

- **GOAL CARE**

I have experimented with various methods to attach nets to goals, and have found a method that will require no maintenance throughout the season. However, if coaches decide that there is a better way to attach these nets and make 'modifications', it will only require me to come back around and 'fix' the 'fixes'. This takes lots of time and invariably the fixes end up damaging the nets. Just yesterday I had to throw away an almost brand-new net because someone had 'fixed' it, putting 2 large holes in the net. If you see a problem with any goals or nets please send an email to the Field Maintenance Director, or tell the Field Monitors at each game. They will record it and there will be a fix in the next few days. Additionally, if you do see a problem with the nets during or before a match, please tell the referee as it is his responsibility to plug holes during his pre-match field inspection.

- **PRACTICE SLOTS**

No coach should simply show up for a practice slot for which they are not assigned. This creates tremendous ill will with the schools, and other coaches as well. If you need a slot contact Ji and reserve it. Don't assume because the schedule shows that a team is at a tournament that you can simply slide in. That slot may have been reserved late in the day and you arriving will only create problems for those of us that don't like problems.

- **ADULTS at BHHS, and other fields:**

Yes, they do show up and they do like to play soccer, just like the rest of us. I have spoken with these groups and have an understanding about how AYSO has priority on the entire field. They know that they play only because we let them play. I cannot stress enough that no coach should attempt to remove them from a portion of the field. If they see you on the field and are ready for practice they should, and 99% of the time will, stop playing and surrender the field to you. If they don't you can let them know that you have a scheduled practice at this time. If they don't leave the field DO NOT get into it with them. Call myself and I will either come to the field or talk with them over your phone. Generally speaking they should not be on the main field if all the 4 slots are scheduled for. They usually play on one

of the 'E' slots off the field. If an 'E' slot is available they are welcome to play there. If they are treated with some respect they will be respectful of us and our rights to the field.

INDIVIDUAL FIELDS:

- **BHHS**

I have over time heard myself telling all players and coaches that they need to lift the goals to move them, only to see them almost always simply drag the goals. I have seen this from coaches, adults, players, and even Board Members. Okay, you win. I have installed wheels at the front posts. Now to move them all you need to do is tilt the goals forward and roll them on the wheels. The only caveat is that **I have attached the nets at this point differently, to attempt to keep any part of the net from getting tangled in the wheels.** PLEASE do not retie the nets because you feel the ball may go through this slight opening! This will not happen unless you are playing with a softball!

When you are finished with your practice you MUST remove the goals to the South end of the field. They will fit nicely next to the one main goal along the fence. **DO NOT** stack them, but simply roll them up to any others and leave them. Stacking them will again get nets tangled in wheels.

- **LCP, E&W:**

Due to sharing of the fields with baseball, please move the practice goals off the field and off the baseball areas when your practice is complete. Picking them up to move them would be nice. They are not heavy.

- **HORACE MANN:**

These goals have new nets and are attached well. Hopefully they will stay in this condition. Again I have attached wheels to the goals so that they move easily, not damaging them by being dragged. If you see your players hanging on the goals, or kicking at the back of the nets to dislodge balls, PLEASE tell them to stop. Treat them like they are your own and perhaps they will survive the season.

- **HAWTHORNE**

Last season I purchased new popup goals, which seemed to work well. They seemed to have been taken care of, and are in very good shape. You will be required to set up the nets for the first game of the day, and disassemble at the end of the day and put them in their carrying bags. Setup takes about 5-10 minutes, so plan accordingly. If you are having trouble setting them up, or if there are issues with the goals, again tell the Field monitors, or email the Field Maintenance Director. You can also inform your division director, who will pass the info along.

Thank you all for your cooperation this season. This equipment is yours. If it is abused, damaged, or neglected, it will still be yours. Treat it well. The kids deserve it!

Cheers

Alex Arko
Field Maintenance Director
aarko@ayso.org