning can be seen from storms more than 10 miles away provided that obstructions don't limit the view of the thunderstorm.
2. If thunder is heard. Thunder can usually be heard from a distance of about 10 miles provided that there is no background noise. Traffic, wind, and precipitation may limit the ability to hear thunder less than 10 miles away. If you hear thunder, though, it's a safe bet that the storm is within ten miles.
3. If the time between lightning and corresponding thunder is 30 seconds or less. This would indicate that the thunderstorm is 6 miles away or less. As with the previous two criteria, obstructions, weather, noise, and other factors may limit the ability to use this criterion. In addition, a designated person must diligently monitor any lightning. In addition to any of the above criteria, activities should be halted if the sky looks threatening. Thunderstorms can develop directly overhead and some storms may develop lightning just as they move into an area.

## When should activities be resumed?

Because electrical charges can linger in clouds after a thunderstorm has passed, experts agree that people should wait at least 30 minutes after the storm before resuming activities.

## What should be done if someone is struck by lightning?

Most lightning strike victims can survive a lightning strike; however, medical attention may be needed immediately – have someone call for medical help. Victims do not carry an electrical charge and should be attended to at once. In many cases, the victim's heart and/or breathing may have stopped and CPR may be needed to revive them. The victim should continue to be monitored until medical help arrives; heart and/or respiratory problems could persist, or the victim could go into shock. If possible, move the victim to a safer place away from the threat of another lightning strike.