



FIH Approved Field Equipment Indoor Hockey Goals



1 INTRODUCTION

As part of the FIH's strategy to develop the game and provide reassurance to those investing in hockey facilities, the FIH Quality Programme has developed this guide that defines the quality requirements for FIH Approved Indoor Hockey Goals.

The guide refers to test methods and design requirements detailed in European Standard EN 16579, developed by technical committee CEN/TC 136/22. Additional requirements are also included, and these are based on market research and discussions held with FIH's national associations and confederations.

2 APPROVAL PROCESS

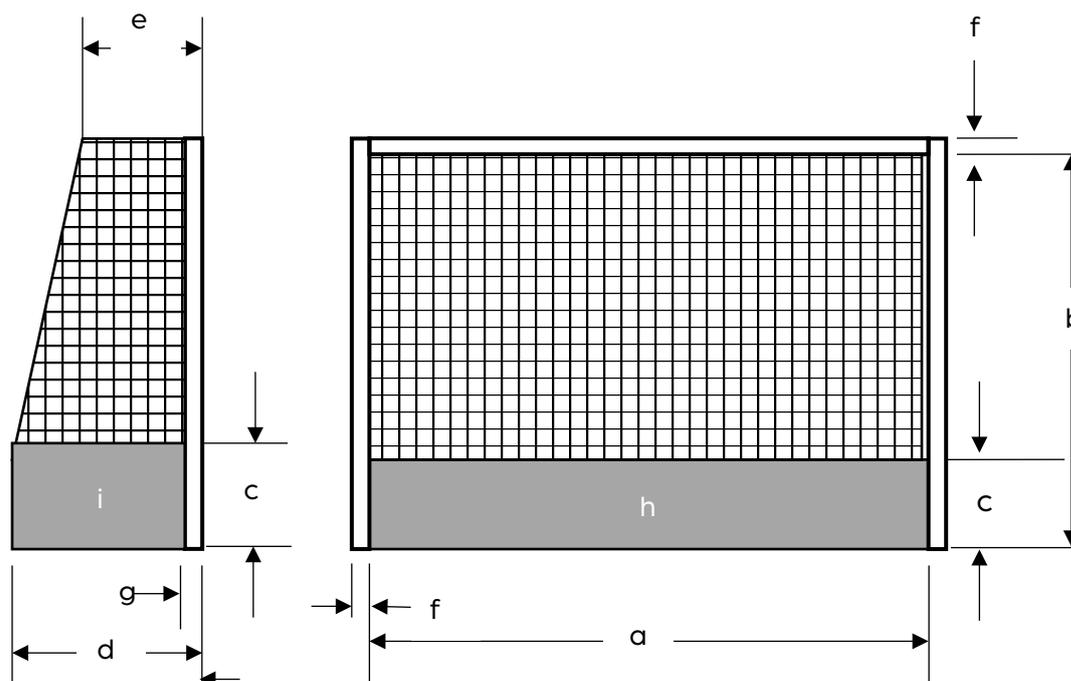
For an Indoor Hockey goal to be registered as an FIH Approved product the following process needs to be followed:

1. The goal manufacturer (or supplier) shall be a member of the FIH Quality Programme (see Appendix A and contact facilities@FIH.ch for details).
2. The goal manufacturer should submit the goal to a test institute that is able to undertake all the necessary tests to the standards of accuracy and reproducibility stipulated by the FIH. Ideally the test institute will operate an ISO accredited quality management programme.
3. The results obtained should be reported in English, and be sent to the FIH, by the test institute, for review.
4. If the goal is found to meet the quality levels detailed in this guide; it shall be granted the right to be designated an *FIH Approved Indoor Hockey Goal*.
5. A goal shall remain approved providing the manufacturer remains a member of the FIH Quality Programme; no goals are found to be non-compliant with this guide; and the specification and construction of the goal does not change.

3 REQUIREMENTS AS SPECIFIED IN THE RULES OF INDOOR HOCKEY

3.1 Goal posts and crossbar

A goal comprises two vertical goal-posts joined by a horizontal crossbar, two side-boards, a back-board, and a net.



a	3.00 m	b	2.00 m	c	460 mm	d	min 1.00 m
e	min. 0.80m	f	80 mm	g	80 mm	h	Back-board
i	Side-board						

- a. the goal-posts and cross-bar should be:
 - white, or another approved colour
 - rectangular in cross section
 - 80 (± 1) mm wide and 80 (± 1) mm deep

- b. the goal-posts must not extend vertically beyond the cross-bar and the cross-bar must not extend horizontally beyond the goal-posts

- c. the distance between the inner edges of the goal-posts should be 3.00 (± 0.01) metres and the distance from the lower edge of the cross-bar to the ground should be 2.00 (± 0.01) metres

- d. the space outside the pitch, behind but including the goal-posts and cross-bar and enclosed by the net should be a minimum of 0.80 metres deep at the cross-bar and a minimum of 1.00 metres deep at ground-level.

