

Churchland Soccer League Portable Goal Usage Policy

Background: Portable Goals have been placed throughout the complex at key fields for coaches to utilize for practices. These goals are very useful for practices and have been well received by our membership. But as most of you know, a youth soccer player in Virginia was killed in 2007 by a goal falling on him. There is nothing more important than the safety of our children. The soccer organizations that we all belong to have policies that address safety issues such as weather (lightning) and field equipment (goals) that must be followed for the safety of all concerned. This policy must be followed at all times for the safety of the coaches, players, fans and all people using Churchland Park.

Purpose: Ensure that the best safety practices are followed for the portable/moveable goals used at Churchland Park.

Who this policy affects: All CSL membership.

Portable Goals Standard Locations:

Field 1: Four portable goals exist at these fields and one is located midway between the midfield line and end line approximately 3 – 5 yards from the touch line. This is the primary location for the goals and is the location where the goals must be located before the first coach arrives and the last coach leaves the pitch. Five sandbags are located on the back bar of each goal and are attached via straps to the back bar. The straps must be attached and each coach using the goals must check the goals to ensure that they are properly secured.

Field 3: Two portable goals exist at these fields and one each is located midway between the midfield line and end line approximately 3 – 5 yards from the touch line on the South side of the field (side closest to the concession stand). This is the primary location for the goals and is the location where the goals must be located before the first coach arrives and the last coach leaves the pitch. Four sandbags are located on the back bar of each goal and are attached via straps to the back bar. The straps must be attached and each coach using the goals must check the goals to ensure that they are properly secured.

Field 11: Two portable goals exist at these fields and one each is located midway between the midfield line and end line approximately 3 – 5 yards from the touch line on the West side of the field (side closest to the concession stand). This is the primary location for the goals and is the location where the goals must be located before the first coach arrives and the last coach leaves the pitch. Four sandbags are located on the back bar of each goal and are attached via straps to the back bar. The straps must be attached and each coach using the goals must check the goals to ensure that they are properly secured.

Portable Goal Movement instructions (must be followed – there are NO EXCEPTIONS):

Warnings:

- Goals cannot be moved with sandbags on the back bar. Not removing the sand bags will break the goals at the joints.
- Rules must be followed to conform to our membership requirements in VYSA/US Soccer and our Insurance Policy requirements.
- Sandbags must be on portable goals at all times with the only exception being when the goals are in transit. If the goals are being used they must be properly secured with the sandbags.

Procedure:

1. Unhook strap(s) from each bag on the back bar of the goal.
2. Remove all bags off the back bar
3. Change the wheels to the down position so that the wheels raise the goal off the ground for movement
4. Move the goals to the location desired on the pitch.
5. Change the wheels to the up position so that the goal is completely on the ground. This is important because the goal can and will move with the wheels still in the transport location. Wheels must always be in the up position when the goals are not being transported. All coaches are responsible for checking the wheel location before using the portable goals.
6. Sand bags must be put back on the back of the goal and the straps must be put around the back bar and locked in place before the goal can be used.
7. Before the coach can leave the field the goal must be moved back off the field to the standard location for each goal that was moved and must be properly secured with the sandbags.

Notice: This procedure must be followed at all times and if you are unable to follow these procedures you will not be allowed to move the portable goals for the remainder of the season. This is not a hard procedure to follow but it will take time and must be followed for the safety of all concerned.