



FOURTH  
EDITION  
LZ498



This document is intended to provide basic soccer goal safety information and is **NOT** all-inclusive.

While following the concepts in this booklet will ensure that your soccer goal is safer, it may not prevent all accidents.



In an effort to provide continuing goal safety education to the soccer community, Kwik Goal has produced the following Soccer Goal Safety document. This guide is based, in part, on the CPSC document: *Guidelines for Movable Soccer Goal Safety*. We encourage volunteer coaches, administrators, field maintenance personnel and parents to use this pamphlet as a reminder to practice pre-match/pre-play safety inspections. We also encourage all organizations that own or use soccer goals to implement a safety plan to ensure that goals are secure at all times. Most importantly, take a few minutes to discuss this issue with your players. All age groups need to understand the dangers of unanchored goals.

**PLEASE VISIT [Kwikgoal.com](http://Kwikgoal.com) for:**

- A thorough explanation of anchoring options
- American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) information
- Soccer goal safety stickers
- Additional information on soccer goal safety

**DUPLICATION OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ENCOURAGED**



# THE CORNERSTONES OF SOCCER GOAL SAFETY: AWARENESS & MAINTENANCE

## AWARENESS

The first step towards achieving soccer goal safety is to create better awareness through open communication and education. This effort is important for field maintenance staff, but it is also vital for coaches, players of any age level, parents of players and anyone else who has contact with the sport. The following items are useful talking points to spread a better understanding of soccer goal safety:

Climbing and/or hanging on goals is a dangerous stunt that can have tragic results. Make it a point of discussion that climbing and/or hanging on goals is not acceptable. Be prepared to discipline offenders when necessary.

Ensure that appropriate warning labels and stickers are applied and clearly visible.

It is important that goals be inspected and re-inspected in between periods of play. Make sure that goals are anchored properly and that all equipment is in good working order.

Goals should be moved into storage when not in use.

## MAINTENANCE

After creating better awareness, the next step towards keeping soccer goals safe is to ensure that equipment is properly installed and in good working order. Many common goal safety issues can be prevented through good maintenance of goals, anchors and netting.

### Anchoring

Goal anchoring should always be inspected before matches and practice.

If goals are unanchored, they should be anchored immediately or play should not be allowed to start or continue.

If anchor bags are used, care should be taken to ensure that they are filled completely and are free of tears and damage.





Unfilled anchor bags should be filled to the appropriate weight. Damaged bags should be replaced as needed.

If no method of anchoring is available, goals should be moved to a secure location where they cannot be accessed.

### **Netting**

Inspect nets to ensure that they are free of tears. If nets are damaged, replace them.

Adequate net attachment methods should always be used.

Net sag can be prevented with net support straps.

Consider using nets with 3<sup>1/2</sup>" mesh to create smaller foot/hand holds and limit the possibility of entrapment.





## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**1. Q. When do the majority of soccer goal tip-over related injuries occur?**

**A.** Most soccer goal related injuries occur when organized soccer play is over. Most injuries occur during transport of goals, when goals are being used for unapproved purposes or during pick-up soccer.

**2. Q. Do heavier goals need to be anchored since they are difficult to move?**

**A.** Yes. All goals must be anchored. A goal's overall weight does not correlate to how well it is counterbalanced. Any unanchored goal can be tipped over with catastrophic results.

**3. Q. Will homemade goals that match manufacturer's designs or styles act as a suitable replacement for professionally manufactured goals?**

**A.** No. The CPSC reports a majority of incidents involving serious or even fatal tip-over accidents involve "homemade" goals that have been made by shop classes, custodial staff or local welders, who are not fully aware of proper anchoring techniques and safe counterbalancing goal designs.

**4. Q. Is it true that soccer goals will not tip over unless they are moved or climbed upon?**

**A.** No. Unanchored, portable, lightweight goals are capable of overturning during high wind conditions, especially with nets affixed to the frame. Goals must be anchored at all times.

