

August 1, 2010

Dear Soccer Patron:

For the past few years, the City has worked with our soccer patrons in an effort to ensure the safe use of soccer goals on City sports fields. As you know, soccer goals that are not properly anchored pose a significant safety risk in that they are prone to tipping over and can injure persons who climb on them or hang from the crossbar. For this reason, it is imperative that all soccer goals on City property be properly anchored at all times. Unfortunately, our cooperative efforts to ensure the safe anchoring of these goals have been sporadic at times and City staff frequently discovers unanchored soccer goals on City property. Because the safety of our patrons is our paramount concern and because the cooperative efforts of the past few years have not been successful in consistently ensuring such safety, the City has determined that it must address the safety of soccer goals in a more concerted fashion and that immediate steps must be taken to ensure that unanchored and unsafe soccer goals are not permitted to remain on City property.

For these reasons, effective immediately, the City is implementing the attached policy regarding the use of soccer goals on City property.

If you have any questions or desire any additional information, please feel free to contact me (913/477-7628) or Park & Recreation Director Gary Ristow (913/477-7110) directly.

Sincerely,

CITY OF LENEXA, KANSAS

Rebecca A. Yocham

Deputy City Attorney/Risk Manager

cc: Michael A. Boehm, Mayor  
Members of the City Council  
Eric Wade, City Administrator  
Gary Ristow, Park & Recreation Director

## **SAFE SOCCER GOAL USAGE AND STORAGE POLICY**

**Effective: August 1, 2010**

This policy is applicable to all users of the City's soccer fields, including individual patrons and soccer associations or groups. Where this policy references a "Patron," that term shall be construed to include individual users of the City's soccer fields, as well as soccer teams, clubs, associations or groups and all members of such teams, clubs, groups or associations. Where this policy refers to "Soccer Fields" or "Fields," it shall be construed to mean all City soccer fields and all other City property, sports fields or open spaces used for soccer.

- Permanent movable soccer goals are not allowed to be placed, anchored and/or stored on Fields designated and/or scheduled for practice. Temporary, collapsible soccer practice or training goals or other temporary sports equipment, such as cones, may be used during practices and must be set and removed during the assigned practice time. No goals or equipment may be left on City property at the end of the assigned practice time.
- Movable soccer goals may be placed on Fields for scheduled games on game days only. Every goal must be professionally manufactured and must meet all standards of the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and shall be installed, by the Patron, according to safety standards approved by the CPSC. Goals for games may be set and properly anchored up to two (2) hours prior to the start of the first game and must be removed, by the Patron, within two (2) hours following the last game of the day and must remain installed and anchored in accordance with CPSC standards for the entire duration.
- Goals used for games may be stored on City property when not in use only in areas designated by the City and must be secured, by the Patron, in accordance with CPSC standards, and shall be locked in such a manner so as to ensure that the goal cannot be moved or tipped. Goals must be labeled with the owner's name and contact information.
- The City reserves the right to limit the number of goals that may be installed and/or stored on Soccer Fields.
- The City assumes no responsibility whatsoever for any damage to (including ordinary wear and tear) or vandalism of any goals stored on City property. Any Patron electing to store soccer goals on City property does so with the express understanding that such storage is at the Patron's sole risk and with the understanding that the Patron expressly releases and holds the City harmless from any such loss, liability or responsibility.
- All Patrons, including specifically teams, clubs, associations and groups, who utilize the City's Soccer Fields shall be required to notify all of its members and/or users of the requirements of this policy and agree to assume responsibility for ensuring that all such use is in accordance with this policy.
- The City reserves the right to remove any unauthorized goals or equipment placed on City Soccer Fields or other City property at any time, in its sole discretion. Any goal found to exist on a City Soccer Field or other City property that (1) does not meet CPSC standards; (2) is not installed and/or anchored in accordance with CPSC standards, regardless of the reason or cause; or (3) is otherwise in violation of this policy, will be removed from City property by City staff and will not be permitted to be reinstalled on City property at any time. If two or more goals owned by a particular Patron or group are removed by the City pursuant to this provision, the City reserves the right to permanently ban all goals owned by such Patron or group from any and all further installation on City property.

- The City will use reasonable efforts to notify the owner of any goal removed from City property pursuant to this policy by mailing written notice of such removal to the owner at the contact address listed on the goal. Goals which have been removed pursuant to this policy may be retrieved by the owner thereof by contacting the Department of Parks & Recreation. All goals must be retrieved by the owner within 10 business days after the date of such written notice or such goal shall be forfeited to the City and shall become City property. Thereafter, the City may, in its sole discretion, dispose of the goal or use the goal as it shall determine.