3.2 Side-boards and back-boards

Although not mandatory within the rules, side-boards and back-boards should be fitted to FIH Approved Indoor Hockey Goals. They should conform to the following requirements:

- a. side-boards should be a minimum 0.92 metres long and 460 (\pm 1) mm high
- b. back-boards should be 3.00 metres long and 460 (\pm 1) mm high
- c. side-boards should be positioned on the ground at right angles to the back-line and fixed to the back of the goal-posts without increasing their width
- d. back-boards should be positioned on the ground at right angles to the goal side-boards and parallel to the back-line, and fixed to the end of the goal side-boards
- e. side-boards and back-boards should be an approved colour on the inside.

3.3 Goal Nets.

- a. the net should be attached to the back of the goal-posts and crossbar at intervals of not more than 150 mm.
- b. the nets should be attached to the side and back-boards at intervals that prevent the ball passing between the net and the side-boards, and back-boards
- c. nets should be fitted loosely to prevent the ball rebounding.

4 ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR FIH APPROVED GOALS

4.1 Goal design

- a. The goal should be supplied as a complete unit (e.g. goal, net, side and back-boards, net frame, stabilizers, anchors, etc.) together with any other accessories that may be required.
- b. The goal should be designed to withstand the stresses that may occur during a game, or during movement and storage.

- c. Brackets supporting the net or parts of the goal frame should not protrude outside the width of the goal post or crossbar.
- d. Frame fixings should not be attached to the side or back-boards in a way that could result in any ball entering the goal, rebounding off them.
- e. All corner profiles of the side and back-boards should be rounded to minimise the risk of them being a hazard if a player were to fall onto them, and to stop them cutting the pile of the playing surface.
- f. Any vertical part of the net support frame should be outside the net and fixed in such a way that any ball entering the goal, cannot rebound off them.
- g. No part of the goal should disengage or drop unintentionally when the goal is being moved.

5 MATERIALS

The goal should be made from materials selected so that the structural integrity of the goal is not affected during play, training, competition, transportation, and storage.

All materials should be non-toxic and comply with all national environmental and toxicology regulations.

When selecting materials, consideration should be given to the eventual disposal of the goal having regard to future recycling where possible, and any possible environmental impact through disposal.

Powder coating should be undertaken in accordance with EN 12206 or EN 13438, as appropriate.

Galvanized treatments to steel components should be applied in accordance with EN ISO 1461.

5.1 Goal posts and cross bar

The goal frame should be made from an impact resistant non-corrosive reinforced metal extrusion, or a solid non-corrosive metal section having a solid core (e.g. timber).

5.1.1 The minimum thickness of the walls should be:

Front face: 6 mm. Sides walls: 3 mm.

5.1.2 Or independent testing should be undertaken to verify that repeated impacts of the frame by hockey balls travelling at speed do not cause the frame to dent or crack.

Note: The goal manufacturer/test laboratory should submit proposals to the FIH on how they propose to undertake the test in advance of it being undertaken.

5.1.3 The front and corner edges of the goal-posts and cross-bar should be rounded with a radius of 3^{+2}_{-1} mm.

5.1.4 The goal frame should be powder coated.

5.2 Net

The net should be made from 3 mm (minimum) diameter UV resistant synthetic yarn.

The minimum mesh breaking strength, when tested in accordance with ISO 1806¹, should be 1080N².

5.3 Net fixings

Net fixings should be designed in such a way that the player cannot be hurt. Metal cup hooks shall not be used.

Net head-line ropes should be made from UV resistant synthetic fibres having a minimum rope breaking force of 7000 N when tested in accordance with ISO 2307³.

5.4 Back-boards and side-boards

If the back-boards and side-boards are designated as being "IMPACT RESISTANT" they should be manufactured from:

- extruded solid profile, 20 mm thick (min), UV resistant High Density Polyethylene (HDPE).
- rubber profile having a minimum tensile strength 0.40 MPA and minimum elongation at break of 40%, when tested in accordance with EN 12230.
- or other materials where the manufacturer can demonstrate the boards' ability to withstand repeated ball impacts, by independent testing.

