

Goal Post

How to Guidance

INTRODUCTION



What should I think about before purchasing a Goal?

Before purchasing a goal, a risk assessment should be undertaken considering the following:

- Location in which the goal is to be used.
- Structural failure of the goal that could result in a serious injury.
- Injury to users through regular movement of the goal.
- Significant damage to the goal through misuse.
- Control of access and supervision of location.
- Unauthorized movement of the goals.

made if a heavier but structurally stronger goal or a lighter but easier to move goal should be selected. Any replacement or spare parts are to be purchased from the original manufacturer.

Installation

The manufacturer of your chosen goal will provide written instructions for the safe installation of the goal post set. A competent person maybe required to install the goalposts as per instructions. A warning label shall be affixed to the goal

This document has been prepared in line with BS EN 16579:2018 and BS EN 748:2018. This guidance is applicable to football goals used for competition, training or recreational play, indoor and outdoor areas including schools and public recreational areas.

This guidance specifies procurement, safety requirements and inspection information for all types of portable and permanent socketed goals.

Procurement

It is important that when we choose the goal type to be purchased, we think about the age of the main users, the type of use, place of installation (will it be indoor, outdoor, free, or restricted access), the nature of the playing surface (grass, astroturf, tarmac) and the way the goals are to be transported and stored. Based on the risks identified during the risk assessment to the operators or users, the decision can be



Can the operator inspect goals?

You should be doing pre-use checks on any goal posts before use. Operational inspections should be carried out and recorded. It is advisable to bring in a contractor to carry out the main inspection annually, you must ensure they do this to the BS EN 16579 standard.

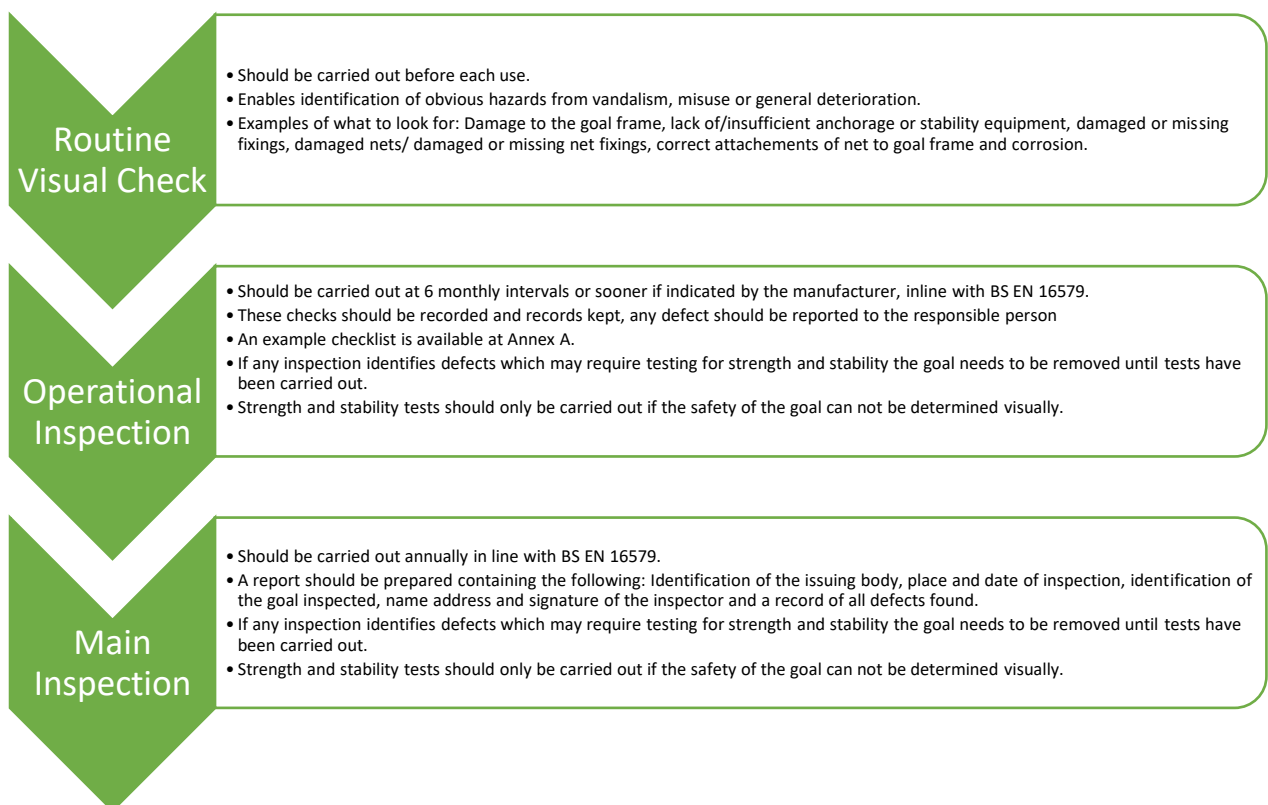
post as well as a marking stating which BS standard the goal has been manufactured to.

