



*The Game for **All** Kids!®*



US Youth Soccer Risk Management **SOCCKER GOAL SAFETY**

An overview



Purpose

- The purpose is to provide an overview of goal post safety in support of US Youth Soccer's **Risk Management** process, as published by the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission...



Goal Post Anchoring

Anchoring/Securing/Counter weighting Guidelines from Consumer Product Safety Commission

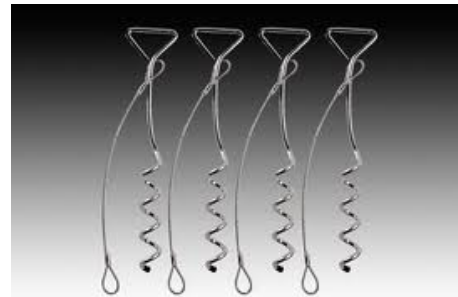
<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/pubs/326.html>

A properly anchored/counterweighted movable soccer goal is much less likely to tip over. Remember to secure the goal to the ground (preferably at the rear of the goal), making sure the anchors are flush with the ground and clearly visible. It is IMPERATIVE that ALL movable soccer goals are always anchored properly. There are several different ways to secure your soccer goal. The number and type of anchors to be used will depend on a number of factors, such as soil type, soil moisture content, and total goal weight.

Goal Post Anchoring

* Auger style

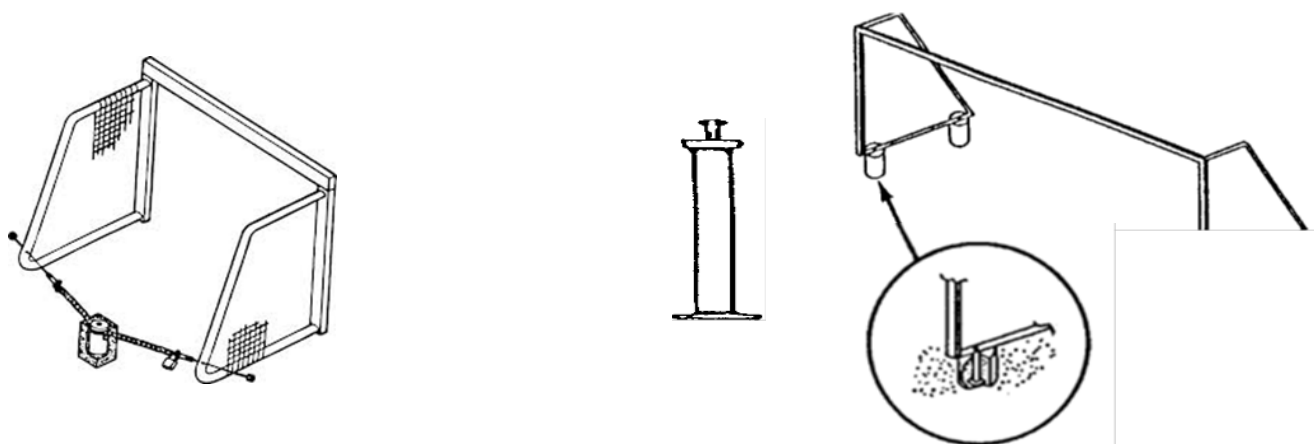
This style anchor is "helical" shaped and is screwed into the ground. A flange is positioned over the ground shoes (bar) and rear ground shoe (bar) to secure them to the ground. A minimum of two auger-style anchors (one on each side of the goal) are recommended. More may be required, depending on the manufacturers specifications, the weight of the goal, and soil conditions.



Goal Post Anchoring

* Semi-permanent

This anchor type is usually comprised of two or more functional components. The main support requires a permanently secured base that is buried underground. One type of semi-permanent anchor connects the underground base to the soccer goal by means of 2 tethers. Another design utilizes a buried anchor tube with a threaded opening at ground level. The goal is positioned over the buried tube and the bolt is passed through the goal ground shoes (bar) and rear ground shoe (bar) and screwed into the threaded hole of the buried tube.



Goal Post Anchoring

* Peg or Stake style (varying lengths)

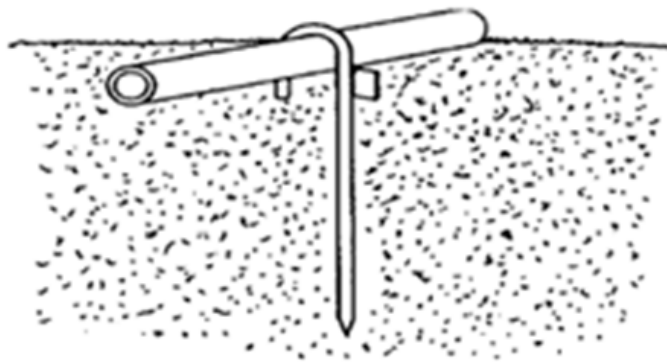
Typically two to four pegs or stakes are used per goal (more for heavier goals). The normal length of a peg or stake is approximately 10 inches (250mm). Care should be taken when installing pegs or stakes. Pegs or stakes should be driven into the ground with a sledge-hammer as far as possible and at an angle if possible, through available holes in the ground shoes (bar) and rear ground shoe (bar) to secure them to the ground. If the peg or stake is not flush with the ground, it should be clearly visible to persons playing near the soccer goal. Stakes with larger diameters or textured surfaces have greater holding capacity.



