



MINNESOTA YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION INC.

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SAFETY CHECKLIST SOCCER GOAL AND FIELD

The head coach of the home team is responsible for the condition of the field and soccer goals. **Inspect the goals and field before play begins.**

- Carry spare anchors for securing goals.
- Assure the goals are solid and won't fall apart during play.
- Assure there are no protrusions that create an unsafe condition.
 - This includes hooks for attaching the nets.
 - Bolts in the corners and pins for the wheels.
- Assure there are no sharp or rough edges to cut or injure players.
- Ensure portable goal anchors are secure.
 - Attached to the anchors that are set into the ground.
 - or
 - Threaded or screw-in anchors used for natural grass fields.
 - Extra long or additional anchors if the ground is soft or soggy.
 - Sandbags used to anchor the backstay on artificial turf surfaces.
- Make certain safety and warning stickers are in place on the goal frame.
- Assure the playing surface is free of obstructions from other sports.
- Assure the field surface has holes filled or marked.
- Assure the lines are adequate for officials to call the game.
- Remove nets when not in use to reduce the wind from toppling goals.

Information Points

- Begin at a team meeting, instructing players and parents to never climb or swing from the goals. They can tip over causing serious injury or death, and it weakens the goals.
- Parents should supervise their children and keep them from climbing on the goals.
- There have been over 30 deaths from Portable Soccer Goals falling onto children. Many were unused goals, blown over by the wind, which were not anchored.
- Anchors should be permanently mounted into the ground and attached to the goal. When not permanent, the anchors should be a screw-in type, as pegs are more easily pulled out.
- Pegs may be used to hold the goal in position but not as anchors.
- Remove nets when goals are not in use.
- Chain or secure goals face-to-face or lock them to a secure structure when not in use.