

Goalposts

John Wilson - Founding Member of European Goalpost safety committee and creator of mini-soccer

Goal post design & the birth of mini soccer

In bygone days at the drop of a hat, a jumper or school blazer, impromptu games of football were started anywhere, any time. All who played in those games will remember the many squabbles that took place with every shot that was within inches of the blazer cum goalpost. To put a stop to those incessant arguments a soccer crazy kid some fifty three years ago produced a makeshift 12'x6' goal from off-cuts of wood and some pea netting from the old Woolworths store to create the very first mini soccer goal.

When this young lad became a dad himself he made another wood and pea netting goal for his son but realised that something better was needed. Attempts to make a goal from round plastic drainpipe followed however it was quickly realised that these were not strong enough and further research was needed to resolve the problem.

A specially strengthened uPVC section was created, and with special corner fittings and ground anchors a goal was manufactured that was easy to assemble, lightweight yet strong, virtually impossible to knock over, light enough to carry in a small bag and with a new unique system of net fitting the goal could be erected quickly and with ease.

New uPVC goals in bags were welcomed by the English Football Association and in 1990 they were put through thorough testing before being approved to launch the very first small sided football games for children. An invitation to FIFA soon followed and the goals were subsequently approved by the worlds governing body of soccer The Federation de

International de Football Association.

Mini-Soccer became mandatory in 1999 for all children under the age of ten playing football in England. From that very first wooden goal post a whole new introduction to football evolved. Thousands of mini-soccer goals are now in use all over the world. The lightweight safe goal posts enable children to emulate their heroes and dream of the day when they might themselves be the one to save or score a winning goal at Wembley.

From this humble beginning the young designer of the original mini soccer goal went on to become recognised as the leading goalpost innovator in the UK with more patents and registered designs than any other goalpost engineer.

They say Imitation is the best form of flattery and many copies have emerged but none have bettered the original goalpost engineered and developed By ITSA GOAL in the home of football Sheffield.

This report is to highlight the types of Goalposts available and offer un biased advice and guidance as to which may be the best option for each particular football pitch location. Football goalposts can be in permanent positions, moveable freestanding, freestanding to dismantle after use, stadium goalposts, flat pack goals and goalposts to pack away in carry bags for transportation.

The UK has four main manufacturers of goalposts as well as numerous on line sport catalogues that import and supply goalposts.

Introduction

ITSA Football goalposts are better by design, Goalposts that are safer, easy to use, last longer, outperform others and do not cost the earth.

All ITSA GOAL football goalposts have substantial public and product liability cover. The company has never had a claim in three decades of manufacturing goal posts. All our goalposts can be used in official matches.

Goal post Safety Standards

The Goal post Safety Standard BS 8462 was introduced in October 2005 to ensure that all goal posts used in official matches and training designated sports equipment and not toys.

Toy Mini Soccer goals and other Far East imports may not meet these new standards. Goals with rusting corners, creased net stanchions and missing parts should not be used. Toys are manufactured to BSEN 741 and BSEN 5665 which excludes all types of sports equipment including goal posts.

To conform to law one of the game goalposts should have no advertising on the front of the posts or the goal net, they should have a method of supporting the net away from the crossbar, the material of manufacture and shape must confirm and the size should be correct to the inside of the posts.

The goal post safety standards prohibit the use of welded and screw in metal net hook fixings (even if coated in plastic) and all goalpost crossbars should not permanently deform more than 10mm when strength tested to standard.



Figure 1 The 70mm dia. lightweight goal post was dropped on the melon three times and showed only very slight bruising.

ITSA Goal can provide individual test certificates for goals however all test data is shown on the Testing Spread sheet (on page 15) which gives test certificate number and test results.

Goalpost safety standards and testing has no bearing on whether a goal post can be used for a football match. Law one of the game is the reference for Goalposts in all affiliated football. These identify the materials goalposts can be made from and the dimensions. Numerous sizes are set by national associations and leagues as an example in Germany and Holland 5mx2m is the norm in Spain 6mx2m is the size used for youth football and in the UK 16'X7' & 21'X7' is the excepted size alongside the popular 12'x6' mini soccer goal for younger children.

The goalpost size used for adult football is 24'x8' (dimensions are always to the inside of the posts) The maximum width is 120mm however 100mm is the most popular post dimension. The lines should be the same width as the post.

Freestanding goals

It is essential that heavier free standing goals are anchored at all times. With children and youths the lighter a free standing goal frame is the safer it is. We recommend that when freestanding goals are not in use they are secured face to face, uprights onto ground, with lockable security cables fitted around posts to hold them together..

