

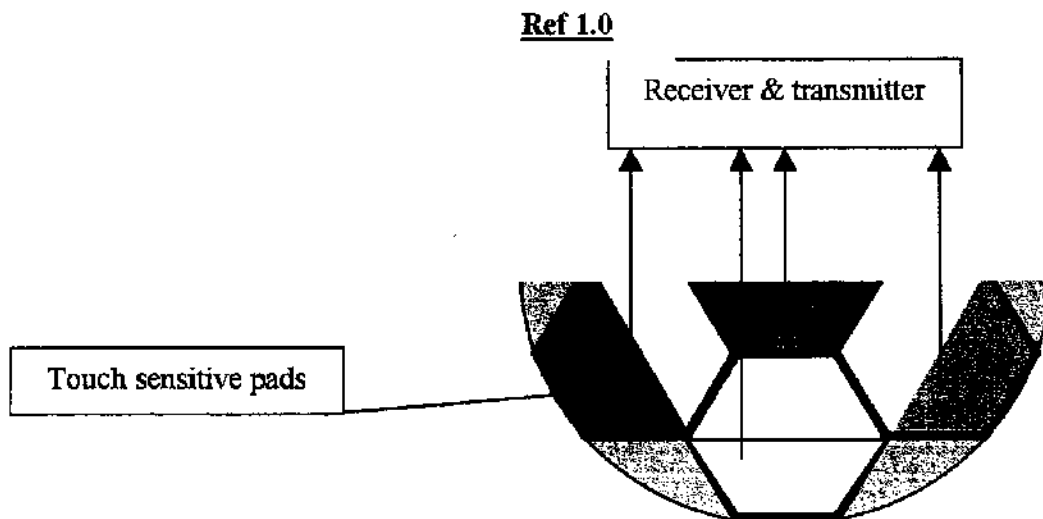
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(72) Inventor(s): <b>Mark Alan Litherland</b>	(58) Field of Search: UK CL (Edition W ) <b>A6D</b> INT CL <sup>7</sup> <b>A63B</b> Other: <b>Online:WPI,EPODOC,JAPIO,TXTE</b>
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(54) Abstract Title: **A coaching football**

(57) A coaching football which is coloured in four contact zone areas, having touch sensitive pads in each area which can transmit a signal to a receiver to indicate whether contact has been made correctly with the football. The zones show the areas of the football which should be kicked to carry out a lofted pass, bend the ball or strike the ball.



