



# ADU LIGHTNING PROTOCOL EFFECTIVE 2024 COMPETITION



## LIGHTNING PROTOCOL

ADU staff use a Talos Lightning Strike Detector to monitor lightning activity in the area of Colt State Park. In normal conditions a "Course All Clear" sign will hang on the start/finish truss. The Talos Lightning Strike Detector has three alert levels, each prompting specific changes to that sign and responses from the race management team:

### **GREEN ALERT (LIGHTNING DETECTED 25 MILES AWAY): "STORMS IN AREA" SIGN**

Action: Staff, volunteers, athletes, and spectators are informed that lightning has been detected at a 25-mile distance. The situation is being monitored closely. Everyone is asked to prepare for the possibility of course closure if the storm approaches.

### **BLUE ALERT (LIGHTNING DETECTED 16 MILES AWAY): "COURSE CLOSURE LIKELY" SIGN**

Action: Staff, volunteers, athletes, and spectators are informed that lightning has been detected at a 16-mile distance. Course closure is imminent. Athletes may still access the course at their own discretion, knowing that it can be closed at any time.

### **RED ALERT (LIGHTNING DETECTED 6 MILES AWAY): "COURSE CLOSED" SIGN**

Action: Staff, volunteers, athletes, and spectators are informed that lightning has been detected at a 6-mile distance. The course is closed immediately. Athletes are allowed to finish the lap they are on at their own discretion, considering their personal safety. All staff, volunteers, athletes, and spectators should immediately seek shelter in their vehicles.

\*Any runner who exits the course before the finish line forfeits the distance run during that loop.

\*Any runner who finishes a loop is allowed to do so and is then asked to report to their vehicle.

\*Athletes are reminded that a mile or two of wasted effort is a small price to pay for safety and the ability to return to the race (and life) following the storm. Please **prioritize safety** and make good decisions.

## COURSE RE-OPENING PROCEDURE

Once a course re-opening time has been determined by race staff, it will be announced on the Anchor Down Ultra Facebook and Instagram pages with at least 30 minutes' notice. Race officials will also blow an air horn in the race parking lot to notify people in their vehicles that the course re-opening is in progress.

The course re-opening will occur at the trailhead, not the original starting line. Please proceed past the start/finish line **without crossing the timing mat** to the trailhead at the time of the course re-opening.