

COACHES CHECKLIST

Prior to each practice or game coaches and their assistants should develop the habit of a safety check with the goal of promoting a safe environment for both participants and spectators.

GOAL POST SAFETY

- ⚽ Portable goal posts properly secured and anchored and used on level playing fields
- ⚽ Inspect goal post for sharp corners to include general integrity
- ⚽ Instruct all players and their parents of the potential dangers associated with movable soccer goals
- ⚽ Forbid any horseplay by players or members of the general public on or around any goal post
- ⚽ Remove nets when goals are not in use
- ⚽ Portable goal posts should only be moved by authorized personnel
- ⚽ Anchor or chain one portable goal to another or to a nearby fence when not in use

FIELD SAFETY

- ⚽ Inspect for foreign objects
- ⚽ Check for pot holes, hills/ruts
- ⚽ Make sure sprinkler heads are seated
- ⚽ Observe 3' Restraining Line from Touch Line
- ⚽ Notify your club and field owners of unsafe field conditions in writing
- ⚽ Do not allow participation by your players until noted hazards have been corrected

PLAYER SAFETY

- ⚽ Communicate the laws of the game to all players and parents
- ⚽ Provide proper supervision at all scheduled activities. Prohibit behaviors that do not promote a safe and healthy experience
- ⚽ Make sure shin guards are covered, jewelry removed and shoes are adequate for field conditions
- ⚽ Place players together of similar ability
- ⚽ Establish travel transportation policies for practices and games. Arrange for supervision of players without rides at conclusion of every practice
- ⚽ Remove immediately all players from fields upon approaching severe weather
- ⚽ Communicate with all parents your expectations as a coach
- ⚽ Know location of nearest emergency health care facility. Know of any special medical conditions of your players
- ⚽ Maintain in your possession first aid kit, phone numbers of parents, medical treatment authorization, and cell phone
- ⚽ Make sure you or an official on the soccer field has basic first aid training
- ⚽ Communicate with parents your expectations in promoting a safe environment. Recruit their assistance

INJURY CLAIMS

- ⚽ Maintain a supply of player medical claim forms
- ⚽ Obtain and record relevant information about an injury to a player and/or spectator
- ⚽ Don't leave a player unattended until transferred to health or security personnel in the pre-authorized manner or released at their own request
- ⚽ Don't accept or suggest fault for the incident
- ⚽ Don't state that medical bills will be paid. Contact your state association or its designated insurance personnel with any questions.
- ⚽ Always give respect and appropriate attention to the injured person
- ⚽ Always correct any hazardous situation as soon as reasonable after attending to the injured person