

**RALLY MASTER  
BACKBOARDS®**

Rev: 1/25/17

**RALLY MASTER BACKBOARDS**  
INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS  
VERTICAL and BACK-SLOPED MODELS

Thank you for purchasing a Rally Master Backboard. Your new backboard will provide years of trouble-free performance, while improving your game. Rally Master Backboards are constructed of durable, high density plastic and corrosion-resistant mounting components. Rally Master Backboards are covered by an industry-leading, twenty-year warranty against structural failure, due to corrosion of any part. (See warranty below).

**BEFORE YOU GET STARTED**

Two people can install a 10' X 12' Rally Master Backboard in less than three hours. Each 4' X 10' panel weighs 150 lbs. Figure about one hour or less, installation time, per 4' x 10' panel. Use additional helpers during the panel attachment procedure if necessary.

**Take the time to read the instructions thoroughly  
to avoid time consuming mistakes  
and frustration during the installation procedure!**

## **TOOLS REQUIRED**

Level

½" Deep Socket and Ratchet

(2) 6' Step Ladders

Phillips head screwdriver

Razor Knife

Scrap wood or Shims

## **Shipped via common carrier-truck**

Panels

Horizontal Panel Struts

Vertical Support Posts

## **Ships via UPS**

Hardware Pack (Nuts & bolts, clamps, etc.)

## **CARE OF YOUR RALLY MASTER BACKBOARD**

Once installed, your Rally Master Backboard is virtually maintenance-free. It will never require painting, caulking or subsequent reinforcement. Check the tightness of your mounting hardware periodically to ensure that all fence and panel brackets remain secure. Use only mild soap and water to clean the face of the board.

## **A NOTE ON EXPANSION AND CONTRACTION OF PANELS**

The inherent flexibility of the Rally Master Backboard Panel is the primary reason for its extreme strength and durability. Unlike rigid backboard panels, Rally Master Panels expand and contract as the weather temperature fluctuates. This is especially true in rapid, drastic temperature changes. It is normal for slight bows to be visible in the panels. It is also normal for gaps between the panels to form when the panels contract in cold weather. This in no way affects durability or performance of the product. After initial installation, some adjustment of the panels may be necessary. Simply loosen the panel bolts and push the panels together and retighten as necessary.

## **CHOOSING A LOCATION FOR YOUR RALLY MASTER**

Diagram A/Page 11 shows possible locations on a single court. Note that on multi-court layouts, it is advisable to avoid side-fence locations where errant, rebounding balls may interfere with play on other courts. If adjacent courts are separated by a court divider net or fences, side fence mounting locations are OK.

## **MOUNTING INSTRUCTIONS**

Do not drag your panels across your court as damage to the court and or to the panel may occur. Use caution not to scratch your panels during installation. It is recommended that the protective plastic be left on the panel fronts until the completion of installation.

Remove the panels from the cardboard shipping cartons and place the cardboard on the court surface in front of the work area. This will protect the court surface from scratches and dings during installation.

### **STEP #1**

Remove the Horizontal Panel Struts and Support Posts from the cardboard tube. Lay the Struts to the side. Install the Adjustable Foot Assembly on the bottom of each Support Post, screwing the foot piece approximately half way up the threads.

### **Step # 2**

Slip the four Casting Connectors over each Support Post making certain the hole in the face of each casting aligns with a pre-installed recessed nut in the Support Post.

### **Step # 3 Frame Assembly. (See Diagram C/Page12)**

Lay all Support Posts on the court so that each is spaced evenly with the fence posts to which they will be attached?). In order to protect the court surface, the Ears on the Castings should face downwards and rest on the cardboard wrapping material. Lay a Strut in each slot on the face of each Casting.

On some longer backboards, you will have to splice together multiple Struts. (See Diagram F/Page 15)

(Frame Assembly Continued) Make sure that all Struts are aligned flush with one another on each end and that each Strut extends out the same length past the outside of the Support Post. A straight edge or string line can be used to ensure such alignment. Once aligned, insert a Casting Bolt through the Strut and the Casting and tighten into the integral, recessed nut in the Support Post. (See Casting Bolt View (Diagram D/Page 13))

#### Step # 4

Stand the Frame Assembly up and lean it against the fence. Tie the Frame Assembly to the fence temporarily so that it cannot fall over during subsequent steps. Place a round, green, plastic protective disk under each adjustable foot.

#### Step # 5

Place a level on the bottom Strut and adjust the Foot Assembly to ensure the frame assembly is level.

