

## CHECK

- Inspect them before they are erected for any cracks , missing bolts etc
- Make sure they are properly maintained . Any repairs should be carried out by a competent person. Repairs should be thoroughly checked and tested before reusing the goals.
- Sharp cup hooks should be eliminated . Use Velcro strips to secure nets.



## SECURE THEM

- Goals should be erected in accordance with the manufacturers instructions
- Sufficient anchor pins and or weights should be used as per the manufacturers recommendations
- Care needs to be taken on wet days . Constant use of the same anchor points for pins could make anchors slack. In this case additional sufficient weights need to be used to augment these anchors.
- On artificial pitches it is essential that the required weights are used at all times.
- Never leave mobile goals in positions after use. They should be removed and chained up in a safe position . By doing this you will prevent youngsters from being tempted to play with them.

## TEST

- Test by pulling /pushing on goal to ensure they are secure.
- They should be tested before the match and at halftime
- There has been recorded instances when goals have blown down after a goal-mouth incident! Always retest after such incidents or if a player swings from the bar.
- **DO NOT USE HOME MADE GOALS**
- **DO NOT USE ALTERED GOALS**

## RESPECT

- Ensure those who erect goals have received proper instructions and are competent
- Give them a copy of this leaflet
- Never allow children to erect them
- Never allow children to play with mobile goals unsupervised. On no account allow players to climb on them or swing from the bar.
- Do not allow children to carry the parts of the goal or help with the storage. There have been a number of instances where cross bars have fallen on to children in storage sheds. Not to mention trapped fingers or bruised toes.
- Heavy items are best stored at ground level with clear access for safe storage and removal.

## ELECTRICITY

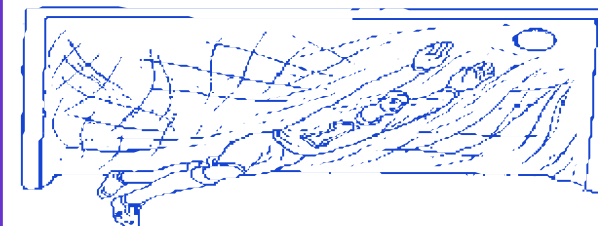
A lot of areas where football is played are crossed by electricity pylons with overhead wires. Under normal circumstances the electricity cables are high enough not to be reached. However the cross bar of mobile goals measure over twenty feet in length and are generally made out of aluminium which is a very good conductor of electricity.

A young Falkirk player was **killed** at the beginning of season 2005-06 when the pole he was carrying came in contact with an overhead wire.

There has been instances where electricity has arced and electrocuted workmen carrying aluminium ladders even though the ladder was 5 to 9 metres away from the wire. This has been on wet misty days when the electricity has used the water content of the air as a conductor.

## HEALTH & SAFETY

All clubs should have a written Health and Safety Policy . To help you to formulate your club's policy check out the SYFA website at <http://www.scottishyouthfa.co.uk> under the Club Resource Pack and look under the section Health and Safety. In the eyes of the law your club has a duty of care and is responsible for providing a safe environment for your members to enjoy the game of football.





If you thought Health and Safety Regulations stopped at your place of work. Think again. Clubs have a legal obligation towards both their members and volunteers.

There is a duty of care placed on all clubs and individual members of the club to avoid carelessly causing accidents .

**GOAL POSTS** are an essential piece of equipment for the game of football. Tragically over the years there have been fatal accidents involving children and goalposts. Since 1991 nine children in Britain have lost their lives through accidents involving goalposts. In the United States there has been twenty six fatalities.

ALL THESE DEATHS COULD HAVE BEEN PREVENTED HAD SIMPLE PROCEDURES AND MEASURES BEEN APPLIED BY CLUB OFFICIALS

Goal posts and crossbars are very heavy and it is easy to see how fatal accidents can occur if they land on a young child's head. By their very design with an open front they are inherently unstable. As a club official you have a duty of care to

- CHECK THEM**
- SECURE THEM**
- TEST THEM**
- RESPECT THEM**

Football  
Is  
fun



**Make sure it is  
SAFE**



**The Scottish Youth  
Football Association  
NORTHERN REGION  
GOAL POST SAFETY**

