



MICHIGAN STATE YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

9401 General Drive, Suite 120 • Plymouth, MI 48170

(734) 459-6220 • Fax: (734) 459-6242

Website: www.michiganyouthsoccer.org

E-mail: stateoffice@michiganyouthsoccer.org

September 10th, 2013

RE: Goal Safety and Proper Goal Anchoring

Dear MSYSA League Officials,

With the fall season underway, MSYSA wants to remind all members of proper goal anchoring and goal safety techniques. According to MSYSA insurance provider Pullen Insurance Services each MSYSA league or club should implement a goal safety program. The program should include the following elements:

- Communication to players and parents of portable goal post dangers involving the following:
 1. Unsecured goal posts
 2. Horseplay on or around goals
 3. Moving of portable goals by players
- Need for coaches and/or other club officials to inspect portable goals for anchoring PRIOR to any activity taking place on field. Goals need to be anchored in accordance with the Consumer Product Safety Commission guidelines for Movable Goals.
- Portable Goals that have been moved (by either the club or field owner) need to be immediately re-anchored after field maintenance has been accomplished.
- Periodic field inspections by club officials to check that portable goals are properly anchored.

Most importantly, MSYSA insists that **no youth soccer participants move soccer goals in any circumstance**. Already this season a Michigan soccer player was injured due to an improperly anchored/secured goal. Since 1978 there have been 38 soccer goal related deaths (most of which were due to improperly anchored goals and/or improper storage). When goals are not in use, the netting should be removed and the goals should be secured either to one another or to a fixed structure. Most soccer goal related injuries occur when the goals are not in use.

Included in this communication please find the Consumer Product Safety Commission's guidelines for Movable Goals. Additionally, there are many more helpful resources for goal safety posted to the Risk Management page of the MSYSA website.

If you should have questions regarding goal safety or Risk Management guidelines, please contact the MSYSA State Office.

Sincerely,

Joel Dragan
MSYSA Risk Management Committee
(734) 459-6220
jdragan@michiganyouthsoccer.org

cc.: Thomas Faro, MSYSA Executive Director
MSYSA Board of Directors
Duane Johnson, MSYSA Legal Counsel



**Michigan State Youth Soccer Association is dedicated to excellence
in leading, educating, and serving the soccer community.**

