

Cory Hugo
Football West Goalkeeper of the Year 2005

Safety is important in the game, so I encourage you as a football supporter in WA to get behind this important initiative. Keep our game safe and check your goalposts before every game and if you're unsure – seek professional advice.



Collette McCallum
Young Matildas and Western Waves

It does not matter if you are playing in a park, at your school or for your local club, soccer is about skill, fun and safety. Lets protect our children and remember to: check it – secure it – test it – respect it.



Make safety your goal!

As a soccer player, parent, coach, team manager, club official, referee or spectator you can play a part in ensuring equipment used for your soccer game is safe and suitable.

The best goalposts to use are those that are permanently fixed into the ground. When these are not available, moveable goalposts can be used as an alternative. If you use moveable goalposts you must strictly adhere to safety rules, as falling goalposts can be dangerous.

This safety campaign is endorsed by Football Federation Australia, Football West and KidSafe.

DOCEP acknowledges the support of the Western Australian Local Government Association, the Department of Sport and Recreation, the Department of Education and Training, and KidSafe. This brochure was initially developed by the NSW Department of Sport and Recreation and NSW Office of Fair Trading.

For product safety advice contact:

Department of Consumer and Employment Protection
Consumer Protection Advice Line 1300 30 40 54
(for the cost of a local call statewide)
8.30am - 5.00pm weekdays

Product Safety Unit: 6364 3200

Department of Consumer and Employment Protection
Forrest Centre
219 St Georges Terrace
Perth, Western Australia 6000

Locked Bag 14, Cloisters Square, Western Australia 6850

Administration: (08) 9282 0777
Fax: (08) 9282 0862
Email: productsafety@docep.wa.gov.au
National Relay Service: 13 36 77
Website: www.docep.wa.gov.au

Great Southern	(08) 9842 8366
South-West	(08) 9722 2888
Mid-West	(08) 9964 5644
Goldfields/Esperance	(08) 9021 5966
North-West	(08) 9185 0900
Kimberley	(08) 9169 2811



Information including advice ("information") provided in this brochure is given in good faith and solely on the basis that you are responsible for making your own assessment of it and that you obtain your own independent advice with respect to matters relevant to you regarding the safe use of moveable soccer goalposts. The information should not be construed to waive any legal obligations of entities including manufacturers, wholesalers or retailers of moveable soccer goalposts.

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soccer goalpost safety

SAFETY FOR KIDS

at play



PLAY IT SAFE
SOCCER GOALPOST SAFETY

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www.docep.wa.gov.au

1300 30 40 54



Department of Consumer and Employment Protection
Government of Western Australia



What is a moveable soccer goalpost?

Moveable soccer goalposts can be described as any freestanding soccer goalpost designed to be moved from field to field, or to be moved on and off a field.

Moveable goalposts that are used indoors are exempt from new safety standards as they are likely to be less than 28kg in weight.



Why are moveable soccer goalposts unsafe?

Moveable soccer goalposts can cause serious injury and death if they are:

- improperly designed or manufactured;
- incorrectly installed;
- unanchored or not adequately anchored; or
- unstable.

Falling soccer goalposts have caused deaths and resulted in serious injuries!

Preventing injuries and deaths

NEW moveable soccer goalposts must comply with a WA law introduced on 9 June 2006 requiring manufacturers to produce to higher safety standards.

However, it is unlikely that EXISTING soccer goalposts will comply with the new standards.

Unanchored or inadequately anchored goalposts can tip over causing serious injury or death.

For the safety of children it is important that all moveable soccer goalposts are correctly secured or stored safely away at all times.

Following are four steps to anchoring goalposts that should be undertaken before EVERY match and training session. Measures taken will depend on soil conditions.

✓ **Check it**

- Ensure all goalposts are in good condition and constructed according to Standards Australia. Go to www.standards.org.au to purchase your copy of the Standards Australia Handbook HB227-2003. Type "soccer goalposts" in the search box entitled "Find an Australian Standard" to locate the handbook and place your order.

✓ **Secure it**

- Generally it takes 200kg to anchor a moveable soccer goalpost, with weights distributed evenly on the ground bar and both side supports. This equates to:
 - using 10 hooked pegs; or
 - 12 sandbags; or
 - 10 bags of cement mix.

Moveable goalposts can also be secured by inserting the frame into ground sleeves. This is the preferred approach. Moveable goalposts placed in ground sleeves are commonly known as semi-permanent goalposts.

- It is imperative that further details on anchoring are obtained from Standards Australia or by contacting the Department of Consumer and Employment Protection.

✓ **Test it**

- Before use, adults (preferably club officials) should test all moveable soccer goalposts to make sure they are stable.
- If you are unsure about the safety of your goalposts, do not use them until they have been tested professionally. Search for local goalpost testers to undertake professional stability tests by visiting www.footballwest.com.au, click on 'Club Admin', then click on 'Goalpost Testing'.

✓ **Respect it**

- Never allow anyone to climb or swing on the netting or goalpost framework.
- Goalposts should never be left unattended on the ground. They should either be stored away or chained together on the grounds.

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SOCCER GOALPOST SAFETY

Safety warnings

Free long-life stickers providing safety warnings are available from the Department of Consumer and Employment Protection. Call the DOCEP advice line on 1300 30 40 54 (for the cost of a local call statewide) to place your order.

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- ✓ Check it
- ✓ Secure it
- ✓ Test it
- ✓ Respect it



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