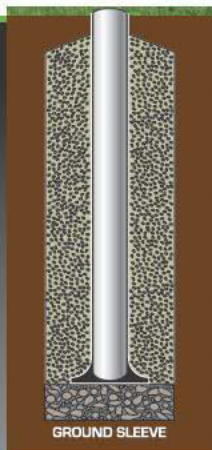


Soccer Goal Safety

THIRD EDITION



KWIKGOAL.COM/SAFETY



This document is intended to provide basic soccer goal safety information and is NOT all-inclusive. While following the concepts in this booklet will ensure that your soccer goal is safer, it may not prevent all accidents.

In an effort to provide continuing goal safety education to the soccer community at large, Kwik Goal has produced the following Soccer Goal Safety document. This guide is based, in large part, on the CPSC document: "Guidelines for Movable Soccer Goal Safety." We encourage the many volunteer coaches, administrators, field maintenance personnel and parents to use this pamphlet as a reminder to practice pre-match/pre-play safety inspections. We also encourage all organizations that own or use soccer goals

to implement a safety plan to ensure that goals are secure at all times. Most importantly, take a few minutes to discuss this issue with your players. All age groups need to understand the dangers of unanchored goals.

Please visit Kwikgoal.com/safety for:

- **A thorough explanation of anchoring options**
- **Current soccer goal safety legislation**
- **American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) information**
- **Soccer goal safety stickers**
- **Additional information on soccer goal safety**

Duplication of this document is encouraged

COMMON SOCCER GOAL SAFETY HAZARDS

Hanging/climbing on goals



Corrections:

- Communication and education (parents, kids, staff)
- Disciplinary action for offender when applicable
- Visible stickers or labels with warnings
- Re-inspect anchoring of goals
- Move goals to storage when not in use

Unfilled, partially filled or torn anchor bags



Corrections:

- Pre-match/practice inspections/anchor check
- Replace as needed

Torn or sagging nets

Corrections:

- Replace nets
- Use adequate and safe net attachments
- Use net support straps to prevent sag
- Consider 3 ½" mesh nets for smaller foot/hand holds and entrapment areas



Unanchored goals

Corrections:

- Do not allow play to start/continue
- Anchor goals immediately
- If anchors are not available, move goals to a secure location where they cannot be accessed



Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. Q. When do the majority of soccer goal tip-over related injuries occur?**
 - A.** Most soccer goal related injuries occur when organized soccer play is over. Most injuries occur either during transport of goals, when goals are being used for unapproved purposes or during pick-up soccer.

- 2. Q. Do heavier goals need to be anchored since it's inherently difficult to move them?**
 - A.** Yes. All goals must be anchored. A goal's overall weight does not correlate to how well it is counterbalanced. Any unanchored goal can be tipped over with catastrophic results.

- 3. Q. Will homemade goals that match manufacturer's designs or styles act as a suitable replacement for professionally manufactured goals?**
 - A.** No. The CPSC reports a majority of incidents involving serious or even fatal tip-over accidents involve "homemade" goals that have been made by shop classes, custodial staff or local welders, who are not fully aware of proper anchoring techniques and safe counterbalancing goal designs.

- 4. Q. Is it true that soccer goals will not tip over unless they are moved or climbed upon?**
 - A.** No. Unanchored, portable, lightweight goals are capable of overturning during high wind conditions, especially with nets affixed to the frame. Goals must be anchored at all times.