Check It

Make sure goalposts are in good condition and properly constructed. Homemade goalposts should never be used - they do not have built-in safety features and may be particularly hazardous for younger players. Goalposts should always be properly maintained at all times especially un-welded corner frames that expand apart. If any part of a goal frame becomes loose or detached the goal should not be used in any circumstance.

Secure It

Goalposts of any size must be securely anchored to the ground at all times. Freestanding goalposts must be anchored or weighted down to prevent them toppling forward, and should be removed from the pitch when not in use and stored securely. If goals can be dismantled and locked away it is advisable to do this to prevent unauthorized usage. If goal posts are to be left outside un-attended then they should have the nets removed and be stored face down with the longest leg to the ground, and securely chained together face to face.

Test It

Adults should test the goalposts to make sure they are stable by safely exerting a downward force on the crossbar, backward force on both upright posts and forward force on both upright posts.

Do not do any testing whilst children are around the goal posts. **Never** leave goalposts in position un-

anchored always complete the installation before moving to the other side of the pitch. Always inform children of the dangers of swinging and climbing on crossbars especially if you witness it actually happening. Always follow the goalpost manufacturer's instructions.

Respect It

Goalposts should only be used for their intended purpose; in particular, children and adults should not swing or climb on them. Repair any damaged paintwork or breach of the protective coating and inspect welds and all fixings on a regular basis. When fitting ground sockets take time and ensure the posts are fitted square and that no undue pressure is exerted to the corner joints. Look after your goalposts and they will give many years of quality performance. Only sports equipment not toys should be used in affiliated organized football.

The safe use and storage of goal posts in football at all levels is important and everyone involved with playing and organizing football must play their part to ensure that the tragic accidents that have so disfigured the game in the past can never happen again.

Guidelines for the safe use of goalposts can also be accessed in the Football Development section of the Football Association website.

We recommend that a laminated set of fitting instructions be kept with all goal posts at the storage site and that any new users be fully trained in installation, use, maintenance and storage.

Why we advise you not to use these Inflatable football goals

They are very expensive in relation to good quality long lasting sports equipment. Uprights can be pulled inwards making the goal smaller. (If you have a goal mouth scramble then by just falling back on these goals it will collapse and the game will need to be stopped. The goal frame can be pulled in to let balls go wide or over the crossbar.) Inflatable Goals can become punctured (the best way to have a game called off. (see customer comments about the embarrassing incidents they have experienced with inflatable football goals)

Football drop straight down dead without any rebound, as with conventional goal posts, uprights collapse inwards when struck by a hard shot from a football thus changing the whole concept of the game. They are unstable in windy conditions, and often deflate during the course of a game. As this type of goal needs to be laid out on the ground in the winter they collect all the mud which then is carted around everywhere on the goal and in the bag.

We believe these goals should only ever be used as a toy or for an informal kick about. We except that these goals are safe, if not over inflated, but as a reputable goal post manufacturer we advise teams not to purchase such goals and to refuse to play against teams that provide them for any organized affiliated match. We can not understand why the Football Association does are not advise clubs in the same way we do.

We respect that the final decision is down to you the customer ...it is your money but highlighting pitfalls not evident in persuasive marketing we hope to help customers make a more informed decision before parting with hard earned money. We advise to check with a user of the product before you buy or take up our offer to compare with our itsa goal before you part with your money!

These goals are still being sold to unsuspecting football teams This is a recent comment we have had from someone having to pump up the goals every

week..... during matches!

"Would it be possible to send your latest brochure for me to pass onto my sons junior football team. Moorside Rangers, as I am fed up off standing behind the goals on match days pump in hand waiting to pump the nets back up".

Joe Shryane

"I would recommend consumers and Amazon avoid this product. I have ordered 2 and both have malfunctioned after the first inflation due to the substandard quality of the product. I also recommended the product to the local school I voluntarily coach soccer at, where at a home game both goals deflated due to several holes in the product. Imagine the children's disappointment when the match had to be abandoned"

Woodie

"We purchased the inflatable goals as they were suggested by the F.A. An absolute waste of money"

Stuart /A.F.C. Urmston - Manchester

"Incidentally, I have just looked on the internet to see if Peter Shilton was still promoting/endorsing lgoals (which was one of the things that gave us initial confidence in buying the product which endured about four matches before the first of a great many embarrassing failures with both the goals themselves and the pumps"

Andy Smith Henfield under eights

Any Goalpost supplier worth his salt and who has knowledge of the game would never offer such products to their customers.

Inflatable & tape goalposts

As a respected goal post supplier we consider inflatable and goal posts made out of tape to be toys and we do not offer these to our customers. we recommend customers not to buy Such products at any price.

