

GYSA GOAL SAFETY POLICY

Goal Safety is a major concern for any soccer organization these days. The Glenview Youth Soccer Association (“GYSA”) believes that it is of paramount importance to adopt and maintain a policy pertaining to goal safety. Accordingly, the board of directors of GYSA has adopted this statement of its policy concerning goal safety.

The Illinois Youth Soccer Association (“IYSA”) has set forth rules concerning goal safety with which member organizations must comply. Specifically Rule 021-A of the IYSA Policies and Procedures provides:

“Any coach who participates in practice or a game where the goals are not securely anchored shall be fined not less than \$200 and suspended for a minimum of not less than one (1) calendar year from the date of the practice or game involved. In the event the goal is not securely anchored the entity (team, club, league, state) that has the primary responsibility for the field or event upon which the unsecured goal is situated shall be fined \$1,000. Coach means the head coach, any assistant coach, trainer or any other team official present at the time of the violation. The entity against which a fine is imposed shall be in bad standing until the fine imposed is paid.

Each team shall maintain in written form a record for each team practice, in which the coach, assistant coach, trainer or other responsible person shall certify that he or she has performed a physical inspection of the goals used in practice to verify the goals were securely anchored and that the proper safety signage is posted on all the goals.

Each league shall require each club or individual team unaffiliated with a club to certify in writing that it has in place a program to ensure that goals it uses are adequately secured, proper signage is in place, and that its goals have been and will be inspected by a member of the club or team (not a coach) prior to each game or practice. Each club and team shall further certify it has communicated to the parent or guardian of each player the dangers of unsecured goals and their responsibility to assure that goals are secure. Each league shall certify to Illinois Youth Soccer that its clubs and teams have complied with these requirements prior to their annual registration.”

GYSA is also adopting this statement to comply with the above IYSA policy.

PRACTICES

All goals shall be properly anchored and checked for the proper signage for each and every practice. **NO COACH, TRAINER, OR MEMBER OF GYSA SHALL ALLOW A TEAM TO PRACTICE UNLESS THE GOALS ARE ADEQUATELY SECURED, ANCHORED AND SIGNAGE IS IN PLACE.** At the start of each day of practice the goals shall be checked to make sure they are safe and are adequately anchored. Stakes have been provided by GYSA to anchor each goal. Stakes for any moveable goal shall be kept in the knock box adjacent to the fields and shall be used to anchor the goals prior to any use of such goals. Each goal shall be checked prior to each day of practice to ensure that the stakes are properly used.

GYSA shall maintain records showing compliance with the monitoring of goals. Specifically, each field or set of fields shall have a practice schedule posted either in the field house (for Willow) or the appropriate knock box (for all other practice fields). A trainer, coach, parent or other member of the club shall check each goal prior to practice to ensure that it has been properly anchored and signage is still on the equipment and is clear. The person who checks the goals shall then initial or sign the practice schedule

which initials or signature shall be evidence that the goals have been properly checked to ensure safety. A member of the board of directors of GYSA shall periodically collect the signed practice schedules and shall keep the signed sheets in the records of GYSA. The board of directors of GYSA shall designate one individual or individuals as having the responsibility of collecting, maintaining and sending a copy to the Glenview Park District of the goal safety records. Initially this person shall be the member of the board of directors in charge of fields.

GAMES

The rules of all of the leagues in which GYSA participates provide that no game may be played if the goals are not adequately anchored, with signage, and secured for players' safety. **The home team forfeits if the goals are not adequately anchored and secured.** Accordingly, on all fields in which GYSA teams play their home games, GYSA shall provide the stakes, signage and other materials to secure and anchor the goals. On game days, coaches, trainers, parents or other members of the club shall set up the moveable goals and shall anchor and secure the goals. Referees are also supposed to check the goals. NO members of GYSA, however, shall solely rely on the referees to ensure that the goals are secure with signage. **NO COACH OF A GYSA TEAM SHALL ALLOW HIS OR HER TEAM TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY GAME, WHETHER HOME OR AWAY, IN WHICH THE GOALS ARE NOT ADEQUATELY SECURED, ANCHORED AND WITHOUT SIGNAGE.** If any GYSA team refuses to play a game or is unable to play a game because of goal safety concerns, then the coach of such team shall notify the person designated by the board of directors of GYSA to be in charge of the goal safety records. No other written records pertaining to game goal safety shall be required. The game card maintained by the referee shall be evidence of the adequacy of goal safety for all games played.

GYSA believes that maintaining goal safety is a high priority for all coaches, trainers, parents and members of GYSA. Thus, the board of directors of GYSA **unanimously adopts this policy on October 30, 2004.**