- 5. Q. Once a goal is anchored, is it considered secure?**
- A.** No. Portable goals should be secured after soccer play is finished by locking goals face to face or locking goals to a permanent structure. The exceptions are goals anchored in a permanent/semi-permanent manner (ground sleeves, anchors in cement, deep soil augers or turf anchors).
- 6. Q. Will padded goals reduce injury when a goal tips over?**
- A.** No. Padding will not protect a person from injury when a goal tips over.
- 7. Q. If a soccer goal meets the ASTM F2673 Standard Safety Specification for Tip-Resistant Movable Soccer Goals, does it still require anchoring?**
- A.** Absolutely. The ASTM F2673 Standard is meant to ensure that proper counterbalancing measures are incorporated into the design of all professionally manufactured soccer goals. However, there are no known counterbalancing measures for portable or movable soccer goals that can guarantee with 100% certainty that a goal will remain tip free under every possible usage scenario.
- 8. Q. I've learned that some states have enacted laws regarding soccer goal anchoring and performance standards for soccer goals. How do I know if my state has passed any soccer goal safety legislation?**
- A.** Kwik Goal has been monitoring state legislation around the country and is listing any soccer goal safety bills passed into law at [Kwikgoal.com/safety](https://www.kwikgoal.com/safety). We also strongly recommend you touch base with your local government representative, who will be able to update you on the statutes of the latest soccer goal safety legislation in your area.



⚠ WARNING
 This goal should be securely anchored at all times • This goal is not to be stored or used on a slope or hill area • Check that all fastenings are fully tightened before using this product • Check fastenings periodically after using goal • Goal shall be secured against tilting at all times • Do not climb on net or framework



Place on rear of left post in the middle.

⚠ WARNING
ALWAYS ANCHOR GOAL.
 Unsecured goal can fall over causing serious injury or death.

Place on rear of the left and right posts near bottom.

⚠ WARNING

 Never climb on goal.
 Goal can fall over causing serious injury or death.

Place on rear of the right post in the middle and on rear of the crossbar.

GOAL SAFETY STICKER PLACEMENT INSTRUCTIONS



To receive free Safety Sticker Sheets, please visit Kwikgoal.com



GOAL SAFETY LABEL PACK
 For optional purchase of the 10B4201 Hi-Vis Safety Label Packs, please visit Kwikgoal.com

ANCHORING CHALLENGES

One of the biggest challenges in keeping soccer goals properly anchored is that soccer is usually played on fields that accommodate multiple sports (i.e. football, lacrosse, field hockey). In many situations, soccer goals are moved on and off the field on a daily basis for practice and matches, which requires anchors to be removed and re-installed each time.

Another challenge in achieving a higher overall goal anchor rate is the yearly volunteer turnover that takes place at the youth level. New club members need to be educated every year (at minimum) about the importance of proper goal anchoring and safe goal usage.

The continued growth of artificial playing surfaces has posed new difficulties to the goal anchoring issue. Fear of damaging expensive playing surfaces and aggressive artificial turf manufacturer's warranties have reduced the options for anchoring goals. Kwik Goal is at the forefront of the research and development of anchors meant for these artificial playing surfaces.

ANCHORING SOLUTIONS

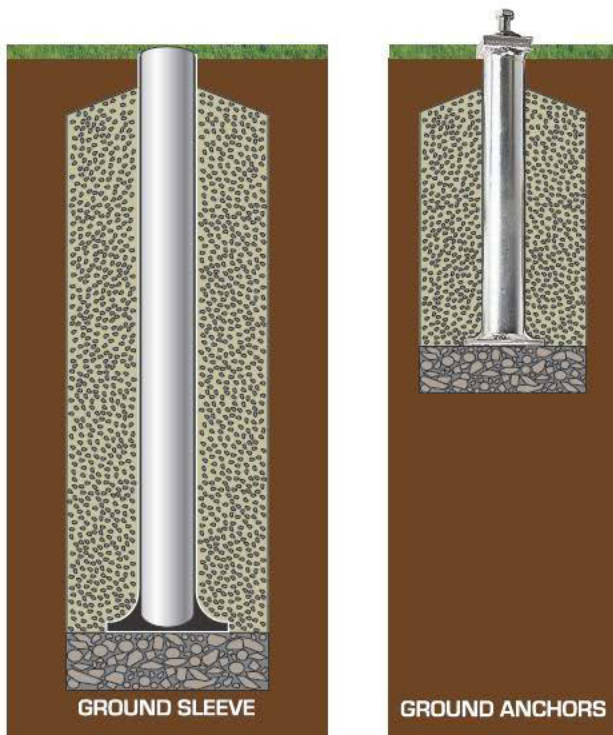
Anchors that are installed into concrete (semi-permanent anchors) are the safest overall anchoring option because they will function properly in all soil/surface conditions.

