



HUNTER VALLEY FOOTBALL



REGULATION H: 3.10 Goalpost Safety Policy

Summary

This Policy provide information about:

➤ **Regulation H – 03.10 Goalpost Safety Policy**

that the Joint Zone Associations Competitions will operate under.

The Regulations, Procedures and Policies in conjunction with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Zone Association shall, with the approval of NSW Football and duly Registered with FA, apply from the date of approval and shall take precedence over any previous Regulations of the Zone Association.

Issued by the Joint Board of Directors of Macquarie Football, Newcastle Football, and Hunter Valley Football.

Issued: **February 2025**

Review: **January 2026**

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GOALPOST SAFETY POLICY

1. APPLICATION

In the sport of football, the health, safety, and wellbeing of everyone involved in and playing football, remains paramount for the Joint Zone Associations and their Member Clubs.

In conjunction with 'Australian Standard 4866.1-2007 Playing Field Equipment – Soccer Goals' regarding the manufacture, use and safe storage of goalposts and 'NSW Office of Fair-Trading Act 1987' we remind all Member Clubs and Branches of the requirements to abide by these applicable safety aspects regarding the use and storage of all types of goalposts.

2. SAFE USAGE OF ALL GOALPOSTS

Prior to the use or erection of any portable/moveable goalposts, match day organisers are required to check the goalpost structure to ensure that it is secured or pegged down with a minimum of either 10 x 300mm stakes or, 12 x bags of sand or 10 x bags of cement and is safe for use.

It is essential that the structure's stability and anchoring has been correctly established once erected or relocated and prior to commencement of any type of usage (training or game).

Therefore, please make sure that the following requirements are adhered to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of everyone involved:

- i. **ALL** goalposts, whether fixed, moveable, or portable, large, or small, are properly secured, anchored, are stable and safe for use **AT ALL TIMES**.

This includes the goals surface positioning.

- ii. Portable/moveable goalposts must be pegged, pinned, or weighted down by the use of stakes, pegs, sleeves, chain anchors or appropriate weights such as sandbags or cement bags to prevent the structure from overbalancing or falling.
- iii. Ground/Field goalposts should be secured by one of the following formats and have a minimum of three (3) anchor points in compliance with NSW Office of Fair Tracing Act 1987 as follows:
 - Steel stakes or 'J' Hook style pegs.
 - Sufficient stakes or hooks are required to support each goal taking the size of the goalpost into consideration.
 - Minimum of 10 stakes for a full-size goal.
 - Anchors can fit over a ground bar with staking holes for steel pegs or spiral styled screws, which secure it fully into the ground.
 - A semi-permanent or sleeved anchoring requires that the main support is a permanently secure base that is buried underground to connect the underground base to the goal.
- iv. For Ground/Field goals, where the ground surface cannot be penetrated, by pegs or stakes, sandbags or counterweights should be used.

The number of bags required to support the structure should be adequate and relative to the size of the goal.

12 Bags of sand or 10 bags of cement for a full-size goal.

- v. Portable/moveable goalposts should **NOT** be left in place after use – they should be safely moved to a place of secure storage or chained appropriately to a fixed and non-moveable object when not in use.
- vi. Metal or steel net hooks are not permitted on goalposts.
In accordance with Australian Standard AS4866.1 goalposts must not be fitted with metal net hooks.
Nets should only be secured by tape, Velcro, plastic net clips or another safer alternative.
Net pegs should only be used to anchor a net and not to anchor any goal structure.
- vii. Warning Stickers or a printed Warning Notice must be affixed to or printed on all portable/moveable goalposts in accordance with Australian Standard AS4866.1 – 2007 to warn of the dangers of portable/moveable goalposts.
Children or adults should never be allowed to climb, swing, or play on goalposts or goal netting as it may cause severe harm, permanent injury or even death.
- viii. Where possible all member clubs should complete the Joint Zone Association Goalpost Safety Compliance form and return to their respective Zone Association Administration Office.

APPENDIX 1

Goalpost Safety Policy Confirmation

Name of Member Club:

1. My club confirms that both the fixed and portable goalposts used by our club/association will be inspected on a six (6) monthly basis or more regular basis to ensure that they comply with the safety guidelines as outlined in the Joint Zones Association Goalpost Safety policy document and NSW Office of Fair-Trading Act 2007 Soccer Goals.

2. My club confirms that the goalposts used by our club/association are:

- owned by the Club,
- owned by the local Council,
- leased,
- hired **(please circle correct ownership)**.

If the goalposts are leased or hired, the name of the company with which we have an agreement is

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3. Should the goalposts be owned, leased, or hired by a third party; my club confirms that it will provide notification in writing to the relevant organisation/party of the necessary repairs required.

We also confirm that whilst these repairs are being sought, we will not use the goalposts and they will, where possible, be moved and stored in a secure location, or safely secured at their existing location if they are permanent fixtures.

4. My club/association confirms that, if possible, portable/moveable goalposts will be securely stored when not in use.

5. My club confirms that if it purchases any new portable goalposts that it will source goals that meet the requirements of Australian Standard 4866.1-2007 for the manufacturing of soccer (football) goalposts.

6. My club confirms that all portable goalposts are anchored securely as stipulated in the guidelines contained in the Joint Zones Association Goalpost Safety policy document and NSW Office of Fair-Trading Act 2007 for Soccer Goals.

7. My club confirms that suitable personnel are used or instructed how to move the goalposts and use an object to safely hang goal nets is provided, whether a stepladder, other stable object, or extendable pole.

8. My club confirms that there a no steel or metal goal hooks affixed to or attached to any goalposts in our use and that goal nets are secured by way of tape, Velcro, plastic net clips or an alternative safe net attachment process.

- 9. My club confirms that, where possible, monitoring is provided at all times to ensure that the goalposts and nets are not used to climb up or swing on, and that testing of the structure to establish the stability is performed prior to usage.

- 10. My club confirms that it will maintain a written record of all match day set-up and pack-up personnel plus users of the goalposts who are associated with the club.

.....
(please print name and position held at club)

Signed: Date:

Witness:
(please print name and position at club or professional occupation)

Signed: Date:

Note:

A copy of the relevant minute that identifies the meeting date, business item and resolution of the club to accept and implement these guidelines must accompany this signed confirmation.

When completed this form should be forwarded to your relevant Zone Association.

Approved and Issued: February 2025

Assessment/Review: **January 2026**