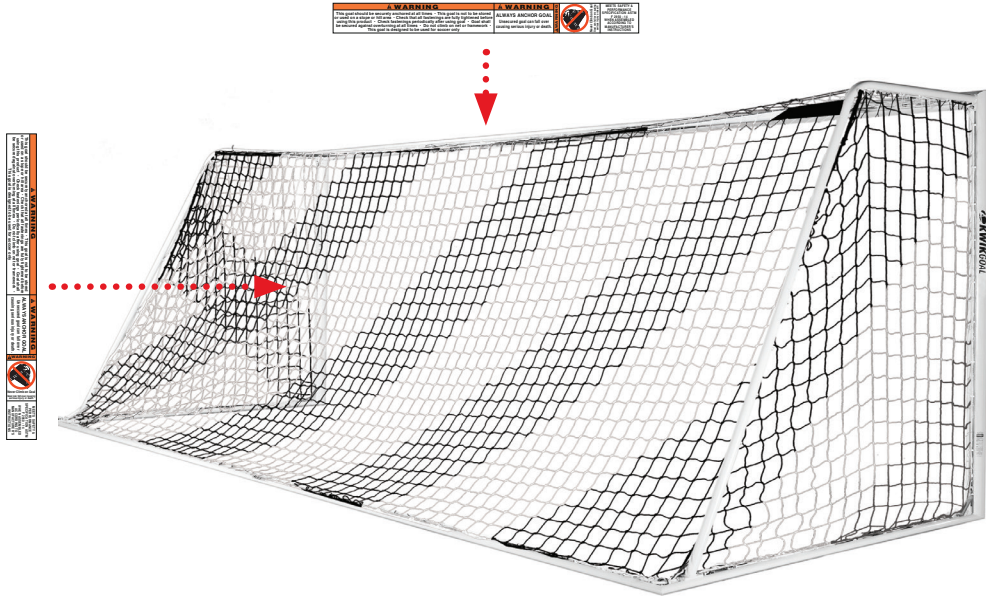


- 5. Q. Once a goal is anchored, is it considered secure?**
- A.** No. Portable goals should be secured after soccer play is finished by locking goals face to face or locking goals to a permanent structure. The exceptions to this requirement are goals anchored in a permanent/semi-permanent manner (ground sleeves, anchors in cement, deep soil augers or turf anchors).
- 6. Q. Will padded goals reduce injury if a goal tips over?**
- A.** No. Padding will not protect a person from injury if a goal tips over.
- 7. Q. If a soccer goal is labeled as a tip-resistant goal does it still require anchoring?**
- A.** Yes. There are no known counterbalancing measures for portable or movable soccer goals that can guarantee with 100% certainty that a goal will remain tip-resistant under every possible usage scenario.
- 8. Q. I've learned that some states have enacted laws regarding soccer goal anchoring and performance standards for soccer goals. How do I know if my state has passed any soccer goal safety legislation?**
- A.** It is strongly recommended that you touch base with your local government representative, who will be able to update you on the statutes of the latest soccer goal safety legislation in your area.





## GOAL SAFETY STICKER PLACEMENT INSTRUCTIONS



GOAL SAFETY LABEL PACK  
1084201 can be  
purchased at  
[Kwikgoal.com](http://Kwikgoal.com)

<p><b>⚠ WARNING</b></p> <p>This goal should be securely anchored at all times • This goal is not to be stored or used on a slope or hill area • Check that all fastenings are fully tightened before using this product • Check fastenings periodically after using goal • Goal shall be secured against overturning at all times • Do not climb on net or framework • This goal is designed to be used for soccer only</p>	<p><b>⚠ WARNING</b></p> <p><b>ALWAYS ANCHOR GOAL</b></p> <p>Unsecured goal can fall over causing serious injury or death.</p>	<p><b>⚠ WARNING</b></p> <p>Never Climb on Goal</p> <p>Goal is not to be used as a climbing device. Serious injury or death.</p> <p>MEETS SAFETY &amp; PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATION ASTM F 2950 - 14 WHEN ASSEMBLED ACCORDING TO MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS</p>
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## **ANCHORING CHALLENGES**

One of the biggest challenges in keeping soccer goals properly anchored is that soccer is usually played on fields that accommodate multiple sports (i.e. football, lacrosse, field hockey). In many situations, soccer goals are moved on and off the field on a daily basis for practice and matches, which requires anchors to be removed and re-installed each time.

Another challenge in achieving a higher overall goal anchor rate is the yearly volunteer turnover that takes place at the youth level. New club members need to be educated every year (at minimum) about the importance of proper goal anchoring and safe goal usage.

The continued growth of artificial playing surfaces has posed new difficulties to the goal anchoring issue. Fear of damaging expensive playing surfaces and aggressive artificial turf manufacturer's warranties have reduced the options for anchoring goals. Kwik Goal is at the forefront of the research and development of anchors meant for these artificial playing surfaces.

## **ANCHORING SOLUTIONS**

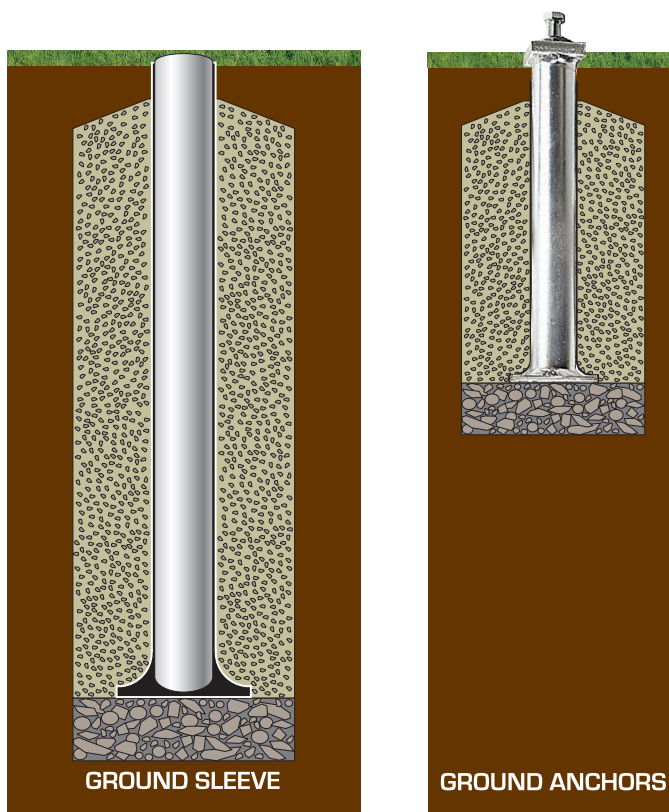
Anchors that are installed into concrete (semi-permanent anchors) are the safest overall anchoring option because they will function properly in all soil/surface conditions.

