Putting the frame together:

One part of assembly where people often have difficulty is during frame assembly. It is very important that extra care be taken when assembling the frame because a mistake at this stage will likely require uninstalling much of the trampoline and restarting.

The first thing to note is that the frame will be somewhat loose after it is assembled. This is completely normal. Once you start inserting the mat and rod rods, the frame will become tight and rigid. A second important thing to watch for is the placement of the cover or mat rods before Step 13. It is EXTREMELY important that you ensure that the frame is properly resting in the saddle of each of the center posts before Step 13. If one of the center posts is not properly installed, the frame integrity will be compromised and you will be forced to uninstall the mat rods before resetting the center post. Before moving to Step 14, stop and double check again that the center posts are correctly installed.

Setting the net around the frame:

When you get to Step 8 and 9, you need to be extra careful that you don’t install the net inside out. When placing the net around the frame, it is helpful to imagine how it will look once it is fully assembled — the net on the tub under the door and the pockets at the top of the net should be facing out once the net is up. If you lay the net around the frame with this perspective in mind, it will be much easier. Then, after inserting the first couple of rods through the net, it is a good idea to try tugging the top band of the net (the thin strip around the top of the net where the pockets are) up high enough to ensure you’ve got it right. Ensure you have the enclosure net door located in the correct position and the right way around, i.e., not inside out.

Installing the rods – following a different sequence:

Step 12 through to Step 14 in your manual cover the process whereby the mat rods are attached to the mat edge sockets. Most people consider this the most difficult stage of assembly because of the force required to install the rods. The instructions in your manual were designed to be as easy to follow as possible. However, while following the steps in the manual does work, you might find that it requires much less effort if you do the following:

1. Choose a rod in a mat edge socket along a straight section with the sticker “1st rod position.” Connect the ball end of this rod to the mat edge socket in the mat marked with a label “1st rod position” (Figure 1). 2. Starting from the rod that you mounted in Step 1 and working from right to left, count eleven empty mat edge sockets in the edge of the mat. Mount the twelfth. Continue from right to left around the mat to the next “1st rod position” (Figure 2). With your left foot forward, lean the weight of your torso against the rod to bend it into the mat edge socket in the mat marked with a label “1st rod position” (Figure 1). 3. Now, starting at the rod you mounted in Step 1 and working from right to left working, count five empty mat edge sockets. Mount the sixth. Continue around the trampoline from right to left mounting the sixth rod after each of the “1st rod position” labels. You should now have nine attached mat rods (Figure 3). 4. Now, working from the first rod you mounted in Step 3, count two empty mat edge sockets. Mount the third. Continue around the trampoline from right to left attaching the third mat rod after the next 7 attached rods. You should now have 17 attached mat rods (Figure 4). 5. Now, circle the trampoline and install one more rod to the left of each attached rod while circling the trampoline. Continue to circle around the trampoline installing one rod to the left of each attached rod until all rods are connected.

Installing the rods – how to get the rods into the mat edge sockets:

Use the correct technique to insert the rods, use your body weight to apply tension to the rods not muscle strength. Push the rod towards your right hand, palm facing up, with your elbows tucked in against your right hip while holding the mat edge socket level with the left hand. With your left foot forward, lean the weight of your torso against the rod to bend it into position. This method uses your body weight to flex the rod (rather than pure arm strength), and it also keeps your face away from the loaded bolts. It is easiest to mount the rod ball to the mat edge socket by pushing the rod in and up towards the mat, while holding the mat edge socket level. The ball then pushes back naturally into the mat edge socket (some rods will need to be flexed a long way at first).

Pulling the net up over the mat after the rods are installed:

When you come to Step 15, you may find that it is quite difficult to slide the enclosure up over the mat. However, if you start in one corner and gently work the top edge of the net up and over the rods and mat, the rest of the enclosure should slide up relatively easy. The first corner of the enclosure may be fairly tight but if you ease it up from one end of the curved section to the other it should pop up over the edge. Be very careful that the net is not snagged on any of the bolts or enclosure rod sockets – if the net catches, it could result in a hole.