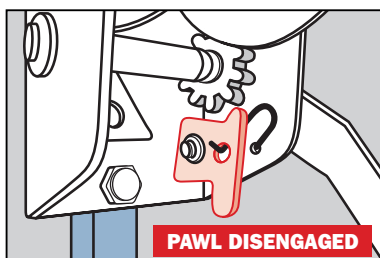
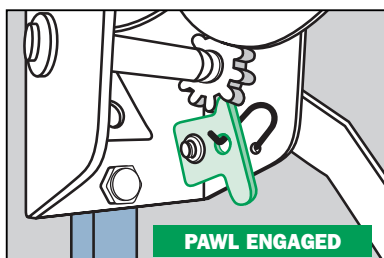


Volleyball Post Ratchet Winch



- 1 HOW IS THE WINCH USED?**
The winch is fixed to volleyball posts for raising (tensioning) and lowering volleyball nets.
- 2 WHAT IS THE HAZARD?**
If the handle is released during use, it can spin backwards with great speed and force with the potential to hit the operator.
- 3 WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**
The consequences of the winch hazard could be very serious depending on which part of the body is hit, how hard impact is and how many times impact is made. A person could sustain serious or even fatal injury if hit in the head.
- 4 HOW WAS THE HAZARD IDENTIFIED?**
A student sustained a serious injury while winding the winch. The handle slipped out of the student's hand and spun back into the student's face several times, causing serious facial injury.

- 5 WHAT ARE THE CONTROLS?**
 - a) Posts, nets and winch equipment should be checked for damage before play commences and removed from use where necessary
 - b) Winch handles on posts should be removed before play commences. Non-removable winding equipment on posts should be padded
 - c) Where students are involved in using a winch-tensioning device, they should be given instructions in accordance with this Hazard Alert, on the safe use of this equipment
 - d) Consideration should be given to the suitability of the student/s for using a winch-tensioning device. The following should be considered:
 - I. strength of student to control handle under tension; and
 - II. height of student – it's recommended that the winch base be lower than shoulders of operator



- Keep body **CLEAR** of winch and handle
- **DO NOT** allow handle to spin out of control
- **DO NOT** release handle unless pawl is properly engaged
- **DO NOT** disengage pawl unless handle is held firmly

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Department of Education Manual's Workplace Health and Safety – Curriculum Activity Module HS-10-112: Volleyball
<http://www.qed.qld.gov.au/policies/doem/healths8/hs-10112/hs-10112.htm>

Acromat Pty Ltd (07) 3878 8783

For more information contact your District Office or an Occupational Health & Safety Adviser at Central Office ph 3237 0249

This hazard alert and others are available at the "Creating Healthier Workplaces" website: <http://www.qed.qld.gov.au/workdept/hr/chw/index.html>