Note: * Independent testing should be based on a hockey ball being fired repeatedly at speed at the same position on the backboard to assess the board's ability to withstand the impacts.

¹ ISO 1806, *Fishing nets – Determination of mesh breaking force of netting*

² This corresponds to a breaking strength of 900 N when, tested in accordance with EN ISO 2062

³ ISO 2307:2007 *Fibre ropes. Determination of certain physical and mechanical properties*

The goal manufacturer/test laboratory should submit proposals to the FIH on how they propose to undertake tests in advance of it being undertaken.

6 SAFETY IN USE

6.1 Goal stability

When tested in accordance with Clause 6.2 of EN 16579⁴, the goal should not tilt from the ground.

6.2 Cross bar strength

When tested in accordance with Clause 6.1.1 of EN 16579, the crossbar should not show visible signs of cracking, fracture or collapse or show permanent deformation greater than 10 mm.

6.3 Goal frame security

When tested in accordance with Clause 6.1.2 of EN 16579 the corner section of the goal frame should not deform or be damaged after the test.

6.4 Entrapment

Goals should be designed and constructed so that during use, transportation, and storage (if applicable) they do not have any crushing or shearing hazards between moving parts and/or fixed parts, or risk of entrapment of finger, head, and neck. This shall be assessed using the procedures given in EN 913, Annex A, and Clause 6.3 of Annex A of EN 16579.

7 ASSEMBLY, INSTALLATION, AND MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

The manufacturer should provide comprehensive written instructions for assembly, installation, transportation, and safe storage of the goal.

Guidance on maintenance of the goal should include advise on the periodic checking of goals in accordance with Annex E of EN 16579.

8 WARRANTY

The goal should be supplied with a manufacturer's warranty that provides cover against manufacturing defects and the premature failure of materials. The minimum duration of the warranty should be two years (noting manufacturers may include a disclaimer against premature failure due to abuse, misuse, and lack of maintenance).

⁴ EN 16579 Playing field equipment – Portable and permanent socketed goals – Functional, safety requirements and test methods

APPENDIX A – MEMBERSHIP OF FIH QUALITY PROGRAMME MANUFACTURERS OF SPORTS EQUIPMENT

The **FIH Quality Programme** provides consistent and dependable industry standards for a range of equipment and facilities used by the game of hockey.

As a manufacturer of FIH Approved field equipment a company becomes part of an exclusive group that is working in partnership with the FIH to ensure the quality and performance of Hockey equipment.

In addition to demonstrating their commitment to hockey and showcasing industry best practices, they benefit from:

- The right to use FIH Approved logos on their approved goals.



- Input into industry development through attendance at FIH technical meetings and the ability to provide feedback on any changes made to the *FIH Hockey Equipment Standards*.
- Increased worldwide exposure and marketing through recognition by the FIH of your goals and your presence on the FIH's website. Information will include company name, website, and a list of FIH Approved equipment you manufacture.

Membership criteria

Either manufacturers or brand owners¹ of hockey equipment satisfying the requirements of this Standard may apply to join the FIH Quality Programme, subject to the following conditions:

1. The goal is manufactured under a quality management system (ISO 9001 or similar) at the time of application and for the duration of the goal's approval.
2. The manufacturing company complies with all national and local employment laws and the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child*.
3. Payment of the appropriate annual licensing fee, as advised by the FIH.

Suppliers of white label products that have previously been shown to comply with this Standard may also apply for FIH Approval of the product under their own name, subject to them entering a separate licensing contract to the manufacturer and payment of the appropriate licensing fee.

Notes:

1. Brand owners are defined as companies that own the intellectual properties rights to a goal but outsource the manufacturing to a third-party company.

FIH Field Equipment Standards

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this series of publications, any party who makes use of any part of the Standard in the development of a hockey facility shall indemnify the International Hockey Federation (FIH), its servants, consultants or agents against all claims, proceedings, actions, damages, costs, expenses and any other liabilities for loss or damage to any property, or injury or death to any person that may be made against or incurred by the FIH arising out of or in connection with such use.

Compliance with the requirements detailed in the Standard by a User does not of itself confer on that User immunity from their legal obligations.

Compliance with the requirements detailed in the Standards by a User constitutes acceptance of the terms of this disclaimer by that User.

FIH reserve the right to amend, update or delete sections of the Standard at any time, as they deem necessary.

Any questions about this document should be addressed to:

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