

Portable Goalposts Must Always be Safely Secured

Clubs and Associations must ensure the safe securing of portable goalposts when goal posts are in use and when stored. Securing goal posts is a mandatory requirement of Australian Standard AS4866.1 and Product Safety Notices issued

by the ACCC and Football Australia. Since 1986, 7 deaths in Australia and over 49 deaths worldwide have occurred as the result of falling goal posts. (Source productsafety.gov.au) For the safety and welfare of all participants it is vital that all clubs comply with the Australian Standard and safety notices by conducting regular safety checks on goalposts and monitoring their safe use, anchoring and storage.

Mandatory Goalpost Safety Standard AS4866.1 and the ACCC Product Safety Notice requires that all portable goalposts weighing 28kg and over are anchored with at least 10 stakes or 12 bags of sand or 10 bags of cement to prevent them tipping over.

Goals must also be secured safely when not in use. Unsecured goalposts can also tip over and cause injury or death when not in use. Common practice is to chain and padlock the goals to a secure fixture or to each other to ensure they cannot tip over.

Safety notices and Standard information:

[Moveable Goals Safety Guide - ACCC](#)

[Movable Goals Mandatory Standard](#)

[FT Goalpost Safety Policy](#)

[FA Portable Goalpost Safety](#)

[ACCC Goalpost Safety video](#)

[Safe Soccer Goals Guide - Keeping Kids Safe](#)



Portable Goalpost Warning Stickers

All portable goals weighing 28kg and over must display a warning notice, alerting of the dangers of climbing on goals, hanging on crossbars and goals tipping over.

If your club or association is purchasing portable goals, check with the supplier that the goals comply with the Australian Standard and ensure that the goals display the mandatory Australian Standard warning notice.

Warning Stickers should be provided with purchase of new portable goals. Warnings stickers can be ordered from several suppliers, including Hart Sport [Portable Goal Warning Sticker](#).

⚠ WARNING ALWAYS ANCHOR GOAL NEVER CLIMB ON GOAL OR HANG ON CROSSBAR *Unanchored goals can tip over causing serious injury or death.*

Net Hook Safety

Metal hooks on football goal posts are prohibited in accordance with the mandatory Australian Standard AS4866.1 Metal cuphooks are unsafe and should not be on goals or used to secure nets to goals as they can cause serious injury or death.

Net hooks have been responsible for several injuries in NSW, including a school student seriously injured on a goal during school sport.

Injuries of this kind are not uncommon when metal hooks or nails are used to attach nets to goals, but these incidents are preventable when alternative safer attachments are used.

Net Attachments

Prohibited

Metal net hooks on goalposts are prohibited and can cause serious injury or death.



C Hook X



J Hook X



Double J Hook X



S Hook X



L Hook X



Nail X



L Hooks on goal X

Alternative options

Velcro net straps, net clips and new types of net attachment systems



Velcro net straps



Plastic Net clips



Net Track System

For further information visit [ACCC Product Safety - Moveable soccer goals](#)



Name of Club/Association:

1. My club/association confirms that both the fixed and portable goals used by our club/association have been inspected by an authorised official at least once every 12 months before the start of the season, in accordance with 'Australian Standard 4866.1-2007 Playing Field Equipment – Soccer Goals
2. My club/association confirms that the goalposts used by our club/association are, a) owned by us, b) owned by the local Council, c) leased, d) hired (please circle correct ownership). If the goalposts are leased or hired, the name of the company with which we have an agreement is
3. Should the goalposts be owned, leased or hired by a third party, my club/association confirms that it will provide notification in writing to the relevant organisation/party of the necessary repairs required. We also confirm that whilst these repairs are being sought, we will not use the goalposts and they will, where possible, be moved and stored in a secure location, or safely secured at their existing location if they are permanent fixtures.
4. My club/association confirms that, portable goalposts will be securely stored or chained and locked together face to face and/or secured to an immovable object when not in use.
5. My club/association confirms that if it purchases any new portable goalposts that it will source goals that meet the requirements of Australian Standard 4866.1-2007 for the manufacturing of soccer (football) goalposts.
6. My club/association confirms that all portable goalposts are anchored securely as stipulated in the guidelines of FT Goal Post Safety Policy and Goalpost Safety Notice, aligning to 'Australian Standard 4866.1-2007 Playing Field Equipment – Soccer.
7. My club/association confirms that suitable personnel are used to move the goalposts and that an object to safely hang goal nets is provided, whether a stepladder, other stable object or extendable pole.
8. My club/association confirms that there a no steel or metal goal hooks affixed to or attached to any goalposts in our use and that goal nets are secured by way of tape, Velcro, plastic net clips or an alternative safe net attachment process.
9. My club/association confirms that, where possible, monitoring is provided at all times to ensure that the goalposts and nets are not used to climb up or swing on, and that testing of the structure to establish the stability is performed prior to usage.
10. My club/association confirms that it will maintain a written record of all users of the goalposts who are associated with the club/association.

