**WET BULB GLOBE TEMPERATURE (WBGT) FORECASTS AS AN AID TO DECISION-MAKERS IN ASSESSMENT OF HEAT RISK**

**USE OF WET BULB GLOBE TEMPERATURE ACROSS THE NATION**

There is a need for forecasts of WBGT on a national scale. The U.S. Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) considers the use of a WBGT meter to be the best available method to monitor heat exposure in real time applications. Various athletic associations endorse the WBGT as the primary heat stress exposure heat risk for athletes. The Korey Stringer Institute and the National Athletic Trainers’ Association have established guidelines for general heat exposure in sports. Furthermore, many sport entities, including professional sports teams, and event organizers use the WBGT to make recommendations for activity modification. These studies, along with many others, have established guidelines to prevent heat illness in sports. Furthermore, many university sports programs, professional sports teams, and event organizers use the WBGT to make recommendations for activity modification.

Since the inception of WBGT by high schools in 2015, there have been no injuries. Since the heat death of a VT State Football player during a winning season, the state of VT is making the monitoring of WBGT a standard. Also utilized in the Burlington marathon.

**PARTNER APPLICATION: HENNEPIN COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT MESONET**

WBGT is also tentatively scheduled to be an option for the “Point n Click” forecast on NWS webpages in 2020. In the meantime, some weather forecast offices will have experimental displays available, including WBGT calculators, forecasts maps, and safety instructions. The images below are one such example:

**NWS WBGT FORECAST RESOURCES: NATIONAL DIGITAL FORECAST DATABASE (NDFD)**

The National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD) is in the primary reason why the NWS provides digital information to customers and partners. The NWS is providing national forecasts of WBGT to the NDFD for experimental use by the contiguous United States (CONUS), Pacific Region, and Alaska. This data is a result of recent research results inspired from recommendations for heat policy changes to use WBGT for MN State High School League athletic activities. Several universities have created modification guidelines based on WBGT. The NDFD display will use the color scheme based on the regions derived by the Korey Stringer Institute to make recommendations for activity modification guidelines.

**WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE WBGT DISPLAYS:**

The WBGT display will use the color scheme based on the regions derived by the Korey Stringer Institute to make recommendations for activity modification guidelines.