NOTE: Exterior tennis courts have slope built-in to allow for drainage. Therefore, depending upon where on the court you place your backboard, the bottom of the backboard may not ultimately be parallel with the court surface (See Diagram B/Page 14).

**Step # 6** See Tie-Back Detail (Diagram D/Page 13 for Steps 6 & 7).

Bolt an Aluminum Tie Back to each Casting using 3/8" X 1.25 bolts, 3/8" washers, and 3/8"-16 nuts.

**Note:** Do not tighten this connection *completely* as you may need to adjust this connection in a subsequent step.

#### Step # 7

(See Diagram D/Page 13)

From outside the fence, slip a Fence Pole Band around each fence post at a height on the post that lines up to the height of each Casting ear. Pull apart the band to slip around fence post. In some cases it may be necessary to cut fence mesh to accommodate proper placement/adjustment of the Band. Bolt a Band to each Tie-Back using a 3/8" X 3" Bolt.

**NOTE:** The longer 3" bolt is used to help fully close the Band

(which can be tricky after spreading it to go around the fence post). Always insert this bolt so that the extra length is aimed in the direction of the center of the backboard. This will eliminate the possibility of the 3" bolt protruding beyond the frame. When all connections are made, recheck that the frame assembly is level.

### **IMPORTANT! DO NOT SKIP!**

Some fences may not have plumb posts due to improper initial installation or due to wear, etc. If any fence post (to which a Support Post is connected) is bent, out of plumb, etc., connecting to it may cause the Frame Assembly to end up bowed and or otherwise out of alignment. Use a string line to go (down the center of each strut) from one end to the other. If the string line does not stay in the center of the strut, you will have to make an adjustment. You may do this by adjusting the fore and aft alignment of the frame assembly at the slotted connection points where the Tie-Backs connect to the Castings.

### **Step # 8**

Once the entire Frame Assembly is LEVEL and all fore and aft connections are secure, you are ready to install the green panels. Apply a strip of vibration dampening tape, to the open face of each Strut, by removing the backing and essentially covering up the open side of the Strut. Once installed, take a razor knife and carefully cut a horizontal slit in center of the tape the entire length of each Strut.

### **Step # 9 (See Panel Bolt View/Page 13)**

Carefully, place the green panels face down on the court in front of the Frame Assembly being certain to position them so that when stood up, the engraved net line will be at the bottom, facing away from the fence. One panel has been fastened with a Rally Master badge. Put this panel on one of the ends of the backboard. Remove the plastic sheet from the rear of each panel. Starting at the right end of the Frame Assembly, stand the first end panel up against the Frame Assembly. Use caution on windy days as the panels can be blown over causing injury to workers.

Slide the Square Nuts into the Struts from either end. You will need two Square Nuts per panel in each Strut. Before lifting the panel into position, insert the top two Panel Bolts through the panel. Then while lifting the panel push the Panel Bolts into the Strut and attach them to the Square Nuts inside the Strut. Have one or more persons lift the panel. Once the top Panel Bolts are tightened, the weight of the panel will be borne by these bolts and subsequent bolt installation will be easier. Use scrap wood to support-elevate the panel during this procedure as desired. Install and *partially* tighten all Panel Bolts in a panel before moving on to the next panel. When installing each subsequent panel, leave approximately 6" of gap between the previously-installed panel and the one being installed so as to provide hand access to the Panel Bolt connection. Once all the panels are installed, they can be pushed together and then all the Bolts can be tightened.

**IMPORTANT: Do not overtighten Panel Bolts.** The Panel Bolts should be snug, but not ratcheted down. Over tightening the Panel Bolts may cause a buckling of the panels (the panels cannot be prevented from expanding and contracting laterally along the Strut/Frame Assembly).

#### Step # 10

Remove the protective plastic film from the face of the panels.  
You are ready to enjoy your Rally Master backboard!

**Always leave these instructions with the end user.**

Note: Rally Master Panels are made through the extrusion process. Variations in texture and color are to be expected. Such does not affect play or performance. Color variations, if any, will be less noticeable after exposure to the elements and after use.