Its questionable how they can freely support the weights on strength tests required on BS 8462 safety standards when goalkeepers can pull the crossbar down with one hand to let footballs fly over the top.

Frankly we think these products are unsuitable for football matches at any level. We advise to not waste money on such products. We also debate that any of these goals can be installed quicker than our own timed installation video. The ITSA GOAL uPVC goal can be installed in less than sixty seconds.

The speed of installation, the main reason customers are persuaded to buy them, is in our opinion, overstated. Our own experience has shown that by the time the pump is out of the bag, the inflatable or tape goal is unfolded (usually covered in mud) and the pump is connected our freestanding goals are up and in use. (see our timed video). Our uPVC mini soccer goal goes up six times faster and comes down ten times faster.

Inflatable and tape goals are all made in the Far East and therefore they are less environmentally friendly. When the net tears or a major puncture occurs on these products the whole goal is unuseable and this may well result in them ending up in land fill. The plastic pump used to blow up the goal has a limited life and the current replacement cost is more than the cost of one of our uPVC goals.

Again as a reputable goalpost supplier we would never offer products that are not suitable. This type of football goal is not really a goal at all as it offers no rebound. Our advice is the same as inflatable goals do not waste money on these toys when you can have stronger sports equipment and for less money.



Figure 2 Tangled inflatable Igoal - difficult to store and easily punctured.



Figure 3 Superglue & industrial tape repairs on joints after four matches.



Figure 4 Broken pump needed repair not long after purchase

Compare uPVC Samba Goals & ITSA Goals



Figure 9 Itsa Goal locking stanchion easily removed with the click of a button. Goals that have innovation, goals that work and goals that last longer.



Figure 12 Itsa Goal with locking secure net support stanchions.



Figure 10 Itsa Goal net support stanchion locked in place on the rear ground frame. With locking buttons.



Figure 13 Itsa Goal unbreakable corner bracket with locking stanchion and easy to use net fixings to rear of posts.(no clipping to do)



Figure 11 16x7 ITSA GOAL 9v9 football goals . As seen on the The One Show on BBC TV.

We do not like to use what we consider to be negative advertising however we feel users of goal posts are entitled to be made aware of products that may not include important and relevant information before they buy. These low engineered goal products have flooded the market and many buyers at club level are now reluctant to continue using uPVC goal posts and are moving towards metal goal posts because of the experiences of buying such products. We can assure you that uPVC ITSA GOAL products are strong, sturdy, safe and easy to use. Our uPVC one section crossbar versions are comparable to most metal goalposts. Football Goals.

Compare uPVC Samba Goals & ITSA Goals



Figure 14 A Typical 16 x 7 Samba Goal in use.



Figure 17 A brand new SAMBA Match Goal notice crossbar dip .



Figure 15 Samba Goal again note and compare crossbar to sales photographs.



Figure 18 Samba Goal with push in net supports that may easily go missing or spring out when footballs hit them.



Figure 16 Samba type goals Note :-Dip in crossbar & no roof to net preventing goals from being scored directly under the crossbar.



Figure 19 Samba goals in a typical garden setting - Note the signature crossbar dip on these goals.

Compare uPVC Samba Goals & ITSA Goals



Figure 20 Samba goal net support tube showing why many end up with out net supports.



Figure 23 Samba Goal showing how quickly the net frays due to being wrapped around base of posts.



Figure 21 Samba match goal stanchions that need replacement - why invest in more parts when you can buy a goal where a tube cannot crease - ITSA goal.



Figure 24 An ITSA goal 16' x 7' Aluminium Flat-Pack demountable goal.



Figure 22 The twisting nature of far-east goalposts.



Figure 25 An ITSA goal mini-soccer - six months old at sports centre.

Compare uPVC Samba Goals & ITSA Goals

These Photographs show examples of other manufacturers uPVC goals that have net support stanchions just pushed into holes and not secured. Do not be fooled by big name endorsements, that may have been paid for, or goals that have touched up staged photographs to make them look better than they actually are.

All uPVC goals supplied by ITSA GOAL are to match standard. Net supports are securely locked to the frame and unlike others they do not become detached when they are moved or a football hits them. Beware head on shots of goalposts that hide net supports and look out for goals with different coloured corners as these may indicate the trade mark signature of a low quality Far East goal post.

The Photographs were taken of other uPVC goal posts with net supports that are merely pushed into holes in the frame. The photographs show the comparison in the designs of uPVC goals and the engineering quality of ITSA GOAL products. Goalposts that are built to last longer and outperform the rest. For football goals you can trust look for the - Made in Sheffield- recommendation!



Figure 26 Samba Match goal post with net support stanchion just pushed into a hole and not secured.



