



## VESTAVIA HILLS SOCCER CLUB GOAL SAFETY POLICY



Each year there are reports from around the country of injuries and fatalities resulting from soccer goal posts falling on children. Sadly, these accidents are often the result of children “playing” on goal posts and tipping them over and crushing themselves or another player. While there are inherent dangers in any youth sporting activity, the Vestavia Hills Soccer Club has implemented this policy to minimize the risk of such accidents to our players. Therefore, the following policy is adopted:

1. Playing or climbing on soccer goals is absolutely prohibited. No child or adult shall be permitted to “hang” on any goal post. Coaches and trainers shall immediately address and reprimand, if necessary, such a player, parent, or coach hanging on a soccer goal. Coaches shall also speak with visiting team players and coaches if a visiting player is found hanging on a goal post.
2. A sandbag or other weighted bag will be used to support goal posts. Coaches should make sure that these bags rest over the goal’s back base cross bar whenever goal posts are in use.
3. The last Vestavia Hills Soccer Club team using a field on any practice or game day will be responsible for assuring that goal posts (whether in use or not) are secured with a sandbag or other weighted bag.
4. Vestavia Hills Soccer Club requires for all games and training sessions that the coach or other adult so designated by the coach will make a physical inspection of each goal prior to and after each game or training session to assure that the soccer goals are securely anchored in accordance this policy.
5. Close adult supervision is required for movement of any goals.
6. Vestavia Hills Soccer Club seeks the assistance of its members (players, parents, coaches, etc) in maintaining and enforcing this policy and hereby notifies all parents and coaches of their responsibility to keep children from playing on, climbing on, or moving soccer goals.
7. Annually, Vestavia Hills Soccer Club will notify all coaches, players and parents of the dangers of unsecured goals, the risk of injury and death caused by playing on, climbing on, and moving goals, and this policy.