## WARRANTY

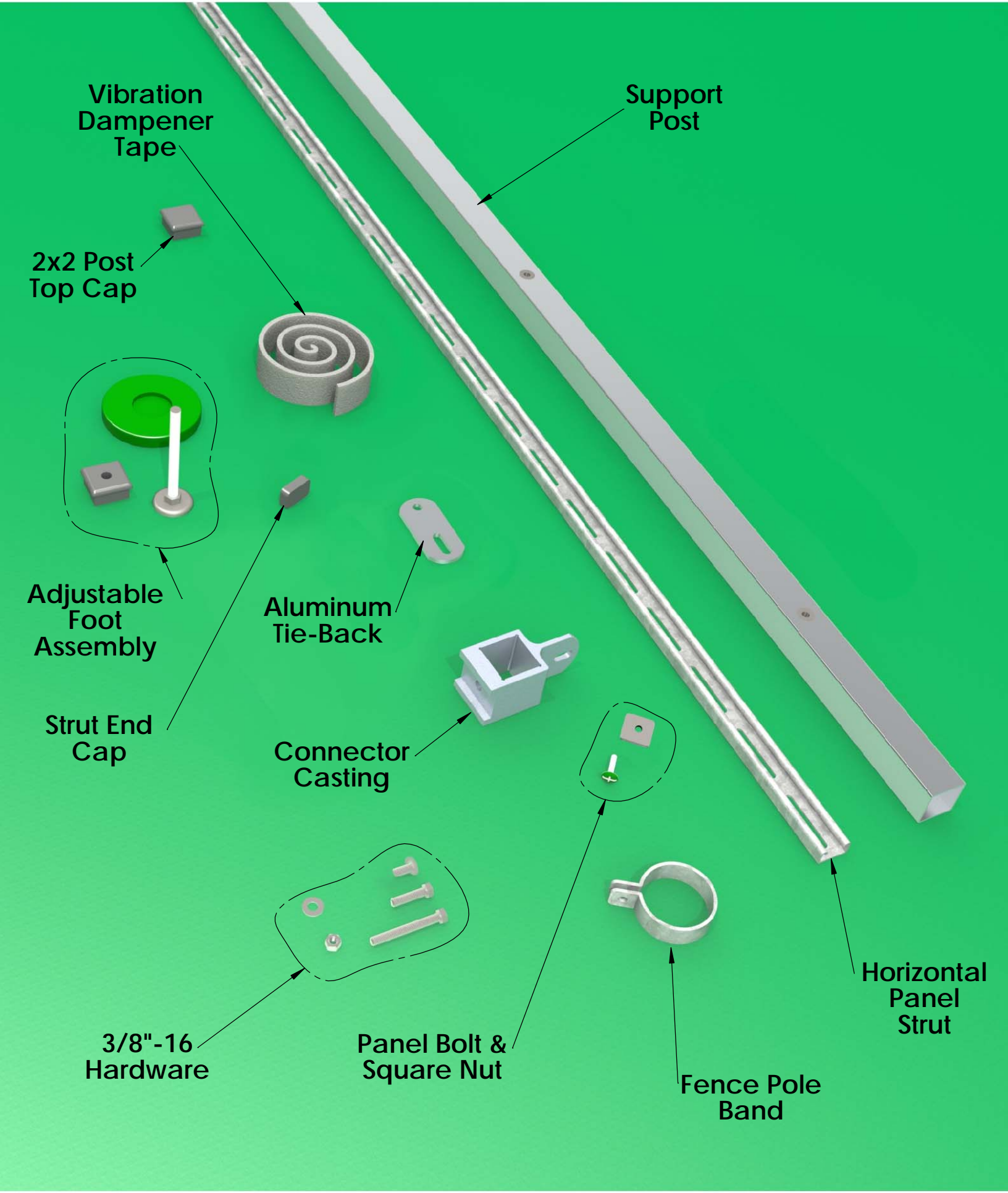
Sport Systems, LLC warrants that all Rally Master Panels and mounting components shall be free from structural failure for a period of twenty years from the date of shipping. Sport Systems, LLC's sole obligation under the warranty shall be to repair or replace the defective part(s) only at its sole and absolute option. To make a warranty claim, please send your claim in writing, INCLUDING photos of affected part(s) to:

Sport Systems, LLC  
Manufacturing-Warranty Division  
10078 Tyler Place  
Ijamsville, Maryland, 21754

We will, at our sole and absolute discretion, determine whether a part repair or part replacement is required. Customer is responsible for all freight charges on parts repaired or replacement under this warranty. Normal wear and tear, damage through Acts Of God, misuse, improper installation, vandalism, and any claim that is not for structural failure are excluded. Rally Master "Catch Nets" and support poles are not covered by a warranty.