Figure 27 Samba Match goal with net supports just pushed into a hole on the ground frame and not secured.



Figure 26 Samba goal with net supports spragged in holes with no proper roof to net.



Figure 28 When net support stanchions are not secured on goal posts this is the result. (note difference with the ITSA GOAL grass goals in the background)

Raising the Industry Standard

Some Goalpost manufacturers, but not all, are beginning to follow our lead and are incorporating, at long last, welded corners on some of their football goals. The problem of un-welded mitred corners on football goal posts was highlighted in 2005 at Old Trafford when the goal posts expanded apart during a live broadcast game between Manchester Utd and Liverpool on Match of the day. After this incident some manufacturers followed our lead and started to offer welded corners on goal posts.

The photographs show goalposts all around the U.K. demonstrate the maintenance problems and dangers of un-welded corners and joints on aluminium football posts. Crossbars can expand up to eight millimeters whilst uprights expand just one millimeter which means that any un-welded corners and joints can never stay together without constant re-alignment and re-tightening of bolts. Be sure to check before you buy that ALL corners are fully welded on your goal posts unless you want to buy yourself a lot of maintenance work. Is the small saving in money worth all the hard work every week.

Free standing football goalposts from our company have always had fully welded corners and side frames that do not rust. We believe where possible not to mix steel (ferrous metal) and aluminum (non ferrous) and that is why we prefer not to make goal posts with heavy steel net supports that are bolted onto the rear of aluminium goalpost frames. Numerous freestanding goalposts used in sports centres have wheels and in the main many have collapsed or are entangled with net cord. The wheels used with internal bearings are not ideal when left out in the open all the time and that is why they do not last very long. We do not recommend flip over wheels as they can may become dagerous. We can attache flip over wheels to our goalposts however we feel our own wheel systems offer longevity, practicality and real value for money.

Other makes of Goalposts with un-welded corners coming apart !



Figure 29 Others Football goal with mitred corner at Winterhill School on mini soccer goals (not an ITSA goal product)



Figure 30 Others mitred corner Goal post on free standing oval goal with rear rollers (not an ITSA goal product).



Figure 31 Others Goal posts with mitred corners when regular maintenance has not taken place (not an ITSA goal product)



Figure 32 Adult Five-A-Side goal with rollers - continually being loosened when moved (not an ITSA goal product).



Figure 35 Badly designed goals have been damaged by the aid of poor maintenance (not an ITSA goal product).



Figure 33 Wheels that can be dangerous and have finger entrapment areas safer ITSA goal wheel systems are available (not an ITSA goal product).



Figure 36 Badly designed mitered corner Aluminum goal (not an ITSA goal product).



Figure 34 Bag weights with ripped openings are unsuitable counter balance systems (not an ITSA goal product).

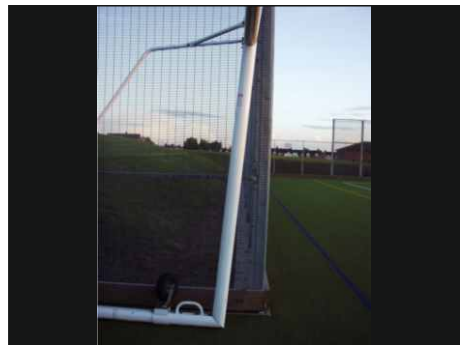


Figure 37 Unstable full size Aluminum Freestanding goal with rollers. Continual movement loosens bolt fixing requiring continued maintenance (not an ITSA goal product).

The examples shown are not ITSA GOAL products.

Images have been photographed from around the UK for safety reference.

Steel Goal posts

Anti-vandal football goal posts from ITSA Goal are the only fully locking goal posts available in the UK. These goal posts have numerous safety features and the unique patented system makes it impossible to remove and store the goalposts against a wall with crossbars attached to uprights. One of the main causes of children's fatalities with goalposts.

Other goal post manufacturers claim that they have lockable goalposts however only the goalpost uprights lock into ground sockets and anyone with a basic spanner can undo the nuts and bolts (if not rusted up) on the crossbar and remove the crossbar and uprights. **DO NOT BE MISLED BY OTHER CLAIMS OF LOCKING FOOTBALL GOALPOSTS.**

Another feature only found on ITSA GOAL steel goalposts are the Industrial nylon push in arrowhead goal net fixings which are supplied to the rear of the uprights and the crossbar which helps protect paintwork. Goal post nets just lift on and off with ease. No tying or clipping is required which saves hours on match days. Goal post net fixings on the uprights have the added advantage of preventing children shimmying up the posts and extending the lifetime of the paintwork.

