

# Safe Soccer Goals

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), most soccer goal post related deaths and injuries involved either unsecured or homemade goals. Children need to be watched and supervised when on the soccer field to ensure they are not playing on the goals.

Injuries frequently occurred during horseplay such as climbing on the goal or attempting to do chin-ups, thereby tipping the goal over. It only takes 22 pounds of force to bring a 400-pound goal crashing down, injuring – even killing – a player or child. Sadly enough, it has occurred in WMYSA.

It's sad to say, but we have seen the most educated coaches allowing players to move goals. This should not be happening! Relocation of goals should be left to coaches, parents or field maintenance crews; not players!

## Some common-sense concepts:

- We all know how siblings can wander to nearby fields to play around and with unused goals. Remind your players and parents to **NEVER** allow anyone to play or climb on the net or goal framework
- Prior to allowing your players to warm up, coaches should be verifying the goals are properly anchored; don't rely on others to verify your player's safety.
- When you move a goal, anchor it even if it is not being used.
- Don't let players move goals, only adults should be doing this. And no, a player in WMYSA is not an adult, even if playing in a U19 division.