# Rally Master Backboards<sup>®</sup>

## A Visual Guide to Components





# Rally Master Backboard<sup>®</sup>

## Vertical Model

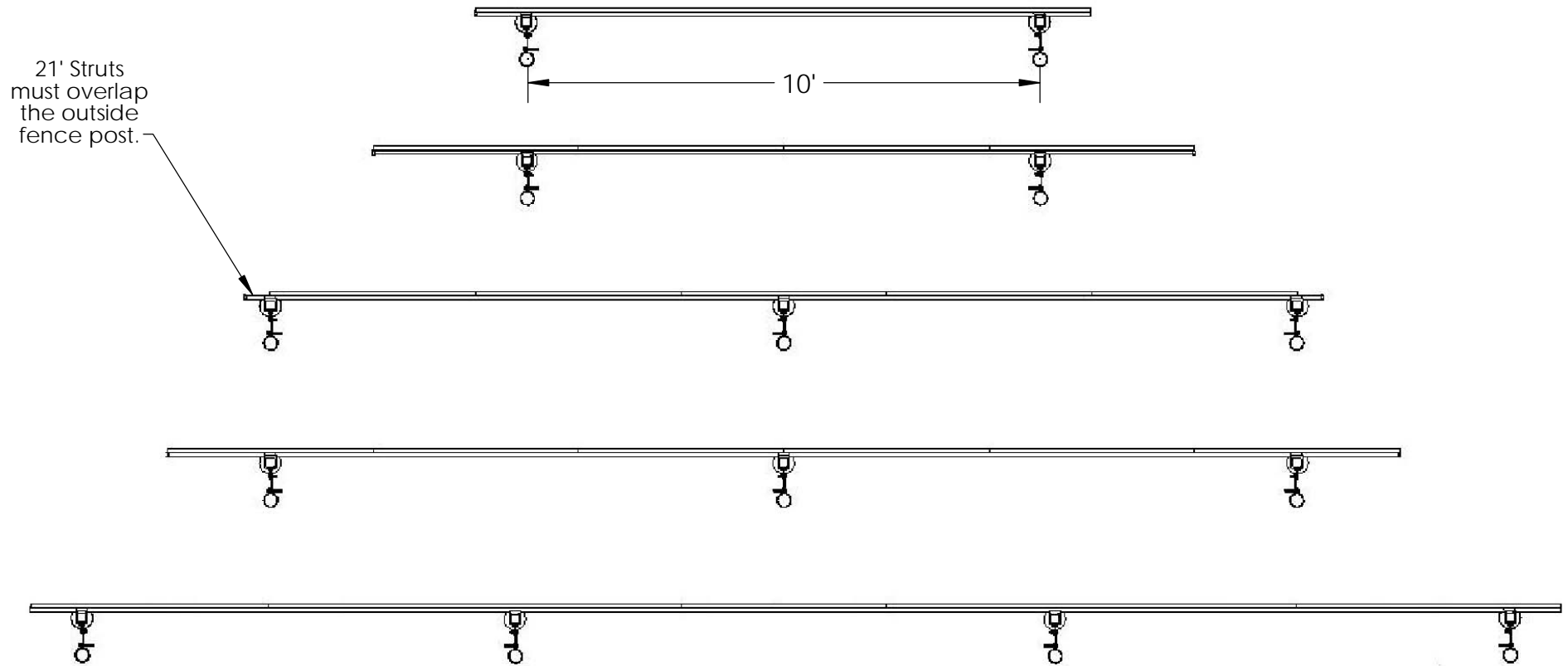
9



# Rally Master Backboard Top View

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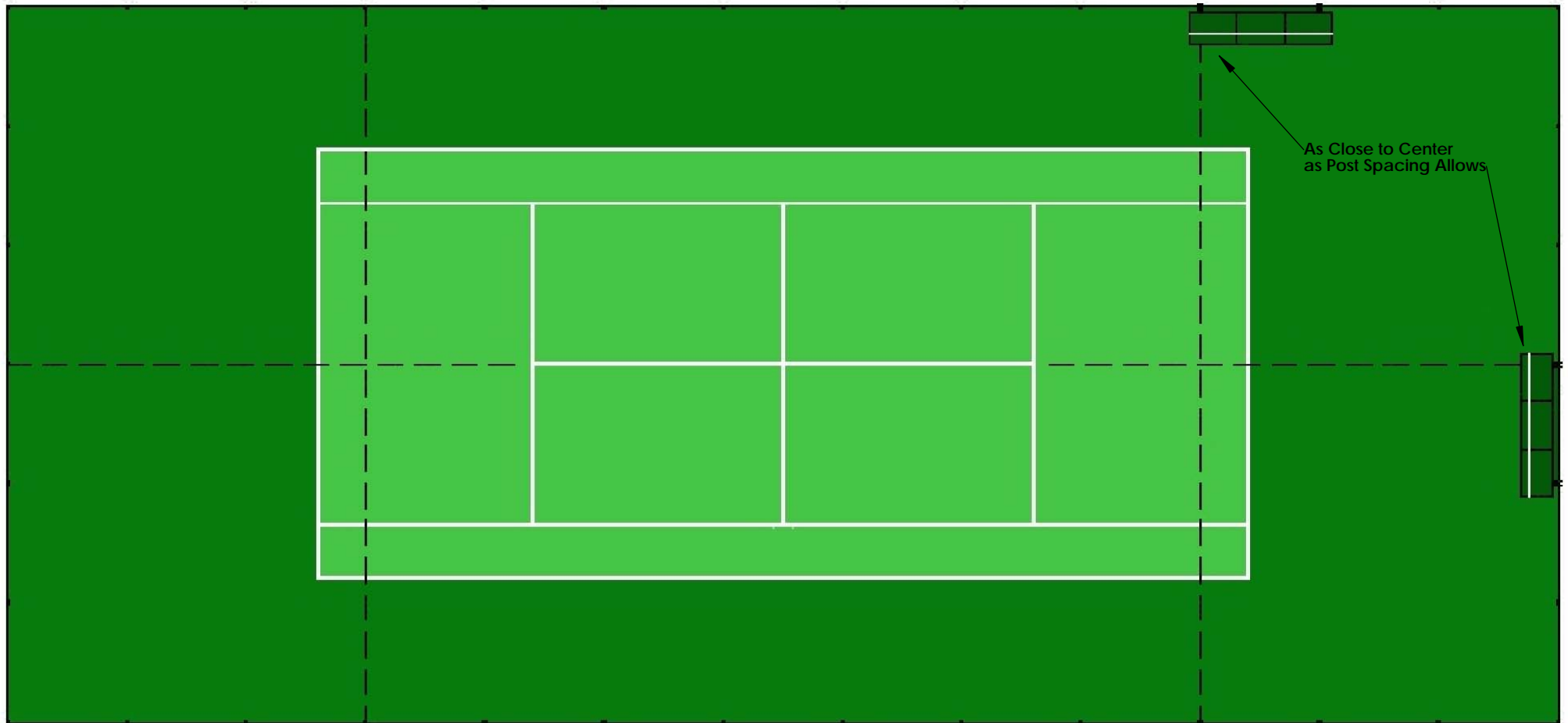
Top View of Backboard Placement in Relation to Fence Posts.  
(Assumes 10' spacing on posts)



# Diagram A

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Place Center of Backboard as Close to Center of Fence Section as Post Spacing Allows.