If the use of a semi-permanent anchor is not feasible, it is critical that soil/surface conditions are identified when choosing portable type anchors.

## SEMI-PERMANENT GROUND ANCHORS

A soccer goal is considered semi-permanent when its anchors are installed for the purpose of remaining in the ground for the life of the goal. In this situation, the base of the anchor is cemented into the ground, the goal is positioned above or adjacent to the anchor and a bolt or leash secures the goal to the anchor.

A second style of semi-permanent soccer goal anchor is a ground sleeve. The sleeve is cemented into the ground, and the extended goal posts slide into the sleeve, thereby anchoring the goal itself into the ground.

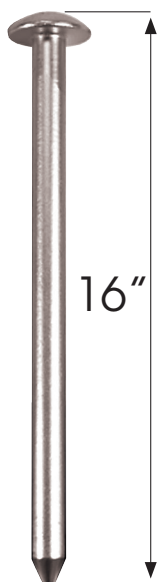




## PORTABLE GROUND ANCHORS

(below ground/natural surface)

Below ground portable soccer goal anchors are used when goals are frequently moved for training and matches on natural grass fields.



10B1404

16" Ground Anchor Pegs work best for denser soil types. (Over the course of the season, care should be taken to not re-install anchors in pre-existing anchor peg soil cavities.)



10B1101

Portable Auger Anchors are ideal for anchoring goals on a surface that has a sandy soil base. The corkscrew design is intended to grip the sandy soil more effectively than a straight peg.



## PORTABLE GROUND ANCHORS

(above ground/natural & artificial surfaces)

The most common above ground anchor option for soccer goals is weighted anchor bags. These are the most commonly used anchor type due to their ease of use and low cost. The bags must be filled with sand and then placed over the base frame.

Since the minimum weight for anchoring specific models of goals varies, we recommend you contact your goal manufacturer for the proper weight amount. The anchor bags should be placed at the back corners of the goal's base frame and along the back bottom bar. Use a minimum of 240 lbs. (6 bags) if no other guidance is available.

Kwik Goal offers three styles of anchor bags:  
Saddle Anchor Bags,  
Heavy-Duty Anchor Bags and  
Kwik Fill Anchor Bags  
(go to **Kwikgoal.com** for details).

**ALL SOCCER GOAL ANCHORS  
SHOULD BE INSPECTED FOR DAMAGE  
AND INSTALLATION INTEGRITY  
ON A REGULAR BASIS. ANY  
DAMAGED ANCHOR SHOULD BE  
REPLACED IMMEDIATELY.**



HEAVY-DUTY  
ANCHOR BAG  
10B7011



SADDLE  
ANCHOR BAG  
10B1605



KWIK FILL  
ANCHOR BAG  
10B5909 & 10B5922





## LOCKING GROUND ANCHORS

You can take control of your soccer goal anchoring method when you use locking ground anchors. These anchors combine the newest tethered goal anchoring systems with keyed locks that enable only authorized personnel to move soccer goals. This approach will ensure that the goals are anchored in their new location.

**This three-step process includes:**

1. Installing semi-permanent anchors into the ground
2. Connecting the tether from the anchor to the base of the soccer goal
3. Locking the tether into place



**BOX ANCHORS 10B5303**



**TURF ANCHORS 10B5401**

# SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SOCCER GOAL & NET INSPECTION

YES NO

- ☐ ☐ Are anchors in place and secured properly to the goal and ground surface?
- ☐ ☐ If anchor bags are being used, are they in good condition?
- ☐ ☐ Are anchor bags adequately filled with sand/stone?
- ☐ ☐ Are anchor bags placed over the base of the goal frames at the back corners?
- ☐ ☐ Is all connecting hardware, such as nuts and bolts, in place and secure?
- ☐ ☐ Are welds free of cracks?
- ☐ ☐ Are corner joints secure?
- ☐ ☐ Is the goal on a level surface?
- ☐ ☐ Are the nets attached properly to the goal frame?
- ☐ ☐ Is the goal free of structural damage?
- ☐ ☐ Is your goal free of sharp edges on any part of the goal and net attachment system?
- ☐ ☐ Is your net free of large holes or tears?

If you answered no to any of these questions, contact Kwik Goal or your local Kwik Goal Dealer

800-531-4252  
kwikgoal.com



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