Goal Post Anchoring

* J-Hook Shaped Stake style

This style is used when holes are not pre-drilled into the ground shoes (bars) or rear ground shoe (bar) of the goal. Similar to the peg or stake style, this anchor is hammered, at an angle if possible, directly into the earth. The curved (top) portion of this anchor fits over the goal member to secure it to the ground. Typically, two to four stakes of this type are recommended (per goal), depending on stake structure, manufacturers specifications, weight of goal, and soil conditions. Stakes with larger diameters or textured surfaces have greater holding capacity.



Goal Post Anchoring

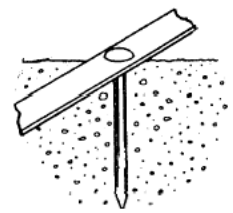
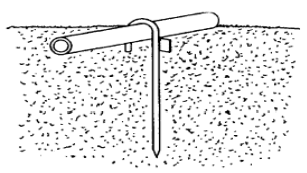
* Sandbags/Counterweights

Sandbags or other counterweights could be an effective alternative on hard surfaces, such as artificial turf, where the surface can not be penetrated by a conventional anchor (i.e., an indoor practice facility). The number of bags or weights needed will vary and must be adequate for the size and total weight of the goal being supported.



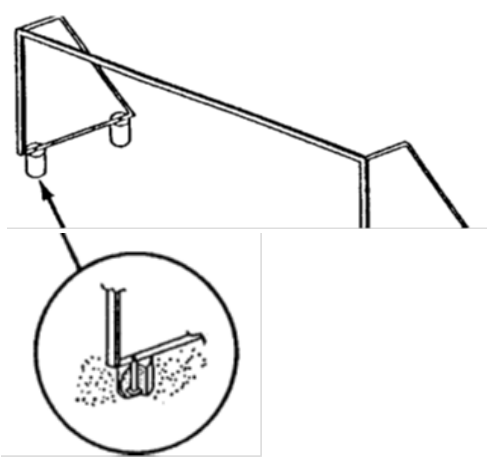
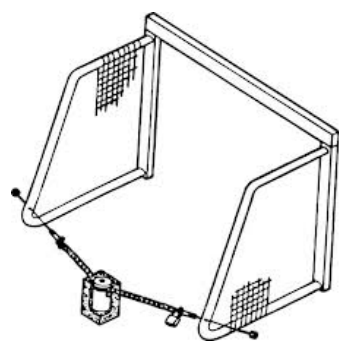
Anchor and Label Examples

Summary (CPSC, 1995)



Peg or Stake Style Anchor examples

Augur Style Anchor



Semi-permanent Anchor examples

▲ WARNING

Always anchor goal.
Unsecured goal can fall over causing serious injury or death.

▲ WARNING



NEVER CLIMB OR HANG ON GOAL
Goal Can Fall Over Causing Serious Injury or Death

Portable Goal Safety

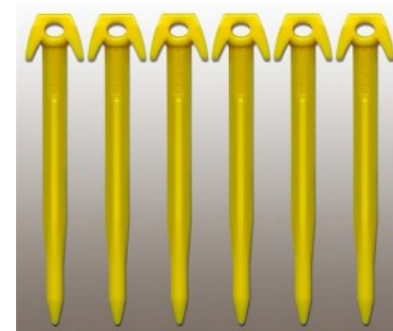
Practice Goals require appropriate storage when not in use – ensure bases are stored away from any fields and keep base stake side protected.



Goal Post Anchoring

* Net Pegs

These tapered, metal stakes should be used to secure only the NET to the ground. Net pegs should NOT be used to anchor the movable soccer goal.



Goal Storage Examples (CPSC, 1995)

Guidelines for Goal Storage or Securing When Goal is Not in Use.

The majority of the incidents investigated by CPSC did not occur during a soccer match. Most of the incidents occurred when the goals were unattended. Therefore, it is imperative that all goals are stored properly when not being used.

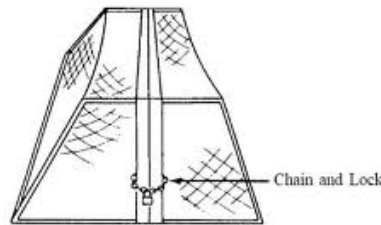
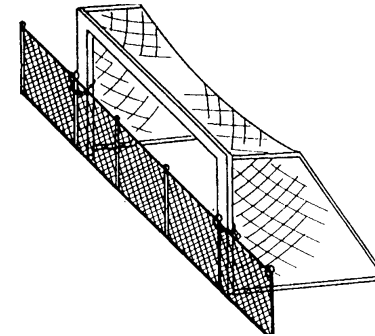


Figure 4.1: Join Goal Faces and Lock Together
Using Chain and Lock



When goals are not being used always:

- a) Remove the net.
- b) Take appropriate steps to secure goals such as:
 - 1) Place the goal frames face to face and secure them at each goalpost with a lock and chain,
 - 2) Lock and chain to a suitable fixed structure such as a permanent fence,
 - 3) Lock unused goals in a secure storage room after each use,
 - 4) If applicable, fully disassemble the goals for seasonal storage, or
 - 5) If applicable, fold the face of the goal down and lock it to its base.



For More Information:

**[http://www.cpsc.gov/CPSCPUB/PUBS/
Soccer.pdf](http://www.cpsc.gov/CPSCPUB/PUBS/Soccer.pdf)**



The Game for All Kids!®