Welds are electro plated on the goalpost corners to give added protection especially to unseen internal welds. Net supports on the goalposts are electro plated to prevent corrosion and quickly attach to the crossbar. With no bracket attached to the upright on the anti vandal version children find climbing onto the crossbar more difficult.

Goal Net supports can be easily removed after each game and stored with nets. A safer option for all permanently sited goal posts especially lower six foot mini soccer goalposts and areas prone to vandalism.

Our anti vandal goals are not just mass produced bits of steel bolted together but a patented engineered product that offers total security, accountability and added safety.

This attention to detail and quality control is what makes our football goalposts stand out from the rest.

The photographs taken around the U.K. of other manufactures goalpost highlight what the glossy catalogues do not show and indicate the problems found in heavy steel socketed and free standing movable football goalposts .

We have never made dangerous heavy free standing steel goalposts and do not recommend that they be used at all when lighter safer aluminum versions are available. We advise customers to avoid these at all costs.



Figure 38 The type of protruding corner found on basic steel nut & bolt football goal posts (not an ITSA goal product).



Figure 39 Steel ground back bars on freestanding movable football goals rust & that is why ITSA Goal supply aluminum ground frames

Steel Goal Posts



Figure 40 Photograph shows the problems and damage to paintwork that have nets pulled and clipped around the front of the goal post uprights (not an ITSA goal product).



Figure 43 Low net supports that children may run into and cause injury. ITSA GOAL only supply quick release removable net supports on Mini Soccer Goals that attach to crossbars not uprights.



Figure 41 Photograph shows heavy steel goals that may cause serious injury if they topple onto children (not an ITSA goal product)



Figure 42 Low net supports aid climbing and may detach from upright as this photograph shows. From other UK manufacturer (not an ITSA goal product).

As a company we do not follow what has gone before but improve existing goalpost design with new innovation and quality engineering. Making products cheaper inevitably means corners need to be cut which results in poor performance and may also compromise safety. This policy of continued development is why we have so much more positive customer feed back than any other company in the Industry. We make Goals that work and not goals that make work

By pointing out problems future development , design and improvement in safety of all goal posts is ensured. We highlighted the problem of crossbar expansion and informed customers about nets becoming entangled in heavy steel rear rollers on free standing goal posts supplied buy other manufacturers and this has forced other manufacturers to make changes. Our innovation of locking steel uprights has also now been introduced by other manufacturers which is good to see.

ITSA Goal lead others follow...

Steel Goals



Figure 44 A typical local authority football goal with bolts missing - can not line up & can not be secure (not an ITSA goal product).



Figure 47 A Nut and Bolt steel socketed goals without net fixings eventually end up with the net being pulled of the posts (not an ITSA goal product).



Figure 45 Old fashioned nut & bolt goals soon end up like this - not itsa goal anti vandal goal posts (not an ITSA goal product).



Figure 48 Typical hinged mechanics that incorporate finger entrapment (not an ITSA goal product).



Figure 46 Dangerous 60mm steel goalpost proves the lengths that some teams will do to allow the match to go ahead (not an ITSA goal product).



Figure 49 Typical folding goal design with dangerous swinging sides that can cause injury (not an ITSA goal product).

The examples shown are not ITSA GOAL products.

Images have been photographed from around the UK for safety reference.

Mini Soccer Football

Mini Soccer was created in Sheffield the home of football in the late eighties when the very first uPVC 12'x6' goalpost in a bag was created by ITSA GOAL.

Many copies of the concept have emerged including the Samba Goal but none have surpassed the engineering quality of the original plastic goal in a bag.

Mini Soccer is the Football Association preferred route for children to be introduced to the game. The game is played on smaller pitches, smaller teams sizes for more touches of the ball and with proportional 12'x6' goalposts. Smaller size three and size four footballs are used.

Many Junior football clubs struggle week in week out with badly designed Goalposts and tape barriers unaware that stronger, longer lasting and easier to use products are readily available.

Mini Soccer goalpost should have straight crossbars that do not dip more than 10mm to conform to strength tests on BS8462 safety standards. ITSA GOAL supply the only uPVC football goals with straight crossbars and net supports secured to the frame. (not just pushed into a hole) ITSA GOAL offer a large range of Mini Soccer goals including moveable freestanding versions, permanently sited goalposts and goals that pack away in carry bags. They include low cost value for money aluminum flat pack demountable goalposts and uPVC goals with aluminum crossbars. Patented flat folding lockable aluminum goalposts half the weight of other hinged sided goalposts, they offer speedy installation, sides that cannot swing about and total accountability

Lightweight aluminum socketed goals that can be installed easily and taken down quickly after each game are available and for permanently sited goals left in position all season ITSA GOAL have laser engineered anti-vandal lockable steel football goals.

