Greatham Youth Football Club
Goalpost Safety Guidelines

Too many 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. Below are relevant Football Association, Department for Culture, Media and Sport, the Health and Safety Executive and the British Standards Institution guidance:

1. 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.

   - Portable goalposts must be secured by the use of anchors (U-pegs) and appropriate anchor weights to prevent them from toppling forward.
   - It is essential that under no circumstances should children or adults be allowed to climb, swing on or play with the structures of the goalposts.
   - Particular attention is drawn to the fact that if not properly assembled and secured, portable goalposts may topple over, report any defects or loose fittings to the Club Chairman or Secretary immediately.
   - Regular inspections of goalposts should be carried out to check that they are kept properly maintained. Pre-use checks should be completed by coaches and regular inspections will be completed by a nominated coach.
   - No person should set up goals without having first been shown by a competent person.

2. Portable goalposts should not be left in place after use. They should be dismantled and removed to a place of secure storage.

3. Guidelines to prevent toppling:
   - Follow Manufacturer's guide-lines in assembling goalposts.
   - Before use, adults should:
     - ensure each goal is anchored securely in its place
     - exert a significant downward force on the cross bar
     - exert a significant backward force on both upright posts
     - exert a significant forward force on both upright posts

   These must be repeated until it is established that the structure is secure. If not, alternative goals/pitches must be used.

Goal posts that are purchased by Greatham Football Club are done so to comply with for the industry standards for goalposts – BSEN 748 (2013) BS 8461:2005 +A1: 2009 and BS 8462: 2005 +A2: 2012.

REMEMBER TO USE ALL EQUIPMENT, NOT JUST GOALPOSTS, SAFELY AT ALL TIMES.

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