Signed: Date:.....

.....
(please print name and position at club)

Witness: Date:.....

.....
(please print name and position at club or professional occupation)

Note: A copy of the relevant minute that identifies the meeting date, business item and resolution of the club/association to accept and implement these guidelines must accompany this signed confirmation.

When completed this form should be emailed to Football Tasmania at Operations@footballtasmania.com.au

In the sport of football, the safety of everyone involved and playing both indoors and outdoors, remains paramount. As per "Australian Standard 4866.1-2007 Playing Field Equipment – Soccer Goals" and ACCC standards regarding the manufacture, use and safe storage of goalposts, we remind all Clubs and Associations of the requirements to abide by these applicable safety aspects regarding the use and storage of goalposts.

Prior to the use or erection of any portable goalposts, match day organisers are required to check the goalpost structure to ensure that it is secured or pegged down with a minimum of either **10 x 300mm stakes** or, **12 x bags of sand** or **10 x bags of cement** and is safe for use. It is essential that the structure's stability and anchoring has been correctly established once erected or relocated and prior to commencement of any usage.

Therefore please ensure that:

1. ALL goalposts, whether fixed or portable, large or small, are properly secured and anchored and are stable and safe for use **AT ALL TIMES**. This includes the goals surface positioning.
2. Portable goalposts must be pegged, pinned or weighted down by the use of stakes, pegs, sleeves, chain anchors or appropriate weights such as sandbags or cement bags to prevent the structure from overbalancing or falling.
3. Outdoor goalposts should be secured by one of the following formats and a minimum of three (3) anchor points;
 - Steel stakes or 'J' Hook style pegs. Sufficient stakes or hooks are required to support each goal taking the size of the goalpost into consideration. Minimum of 10 stakes for a full size goal.
 - Anchors can fit over a ground bar with staking holes for steel pegs or spiral styled screws, which secure fully into the ground.
 - A semi-permanent or sleeved anchoring requires that the main support is a permanently secure base that is buried underground to connect the underground base to the goal.

4. For both indoor goals and outdoor goals, where the ground surface cannot be penetrated, sandbags or counterweights should be used. The number of bags required to support the structure should be adequate and relative to the size of the goal. 12 Bags of sand or 10 bags of cement for a full size goal.
5. Portable goalposts should **NOT** be left in place after use – they should be safely moved to a place of secure storage OR chained and locked together face to face and/or secured to an immovable object.
6. **Metal or steel net hooks are not permitted** on goalposts. In accordance with Australian Standard AS4866.1 goalposts must not be fitted with metal net hooks. Nets should only be secured by tape, velcro, plastic net clips or another safer alternative. Net pegs should only be used to anchor a net and not to anchor any goal structure.
7. **Warning Stickers or a printed Warning Notice must be affixed to or printed on all portable goalposts** in accordance with Australian Standard AS4866.1 – 2007 to warn of the dangers of portable goalposts. Children or adults should never be allowed to climb, swing or play on goalposts or goal netting as it may cause severe harm, permanent injury or even death.
8. All clubs and associations should complete the FT Goalpost Safety Compliance form annually (ideally 1-4 weeks prior to the commencement of each season) and email to operations@footballtasmania.com.au