Inspection and Maintenance

The manufacturer of the goal should provide you with guidance on how to maintain it and on what frequency inspections are to take place. This should cover how to repair minor defects and where to obtain the spare parts. Intervals of inspections may differ for the same type of goals based on location, use and access. A goal in a public park may need to be inspected every day. While one located in a restricted access area used under supervision (Schools) may require less frequent inspections.

An appropriate schedule of inspection needs to be established for each goal. This needs to include a list of components to be inspected and the methods of carrying out the type of inspection. Defects should be reported to the responsible person. If any structural damage is spotted, the goal should be removed from its location and put into storage with a sign saying do not use.

Types of Inspection



Any testing should be conducted by a competent, accredited, and independent assessor. (UKAS ISO 17025)

Moving Goals

Before moving goals or goal posts consider the safety of the employees carrying out this task and follow the manufacturers' guidance. It is important to consider the reasonable practicality of moving goal equipment, for example, before detaching all



Do I have to risk assess moving a goal?

The activity of moving a goal needs to be risk assessed. This however does not mean it has to be a standalone risk assessment. It could be included in the risk assessment mentioned above.

anchors, fixing posts, weights, or sockets. Assess first if the goal may become unstable when detached from any anchoring systems. Depending on the size, weight, and structural strength of the goal, consider the safest way to move the equipment, either by machines, such as tractors, front loaders, cranes, or lastly manual handling. Consider what barriers may be in the way when moving the goal, such as fences, gates, or overhead cables. Similarly, it is

advisable to never drag a goal across the ground as it may result in damage to the equipment or physical injury.

Storage of Goals

When you are not using your portable or socketed goal posts, they should be stored safely in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and secured against overturning.

All goals when dismantled should be securely stored, this could be either externally or internally, but access should be restricted to authorised persons.



When is a goal not in use?

To determine when a goal is not in use the following should be considered: Damage, failing daylight, the closure of the site, the end of an event or training, the end of the playing season, as determined by an official or operator.

Annex A: Example Goal Inspection Checklist

Control Points (as far as applicable)	Inspection Method		Criteria for Assessing the Results	Socketed Goal	Portable Goal
	Visual	Manual			
Stability	X	X	When the structure is shaken in game play position, there is no tip over.	X	X
Marking	X	-	Present	X	X
Fixture onto the support wall/floor	X	X	No slack in the fixtures other than the slack naturally present.	X	X
Folding and hoisting system	-	X	No working failure when lifting dropping or folding away of the goal.	(X)	(X)
Netting and net fixings	X	X	No defective fixture and/or no mesh holes liable to generate a risk.	(X)	(X)
Uprights and cross bar	X	X	No slack other than the functional slack naturally present due to design or assembly.	X	X
Location changes and transport	X	X	No inadvertent release or unintended collapse in the carrier system.	-	X
Lockdown in position	X	X	No inadvertent release of the lockdown system.	-	(X)
Anchoring/ballast system	X	X	Sufficient and securely located.	-	(X)
Assembly/Screw set	X	X	None of the assembly screws show signs of loosening.	X	X
Corrosion	X		No corrosion capable of generating risk for users.	X	X
Support framework	X	X	No deformation or breakage during working use.	X	X
Netting support	X	X	No deformation or breakage.	(X)	(X)
Padding	X		No damage and securely located.	(X)	(X)
Entrapment	X	X	No risk of entrapment in the goal frame or support framework.	X	X
KEY X to be inspected (X) to be inspected if fitted.					