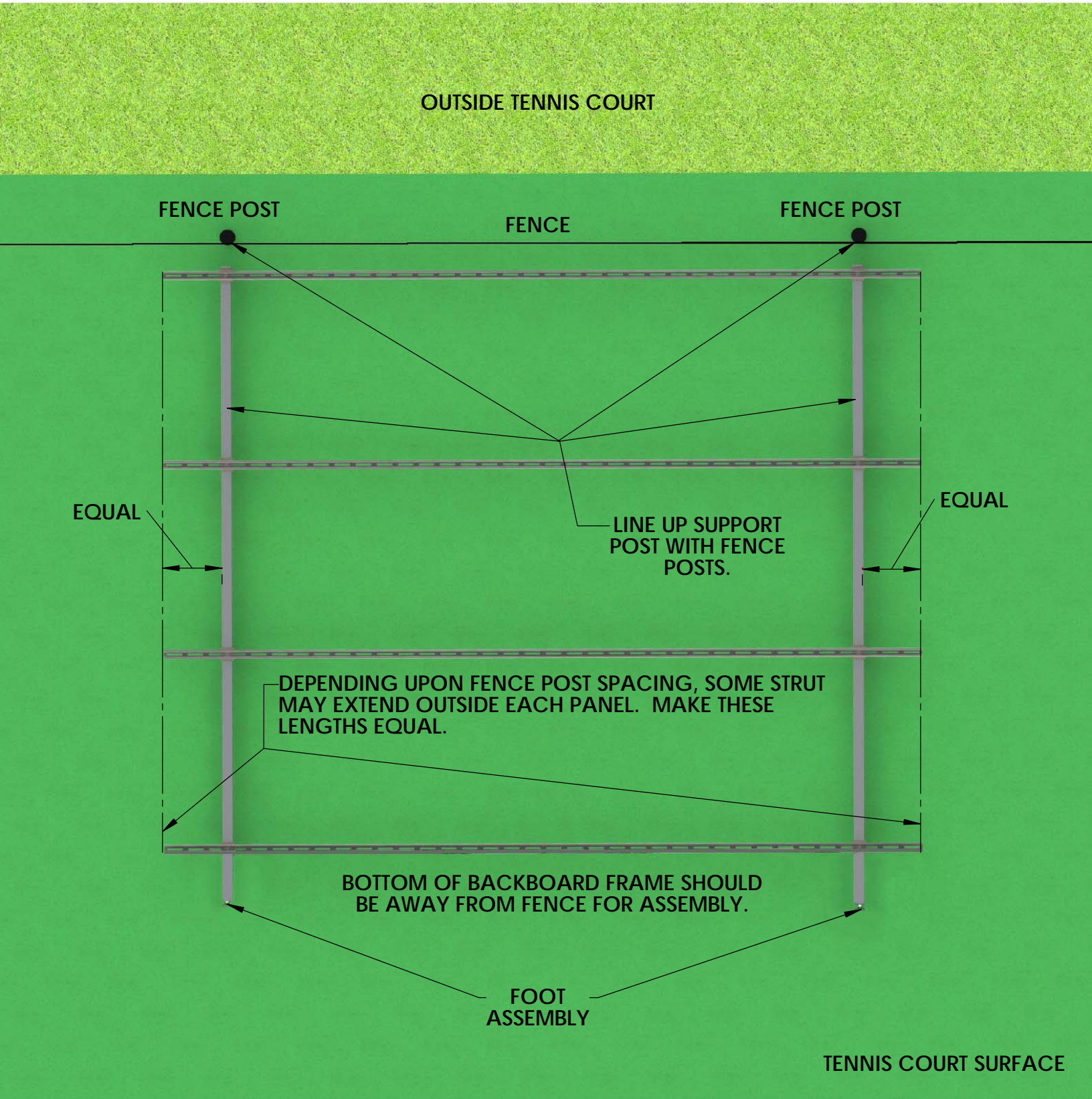


# Diagram C

PLAN VIEW

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(Make sure to protect court surface while assembling frame.)