If the use of a semi-permanent anchor is not feasible, it is critical that soil/surface conditions are identified when choosing portable type anchors.

Semi-Permanent Ground Anchors

Soccer goals are considered semi-permanent when its anchors are installed for the purpose of remaining in the ground for the life of the goal. In this situation, the base of the anchor is cemented into the the ground, the goal is positioned above or adjacent to the anchor and a bolt or leash secures the goal to the anchor.

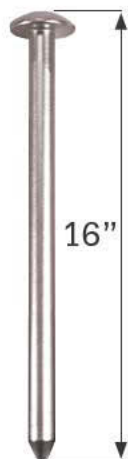
A second style of semi-permanent soccer goal anchor is a ground sleeve. The sleeve is cemented into the ground, and the extended goal posts slide into the sleeve, thereby anchoring the goal itself into the ground.



PORTABLE GROUND ANCHORS

(below ground)

Below ground portable soccer goal anchors are used when goals are frequently moved for training and matches on natural grass fields.



16" Ground Anchor Pegs work best for denser soil types. (Over the course of the season care should be taken in not re-installing anchors in pre-existing anchor peg soil cavities.)

Portable Auger Anchors are ideal for anchoring goals on a surface that has a sandy soil base as the cork screw design is intended to grip the sandy soil more effectively than a straight peg.



PORTABLE GROUND ANCHORS

(above ground/natural & artificial surfaces)

The two main above ground anchor options for soccer goals are anchor bags and anchor weights.

Since the minimum weight for anchoring specific models of goals varies, we recommend you contact your goal manufacturer for the proper weight amount. The anchor bags/weights should be placed at the back corners of the goal's base frame and along the back bottom bar.

Kwik Goal offers two styles of anchor bags: Saddle Anchor Bags and Heavy-Duty Anchor Bags (go to Kwikgoal.com for details). Anchor bags are the most commonly used anchor due to their inherent flexibility and low cost. The bags can be filled with up to 40 lbs. of sand and are then placed over the base frame.

Steel Anchor weights function similar to an anchor bag, but are instead leashed to the goal at the intersection of the goal's base frame and back bottom bar.



HEAVY-DUTY
ANCHOR BAG 10B7011



SADDLE
ANCHOR BAG 10B1605



STEEL ANCHOR
WEIGHTS 10B2601

ALL SOCCER GOAL ANCHORS SHOULD BE INSPECTED FOR DAMAGE AND INSTALLATION INTEGRITY ON A REGULAR BASIS. ANY DAMAGED ANCHOR SHOULD BE REPLACED IMMEDIATELY.



LOCK IN TO GOAL SAFETY®

You can take control of your soccer goal anchoring when you Lock In to Goal Safety®. This program combines the newest tethered goal anchoring systems and keyed locks that enable only authorized personnel to move soccer goals, ensuring the goals are anchored in their new location.

This three-step process includes:

1. Installing anchors into the ground that do not require cement
2. Connecting the tether from the anchor to the base of the soccer goal
3. Locking the tether into place

For more information on the Lock In to Goal Safety® program, including details on the anchors available from Kwik Goal, visit Kwikgoal.com/safety.



BOX ANCHORS 10B5303



TURF ANCHORS 10B5401

PRE-MATCH (PLAY) SOCCER GOAL CHECKLIST

YES NO

- Are anchors in place and secured properly to the goal and ground surface?
- If anchor bags are being used, are they in good condition?
- Are anchor bags adequately filled with aggregate?
- Are anchor bags placed over the base of the goal frames at the back corners?
- Is all connecting hardware, such as nuts and bolts, in place and secure?
- Has the structural integrity of the goal been compromised?
- Are welds cracked?
- Is the goal on a level surface?
- Are the goal nets attached properly to the goal frame?
- Do sharp edges exist in any part of the goal and net attachment system?
- Do the nets have large holes or tears?





PROVIDED AS A SERVICE TO THE GREATER SOCCER COMMUNITY



140 Pacific Drive, Quakertown, PA 18951 • KWIKGOAL.COM