



Standard Safety and Performance Specification for Soccer Goals¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F2056; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

INTRODUCTION

There are approximately 225 000 to 500 000 soccer goals in the United States. Many of these soccer goals are unsafe because they are improperly designed, manufactured, or installed (unstable and are either unanchored or not properly anchored or counter-balanced). These soccer goals pose an unnecessary risk of tipover to children who climb on goals (or nets) or hang from the crossbar.

The CPSC knows of four deaths in 1990 alone and at least 21 deaths during the past 16 years (1979-1994) associated with movable soccer goals. In addition, an estimated 120 injuries involving falling goals were treated each year in U.S. hospital emergency rooms during the period 1989 through 1993. Many of the serious incidents occurred when the soccer goals tipped over onto the victim. Almost all of the goals involved in these tipovers appeared to be homemade by high school shop classes, custodial members, or local welders, not professionally manufactured. These homemade goals are often very heavy and unstable.

The majority of movable soccer goals are constructed of metal, typically weighing 150 to 500 lb. The serious injuries and deaths are a result of blunt force trauma to the head, neck, chest, and limbs of the victims. In most cases this occurred when the goal tipped or was accidentally tipped onto the victim. In one case an 8-year-old child was fatally injured when the movable soccer goal he was climbing tipped over and struck him on the head. In another case, a 20-year-old male died from a massive head trauma when he pulled a goal down on himself while attempting to do chin-ups. In a third case, while attempting to tighten a net to its goal post, the victim's father lifted the back base of the goal causing it to tip over striking his 3-year-old child on the head, causing a fatal injury.

High winds can also cause movable soccer goals to fall over. For example, a 9-year-old was fatally injured when a goal was tipped over by a gust of wind. In another incident, a 19-year-old goalie suffered stress fractures to both legs when the soccer goal was blown on top of her.

1. Scope

1.1 This standard specifies safety and performance requirements aimed at providing for safer use of soccer goals and reducing injuries and fatalities.

1.2 This standard applies to soccer goals for training and competition in outdoor sports facilities and indoor arenas.

1.3 This standard addresses the risk of accidental tipover or pullover of soccer goals.

1.4 This standard is based upon safety and design requirements listed in EN 748.

1.5 This standard applies only to goals whose inside measurements are 6½ to 8 ft high and 18 to 24 ft wide.

1.6 This standard replaces PS 75–99.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:²

F1148 [Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Home Playground Equipment](#)

2.2 *ANSI Standard*:³

[ANSI Z535.4 Guidelines for the Design and Safety Signs and Labels for Application to Products](#)

2.3 *EN Standard*:

[EN 748 Playing Field Equipment—Football Goals—Requirements and Test Methods Including Safety](#)

¹ This safety and performance specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F15 on Consumer Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F15.43 on Soccer Goal Safety.

Current edition approved Nov. 1, 2009. Published November 2009. Last previous edition approved in 2000 as F2056–00 was withdrawn in January 2009 and reinstated in November 2009. DOI: 10.1520/F2056-09.

² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

³ Available from American National Standards Institute, 11 W. 42nd St., 13th Floor, New York, NY 10036.