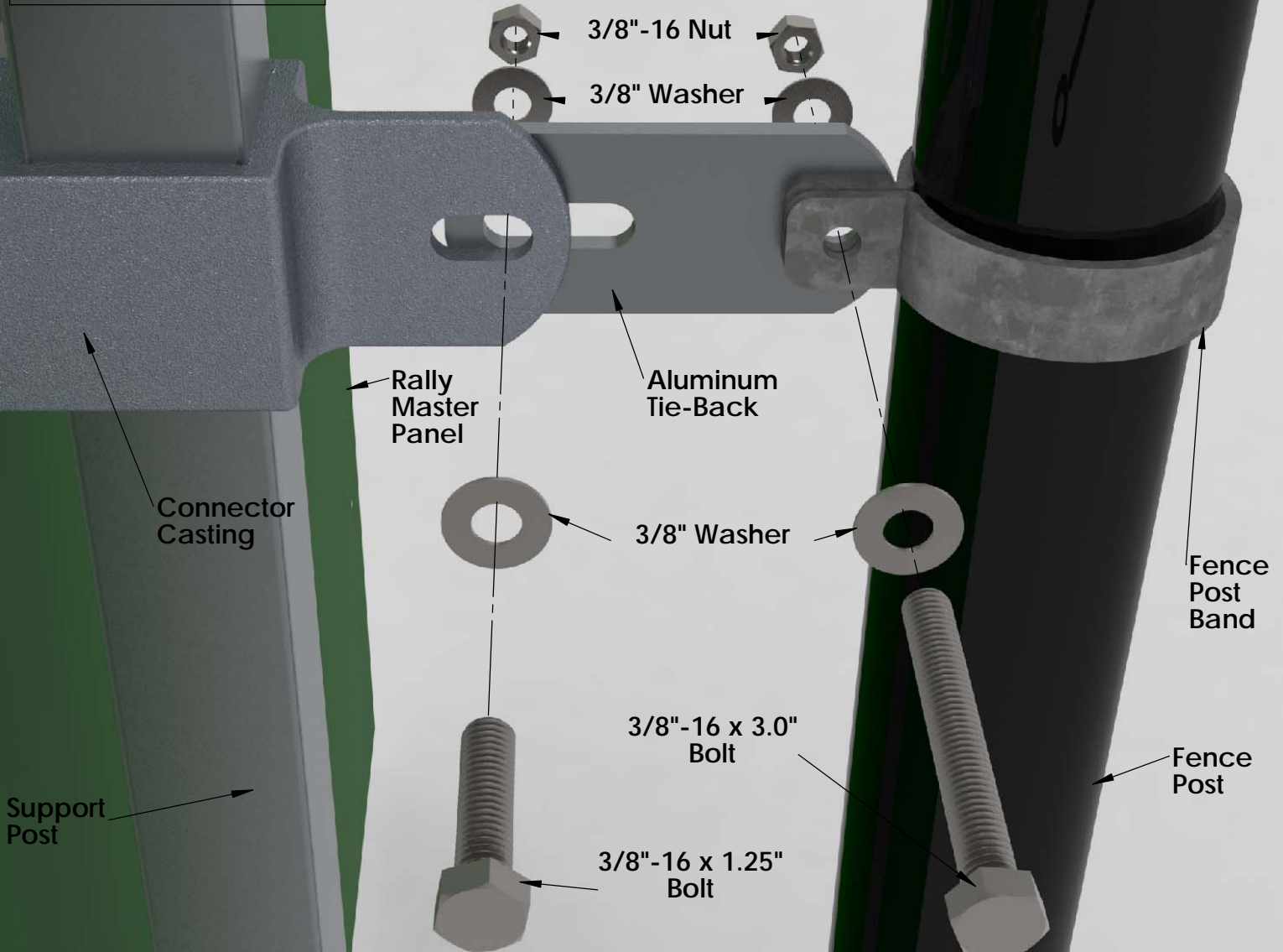
NOTE: THE SUPPORT POST WILL ATTACH TO THE FENCE POSTS. THE STRUTS WILL BOLT TO THE SUPPORT POST AT WIDTHS EQUAL TO THE WIDTH OF THE FENCE POST CENTER-TO-CENTER.



