

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY SAFETY CHECKLISTS

GOAL BALL

Goal ball is a competitive game for people with visual impairments. The game is played by two teams of three players each. Players are blindfolded to ensure that all players have no vision. Players track the ball on the court (similar to volleyball) but rely on their sense of hearing and touch to do so (the ball makes a continuous noise when in play). The object is to roll the ball past the defending team, who attempt to block the ball before it enters the goal.

Risk Factor Rating

4

General Learning Outcome

The student will demonstrate safe and responsible behaviours to manage risks and prevent injuries in physical activity participation and for daily living.

Risk Management Strategies

Safety information and recommendations contained in this safety checklist are believed to reflect best practice to reduce risk. The suggested risk management strategies are considered minimum standards for physical activity in an organized or formal setting. They may not apply to all situations (e.g., home-based, recreational, or modified activities), and more stringent safety standards may be applied by instructors/coaches/program leaders of OUT-of-class physical activities in organized programs.

Instruction

Note: The amount and level of instruction/directions required by the student may vary based on circumstances such as the student's personal experience, skill level, and physical condition. The use of media resources, such as books and instructional videos, may replace direct instruction if deemed appropriate and safe.

Instruction is received from a trained/certified by the Canadian Blind Sports Association or a trained teacher knowledgeable about the game of goal ball as is appropriate, depending on various factors such as level of risk, intensity, accessibility, experience, and skill

All sessions are conducted in a safe environment, with students aware of potential risks involved in goal ball

Safety rules are learned prior to participation

Skills/movements are learned in proper progression

Each session is conducted with a proper warm-up, cool-down, and appropriate fitness work

Drinking water is available and consumed as needed

Supervision

Note: The level of supervision is provided as is appropriate, depending on various factors such as level of risk, intensity, accessibility, experience, and skill.

Recommended level of supervision: **on-site supervision**

Safety rules and procedures are enforced

Emergency action plan is in place to deal with accidents/injuries

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Facility

- Activity area is smooth and free of hazards/debris
- Activity area is clearly marked with adequate out-of-bounds areas
- Proper lighting and ventilation, when applicable, are provided
- Instructions for use of facility are posted
- Emergency exit of indoor facility is clearly marked

Equipment

- Equipment to be used is suitable and in good condition
- Equipment (ball, blindfolds, and goals) are checked before every session
- Goal ball uses a standard goal ball that meets International Blind Sport Association (IBSA) specification. It weighs 1.25kg and is 76cm in diameter. The most important aspect of this ball is that it is audible when in motion. Players depend on the sound of the ball to determine where it is during the game.
- Another essential piece of equipment is the blindfold (Each player [whether totally blind or visually impaired] must be blindfolded during the game to ensure vision is equal.)
- First aid kit and phone are available

Clothing/Footwear

- Appropriate footwear is worn
- Laces are tied and open-toed shoes are avoided
- Elbow and knee pads are worn to protect against bruises and floor burns
- Jewelry is removed or secured when safety is a concern
- Appropriate clothing is worn (t-shirt and shorts or sweatpants are best), permitting unrestricted movement.
- Clothing must meet requirements of club or competition

Other Considerations

- The student has completed a regular medical checkup and a medical history prior to starting the program
- The student has submitted the signed Parent Declaration and Consent & Student Declaration Form (student under 18) or Student Declaration Form (student 18 and over) prior to beginning the program
- Registration in an accident insurance plan is encouraged
- Students who suffer an injury are referred to appropriate medical personnel for treatment and rehabilitation, and should not return to training until cleared by a qualified medical professional
- The activity is suitable to the student's age, ability, mental condition, and physical condition
- The student demonstrates self-control at all times and avoids any behaviour deemed inappropriate
- The student's choice of this activity as part of the OUT-of-class component of the physical education/health education course has been presented to the parent/guardian (student under 18 years of age) and to the teacher