



GOALPOST SAFETY GUIDELINES

Along with the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, the Health and Safety Executive and the British Standards Institution, the following guidelines for the safe use of goalposts.

Several serious injuries and fatalities have occurred in recent years as a result of unsafe or incorrect use of goalposts.

Safety is always of paramount importance and everyone in football must play their part to prevent similar incidents occurring in the future:

For safety reasons goalposts of any size (including those which are portable and not installed permanently at a pitch or practice field) must always be anchored securely to the ground or have a weighted back bar.

- Portable goalposts must be secured as per the manufacturer's instructions; this is also a requirement for the Laws of the Game.
- Under no circumstances should children or adults be allowed to climb on, swing or play with the structure of the goalposts;
- Particular attention is drawn to the fact that if not properly assembled and secured, portable goalposts may overturn; and Regular inspections of goalposts must be carried out to check that they are properly maintained.
- Portable goalposts should not be left in place after use. They should be either dismantled and removed to a place of secure storage, or placed together and suitable fixings applied to prevent unauthorised use at any time.
- Nets may be secured by plastic fixings, arrow head shaped plastic hooks or tape

For reference, you should note that The FA and BSI, in conjunction with the industry, have developed two standards for goalposts – BSEN 748 (2004) BS 8461:2005 +A1: 2009 and BS 8462: 2005 +A2: 2012. It is strongly recommended that you ensure that all goals purchased comply with the relevant standard. A Code of Practice BS 8461 has also been completed and copies of all of these three standards are available from the BSI.

The FA together with representatives from the industry, sports governing bodies and Government have prepared guidance notes for pitch users and pitch providers, which summarise the key priorities of the BSI's Code of Practice and provide further details on the information included above. These details are featured within the facilities section of The FA's website – www.TheFA.com