

PURPOSE: To relocate the two soccer goals near Shackleford to a usable area such as Pohl Field, or the space behind Shack, or behind Kincannon, or any other plausible locations. ~~or Turner Field.~~

INTRODUCED BY: Khang Tran

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL FOR MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE SENATE:

SECTION ONE (REASONING):

The current placement of the soccer goals near Shackleford Hall is not allowed for use by the students because of their placement on top of the remaining foundation and debris of a previously demolished residence hall. Mr. Allen, the director of Frazer Hall, stated that this area was previously used as a practice area for the girls' and boys' soccer teams, as well as a recreation area for students in general. However, after concerns were raised about debris rising out of the ground and becoming lodged in students' shoes, this area was deemed to be unsafe for use, and the soccer goals were not allowed for use because of the liability risk to the school.

The current official soccer practice location is the River Walk Soccer Complex. However, although it meets the needs of the soccer team, it is inconvenient for the general student population. The soccer complex requires a reservation and transportation, which is impractical for casual games or exercising.

~~One might argue that~~ The wall adjacent to Green Space next to Turner Hall is ~~a viable option for a soccer game.~~ However, it is also a problem because soccer balls often get stuck on the roof of Turner Hall, with at least four soccer balls stuck there this year alone, and without the presence of the soccer goal, the soccer experience cannot be replicated accurately. The constant impact with the wall also makes soccer balls lose their shape and durability very quickly, causing students to spend unnecessary money to replace balls. However, other locations do not have those issues. Final decision will be up to Residence Life and Administration.

As it is, the current condition forces MSMS students into a difficult position: we have no safe, accessible, and practical space for a soccer game. Something should be done with regard to the current condition. The current field should be made safe again, or the soccer goals should be relocated to a safer and more accessible location.

SECTION TWO (PROPOSED ACTION):

This resolution proposes that the MSMS administration take one of the following actions:

1. **Primary Proposal: Field Remediation**

- Conduct a formal assessment of the Shackleford field area to determine the extent of remaining debris.
- If feasible, remove hazardous debris and resurface the field with appropriate soil and turf to eliminate safety risks.
- Upon completion and approval from administration, relocate and secure the existing soccer goals back onto the restored field for open student use.

OR

2. Alternative Proposal: Goal Relocation

- Identify a safe, debris-free grassy location on campus that is accessible to the student body (such as an approved section of Pohl Field or another administrative-approved green space).
- Relocate and properly anchor the existing soccer goals to this new location.
- Establish reasonable usage guidelines to ensure student safety and prevent damage to surrounding facilities or other private property.

The goal of this resolution is not to create additional financial burden, but rather to make productive use of the soccer goals that have already been purchased while ensuring student safety and accessibility. By addressing this issue, MSMS can promote recreational activity, improve student well-being, and maximize the value of existing school resources.

SECTION THREE (APPENDIX):

From an email from Stacey Holmes, it was stated that relocation might face challenges; however, if enough interest is expressed from Senate, then the MSMS administrator shall “certainly willing to inquire further,” and re-ensures by saying “never say never.”

Anecdotally, Mr. Allen said that he would be open to the relocation of the soccer goals with his only concern being the utilization of the structures from outside parties that are not MSMS students.