

Procedure for portable goal posts in accordance with Standards Australia Handbook HB 227-200 "PORTABLE SOCCER GOALPOSTS - Manufacture, use and storage

(1.0) Background

Since the recent fatality from a collapsing portable goal post at Moss Vale NSW in July 2003, there has been heightened an awareness of the potential dangers of portable goals.

Centennial Parklands has recently purchased new, light-weight aluminum portable goals which are easier to control and present less danger to users. Further to this, Centennial Parklands have gained clarification from Soccer Australia, Soccer NSW and the supplier of the goal posts that all portable soccer posts provided by the Trust comply with the relevant guidelines being the Standards Australia handbook guidelines Handbook HB 227-200 " PORTABLE SOCCER GOALPOSTS - Manufacture, use and storage.

These guidelines produced by Standards Australia and the NSW dept of Fair Trading in April 2000 provide information on the manufacture, installation, use, storage and maintenance of indoor and outdoor portable goals. Centennial Parklands as the provider of the goals needs to ensure that these guidelines are complied with in order to minimise its exposure and provide a safe environment for users of the sports fields.

If the use and storage of the posts is handled correctly the risk of injury to not only players, but other park users dramatically decreases. In order that the Parklands can continue to provide portable goal posts for the benefit of its users without risk of serious harm or damage to persons and property a procedural document has been developed. This document is based on the recommendations from the Australian Standards Guidelines.

All current portable posts provided by Centennial Parklands are widely acknowledged as being of international quality. The goals at Queens Park are the same system as the ones used as the model at the launch of the standards Australia guideline. At this time of the launch, Ian Holmes from Soccer Australia, Peter Thorne from NSW Soccer Federation and the Hon John Watkins, the Minister for Sport and For Fair Trading at the time thoroughly inspected the goals, and deemed them to be suitable.

Given that the conditions of use are complied with, the Parklands is confident that it can continue to provide for junior/ mini soccer. Lets work together to keep it safe and fun.

Procedure for the Use and Storage of Portable Goal Posts within Centennial Parklands

'A portable goalpost is any free standing soccer goal designed to be moved from field to field, or to different areas on a field, or on and off a field, before, during, or after practice or a game.' (Australian Handbook Portable soccer goalposts – Manufacture, store and storage)

1. Equipment

- Check the goal posts are in an appropriate condition before every use.
If the posts look damaged do not use and report to the Ranger and make complete a written report immediately.
- Ensure that the anchoring equipment, including brackets and staking pegs is available:
3 sets portable goal posts
9 staking pegs per goal post
1 pair of wheels per goal post

2. Personnel

- Instruct all appropriate personnel on the safe handling of, and potential dangers with portable goal posts.
- Ensure adequate personnel are available to move the goal post with consideration given to the weight of the goal. Always employ correct lifting technique when moving the posts to avoid injury.
- A nominated club official should perform the necessary checks listed above between each game to ensure that the posts remain secure.

3. Use of the Goals

- Use of the goals is only permitted by the club/ individual that has hired the associated fields and has signed the conditions of use for the portable goal posts. No lending or subletting is allowed.
- All goal posts need to be anchored at the 3 anchor points indicated on the diagram.
- All stakes must be flush with the ground and driven in fully but be clearly visible to anyone in close proximity to the goal.
- Never allow anyone to climb on the netting or the goal framework.
- The staking pegs should not be used to secure the net.
- The goal net is not to be used to secure the goal posts.
- If a breakage of any part of the goal occurs during a game or training, play should be halted immediately. The incident should be reported to the ranger and in writing to the Recreational Services Officer within 48 hours.
- Regular checks of the goal posts should be conducted throughout the period of use to ensure ongoing safety.

4. After use

- Ensure that the goal post and all associated equipment are returned to the storage shed after use in order to prevent unauthorised use and potential injuries.

The Rules of Soccer state that portable soccer goals can only be used if they are anchored securely to the ground. Officials should be aware of their responsibilities in this regard.

Please Note: It is the responsibility of the **signatory** for this application, to ensure full compliance with the above procedure

I hereby certify that I have read and understand conditions outlined in the Centennial Parklands - Use and Storage of Portable Goal Posts Procedure. I also undertake to adhere to these conditions.

.....ON BEHALF OF

(Signature of Applicant)

(Name of Organisation)

.....

(Print name of Applicant)

Date:

Please forward this signed document to the Centennial Park & Moore Park Trust .