Mini Soccer goals from ITSA GOAL are competitively priced, combine quality engineering, longevity, safety and ease of use. Goalposts made in Sheffield, the home of football that out last and outperform the rest.



Figure 50 MINI SOCCER uPVC GOAL
one section crossbar (perfectly straight).



Figure 51 MINI SOCCER PORTABLE GOAL
(Fits in a 2 metre bag)

Goals that work not goals that make work!.

Mini Soccer Football



Figure 52 MINI SOCCER DEMOUNTABLE GOAL
Store flat goal post that slots together with ease!



Figure 55 21 x 7 ANTI-VANDAL STEEL SOCKETED GOAL Anti-vandal, Anti-theft all sizes available.



Figure 53 MINI SOCCER FOLDING LOCKABLE GOAL
Light weight, fully welded, Aluminum non rusting goals.



Figure 56 Quick release aluminum socketed goals for use with box nets and shaped nets.



Figure 54 MINI SOCCER FREESTANDING GOAL
Top of the range socketed and Freestanding goals with various wheel options available.



Figure 57 MINI SOCCER ELLIPTICAL FREESTANDING GOAL Top of the range Oval socketed and Freestanding goals with various wheel options available.

Nine v Nine Football for children

Nine a side football is the Football Association preferred route for children to progress from Mini Soccer to the eleven a side game. The game requires a slightly larger playing area with size five footballs and larger goals. All football goals used on nine a side games should have straight crossbars that do not dip more than 10mm to conform to strength tests on BS8462 safety standards.

ITSA GOAL supply uPVC football goals with straight crossbars and net supports secured to the frame. (not just pushed into a hole). A large range of 9v9 goalposts including moveable freestanding goals, permanently sited goalposts and goals that pack away in carry bags, low cost value for money aluminum flat pack demountable goalposts and uPVC goals with aluminum crossbars.

ITSA GOAL patented folding lockable aluminum goalposts are half the weight of other hinged sided goalposts offer speedy installation, sides that fold flat, supports that cannot swing about and total accountability.

Lightweight aluminum socketed goals that can be installed easily and taken down quickly after each game are available and for permanently sited goals left in position all season ITSA GOAL have laser engineered anti-vandal lockable steel football goals.

All ITSA GOAL 9v9 football goals are competitively priced, combine quality engineering, longevity, safety and ease of use.

Goalposts made in Sheffield, the home of football, that out last and outperform the rest.

Some goalposts make work ... ITSA Goal posts just work!



Figure 58 9 v 9 uPVC GOAL with two section aluminium crossbar (perfectly straight)



Figure 59 9 v 9 PORTABLE GOAL (Fits in a 2.8 metre bag)



Figure 60 9' v 9' DEMOUNTABLE GOAL (extension to 21' x 7' available) Store flat goal post that slots together with ease!

Bs8462 SAFETY INFORMATION

- In 2009 the Safety standards were changed when a competitor recommended to the Football Association and the BSI that all children's goal posts above 18Kg in weight (uPVC goals) have crossbar testing increased by 1000 Newtons (crossbars to take approximately three thirty stone men) which meant all the lightweight safe freestanding goalposts that previously conformed to BS8462:2005 were now outside the safety standard. You may be able to attain a grant on heavier free standing steel goals to BS8462: 2012 that will be difficult to move, heavy to lift, difficult to store .But not from us!, see our 'Blunt Thoracic Trauma impact data below. Due to this dangerous amendment to the safety standard you now cannot attain a grant on safer lightweight aluminium goalposts just over 18Kg. This ridiculous increase in testing to 1800 Newtons, introduced into BS8462:2012, increases the crossbar weight substantially. As the standard cannot be corrected for some time due to the strict time scales set by BSI we can only supply these safer products to BS8462:2005 - certificate available. For many years our company has been campaigning to **remove all** heavy freestanding goalposts used by children. We have never supplied heavy freestanding steel goals and always put safety before the bottom line. It is a ridiculous state of affairs that safe, more affordable, freestanding goals may not be eligible for a grant when dangerous heavy steel free standing goals, that if they topple onto a child can cause serious or fatal injury, are eligible. If freestanding goal are used on artificial surfaces they need counter balance weights. We do not recommend or use sand bags on our alloy freestanding goals as these do not give a reliable calibrated weight. Using our unique counter balance weight ensures the correct amount of weight is used at all times. Details as to counter balance weights required to conform to BSI & EN748 safety standards is shown on our testing result document