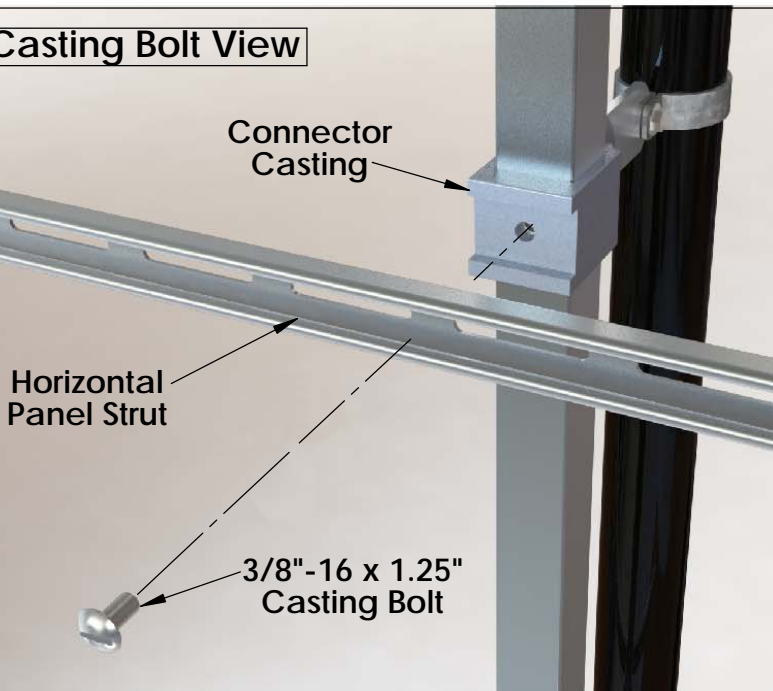
# Diagram D

13

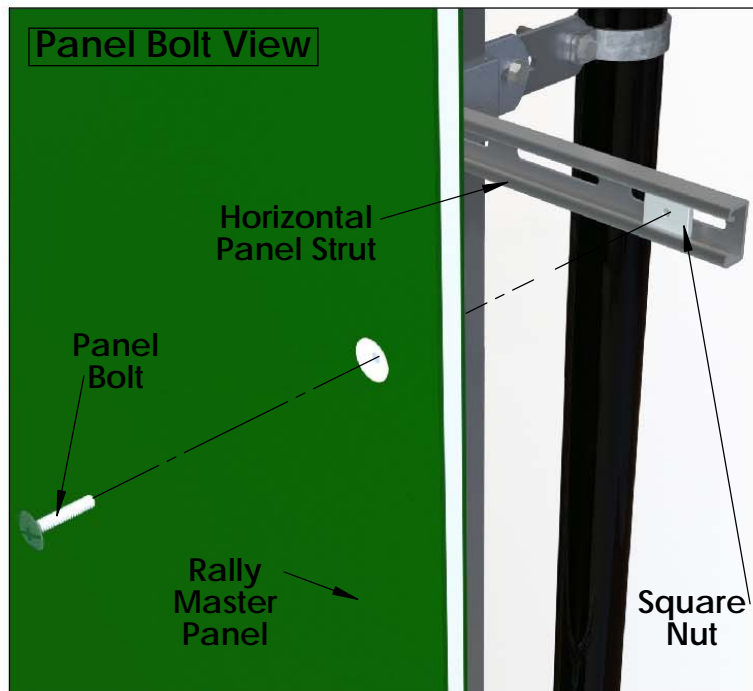
Side View - Tie Back



Casting Bolt View



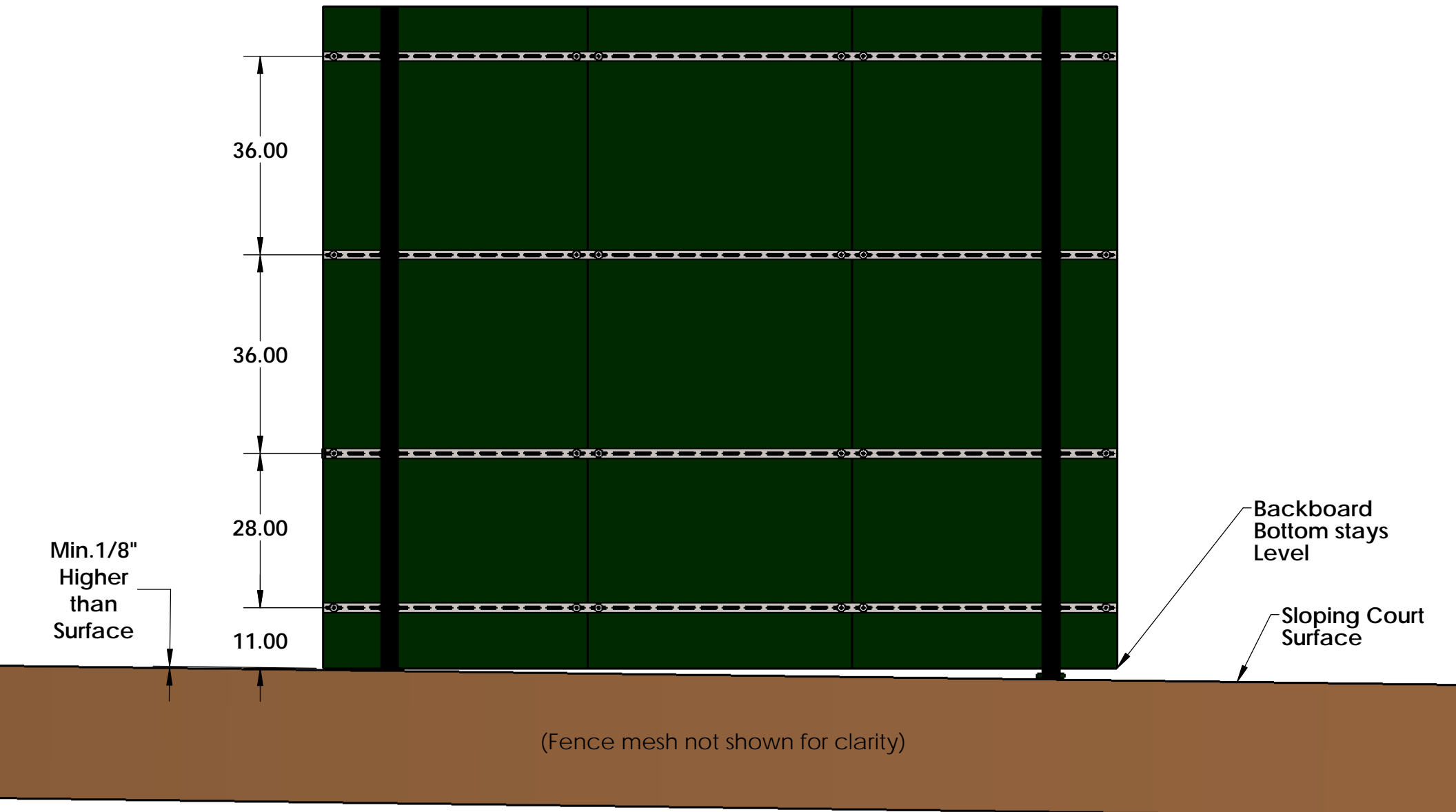
Panel Bolt View



# Diagram B

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Backboard on Sloping Court  
(Rear View)



# Diagram F