ITSA GOAL & FOOTIE GOAL - TESTING REFERENCE & RESULTS showing deflection on 9v9 & Youth football goals

Mar-13

Certificate Number	Size	Description - 9v9 football goal posts	Material	date of test	Test House	crossbar deflection	Test standard	Newtons crossbar strength	Newtons crossbar Stability	18 Kilos weight
12080219	16'x7'	ITSA GOAL Upvc FREESTANDING GOAL WITH TWO SECTION CROSSBAR - with net fixings and locking frames	uPVC	26/07/12	Element	6.5mm	BS8462-12	300	300	UNDER
12080223	16'x7'	ITSA GOAL Upvc FREESTANDING GOAL with four section crossbar - goal nets tied to frame with upright supports	uPVC	26/07/12	Element	6.7mm	BS8462-12	300	300	UNDER
12080220	16'x7'	FOOTIEGOAL Upvc FREESTANDING - PUSHED FIT GOAL -net support locked to crossbar, two section crossbar - Goalnets tied to frame & up right supports	uPVC	26/07/12	Element	6.5mm	BS8462-12	300	300	UNDER
12080222	16'x7'	ITSA GOALL Upvc anchored grass goal with two section with aluminum crossbar & net fixings	Upvc/Alloy	26/07/12	Element	4.5mm	BS8462-12	300	300	UNDER
12080221	16'x7'	FOOTIE GOAL UPVC anchored goals grass with net support stanchions secured to crossbar, tied on nets & upright supports	uPVC	09/08/12	Element	6.5mm	BS8462-12	300	300	UNDER
8070137-A	16'x7'	Oval Aluminium 100mm x 115mm socketed goal	Aluminium elliptical	02/07/08	STL	2mm	BS8462-12	1800	1100	OVER
9040207-A	16'x7'	Anti Vandal lockable 76.1mm diametre steel Socketed Goal (one section crossbar)	Steel	09/04/09	STL	2mm	BS8462-12	1800	1100	OVER
6110083	16'x7'	70mm dia Aluminium freestanding goals (two or four section crossbar)	Aluminium	14/10/07	STL	9.7mm	BS8462-2005	800	1100	OVER
6110083	16'x7'	70mm dia Aluminium goal foldaway (Two section Aluminium crossbar)	Aluminium	14/10/07	STL	6.7mm	BS8462-2005	800	1100	OVER
6110083	16'x7'	70mm dia aluminium goal (one section Aluminium crossbar)	Aluminium	14/10/07	STL	3.1mm	BS8462-2005	800	1100	OVER
7040410	16'x7'	uPVC goal (Four section Aluminium crossbar) - Grass small bag portable goal with mass less than 18kg	uPVC/Alu	05/04/07	STL	9.9mm	BS8462:2012	300	300	UNDER
7040411	16'x7'	uPVC goal (Two section Aluminium crossbar) - Grass portable large bag goal with mass less than 18kg	uPVC/Alu	05/04/07	STL	2.1mm	BS8462:2012	300	300	UNDER
7060133	16'x7'	Oval Aluminium fully welded side frames (tested with multi surface anchors & integral counterbalance weights)	Aluminium	08/05/07	STL	4.8mm	BS8462:2012	1800	1100	OVER
7040411	16x7	70mm grass portable uPVC & aluminium goal three section crossbar (Fits in 2.07M long bag)	Aluminium	02/07/08	STL	8.8mm	BS8462:2012	300	300	UNDER
9040841	16'x7'	Oval Aluminium 100mmx 115mm freestanding goal (tested multi surface anchors)	Aluminium elliptical	29/04/09	STL	5.6mm	BS8462:2012	1800	1100	OVER
8070135	16x7	70mm grass portable aluminium & uPVC goal four section crossbar (fits in 1.54M bag)	uPVC/Alu	02/07/08	STL	12.2mm	BS8462:2012	300	300	UNDER
13030186	16x7	grass demountable Aluminium 70mm freestanding goal	Aluminium	05/03/13	Element	2.8mm	BS8462:2012	300	300	UNDER
13030187	16'x7'	70mm Aluminium portable goalpost with front ground spike anchors	Aluminium	05/03/13	Element	0.1mm	BS8462:2012	300	300	UNDER
13030181	16x7	Folding lockable Oval Aluminium 100mmx 115mm freestanding goal (tested multi surface anchors)	Aluminium elliptical	05/03/13	Element	0.8mm	BS8462	1800	1100	OVER

CHECK THE WEIGHTS OF FREESTANDING GOALPOSTS AT YOUR CLUB !

The empirical research of ITSAGOAL indicates :

If you have uPVC goals below 18 kilos: **VERY LOW RISK** these are the safest goalposts for children to use especially very young footballers

If they are less than 37 Kilos : **LOW RISK**

If they are less than 42 kilos: **SLIGHT RISK** they are safe – as a coach you can rest easy that if a goalpost did topple forward on a child it is unlikely they would be seriously injured. We have living proof of this.

42 to 54 kilos: **HIGH RISK** - these goals, a child should survive depending on age and where the impact was however it is likely that fractures may be sustained.

54 to 70 kilos: **VERY HIGH RISK** this mass/weight would we feel cause serious and severe injuries if toppling onto a child's head or upper body and a lower body impact would most certainly break limbs.

Above 70 kilos: on our empirical research goals of this weight are potentially **UN-SURVIVABLE**, particularly if they topple onto children

We strongly recommend any freestanding goals to the weight mass above are destroyed at the earliest opportunity or permanently anchored and not moved around.

For a report on goal post safety and Blunt Thoracic Trauma impact information email john@itsagoal.net or visit www.itsagoal.net goalpost safety section.

If you want to see the impact of the largest children's goal, 21'x7' lightweight version falling on a melon compared to the 21'x7' freestanding goal to 1800Newtons that is to the latest BS8462:2012 standard amendment visit www.itsagoal.net - goal post safety .

WHAT PRICE IS THE LIFE OF ONE YOUNG FOOTBALLER ?

Certificate Number	Size	Description - Youth Football Goalposts	Material	date of test	Test House	crossbar deflection	Test standard	Newtons crossbar strength	Newtons crossbar Stability	18 Kilos weight
7080246	21'x7'	Anti Vandal lockable 76.1mm diametre steel Socketed Goal (Two section crossbar)	Steel	09/04/07	STL	5mm	BS8462:2012	1800	1100	OVER
9040207	21'x7'	Anti Vandal lockable 76.1mm diametre steel Socketed Goal (one section crossbar)	Steel	09/04/09	STL	2.8mm	BS8462:2012	1800	1100	OVER
7080245	21'x7'	80mmx80mm Aluminium with integral counterbalance back bar (one section crossbar)	Aluminium	08/05/07	STL	1mm	BS8462:2012	1800	1100	OVER
7090599	21'x7'	Oval Aluminium 100x115mm Socketed Goal (two section crossbar)	Aluminium elliptical	11/09/07	STL	0.4mm	BS8462:2012	1800	1100	OVER
8070137	21'x7'	Oval Aluminium 100x115mm Freestanding (one section crossbar) anchors & weights	Aluminium elliptical	02/07/08	STL	2.9mm	BS8462:2012	1800	1100	OVER
13030184	21'x7'	Oval Aluminium 100x115mm folding goalpost for anchors & weights	Aluminium elliptical	05/03/13	Element	1.6mm	BS8462:2012	1800	1100	OVER
8070138	21'x7'	Oval Aluminium 100x115mm Freestanding(two sectioncrossbar) anchors & weights	Aluminium elliptical	02/07/08	STL	4.2mm	BS8462:2012	1800	1100	OVER

TESTING HOUSE REFERENCE (STL) Sheffield Testing Laboratories (Element) Element Materials Technology

The total counterbalance weight on each of the stability tests is required for each goal in the test range - Information is given with each freestanding goalpost

The testing shows that all crossbars on similar goals shorter in length than twenty four foot will deflect less and will pass the strength test.

All freestanding goals have been tested on grass with multi surface anchors however each pitch can vary - check ground conditions before use

Freestanding goalpost frames above 45 kilos in weight can cause serious injury if they topple on children - extra care must be taken when using these heavier goals

All metal goals both steel & aluminium experience metal fatigue with constant use and movement - check welds and joints at regular intervals - look for hairline cracks in the weld check playing surface- Additional anchors can be applied to any freestanding goal - longer safety pegs are also available to give extra support on soft or sandy surfaces.

PLEASE NOTE When buying freestanding goals for children please check the weight/mass of the goals - These are from our own resarch into Blunt Trauma Thoracic Impact on children
 up to 18 Kg no risk 18-42Kg slight risk 42-55Kg High Risk 54-70Kg very high risk 70-98Kg potentially un survivable

If you buy freestanding goals at the heavier end of the scale extra care is needed at all times-Goals MUST always be anchored and secured and adult supervision is needed

*Football goal posts tested earlier however the amendments in 2009 & 20012 did not change or effect the goalpost testing required UPDATED CERTIFICATE TO BS8462 : 20012

PLEASE NOTE smaller goals with the same crossbar 12'x4' and 8'x4' are also covered by the above testing as the topple is less and crossbar is identical



“Jumpers for goalposts” the start of ITSA GOAL