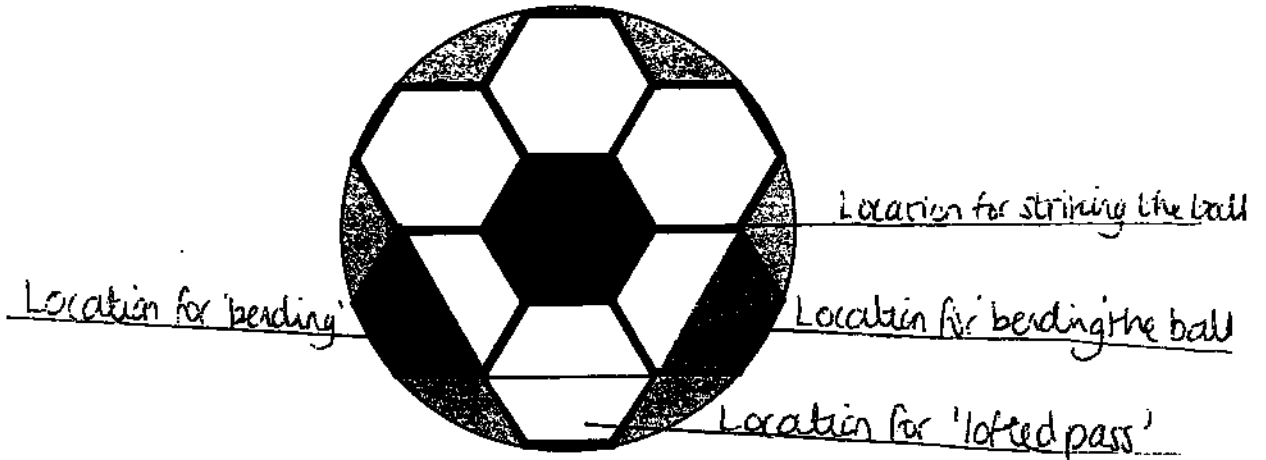
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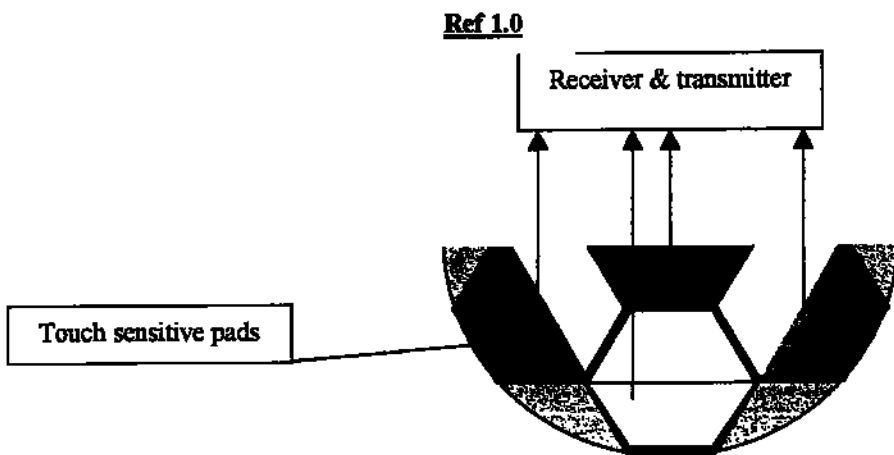
Diagrams

Drq 1.



Prototype 1

Drq 2.



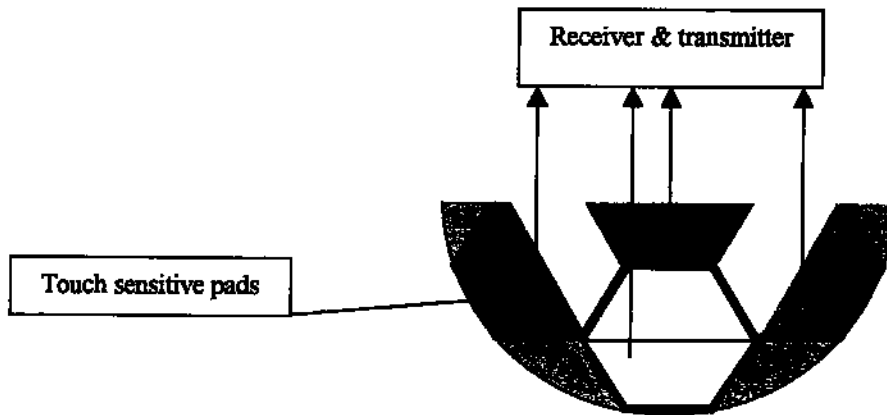
Prototype 2.

2/2

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Drq 3.

Ref 1.1



**Description****The Coaching Football**

This football will help teach any able bodied person to strike and pass a football correctly. It is hard to explain exactly where and how to kick a football in the direction you want, for example a lofted pass, shooting, bending the ball inside and outside. This football will highlight where to kick the ball correctly making it easier for the participant.

The football is coloured in four areas; these are the contact zones (see drg 1). There are two prototypes for this ball, one with coloured areas, and one with coloured areas plus touch sensitive material in the coloured areas: this will receive and transmit a signal (see ref 1.0) to indicate contact has been made (see drg 2). If the football receives a signal in the correct area (depending on the right contact) there will be a signal sent to a receiver (see ref 1.1) to indicate that contact with the football has been made correctly (see drg 3).

**Claim**

No other ball known to exist at present.

**~~Abstract~~**

- ~~A colour panelled coaching football.~~
- ~~A touch sensitive football for coaching.~~



Mark Alan Litherland 16/8/03

Amendment to the claims have been filed as follows

## CLAIMS

1. An innovative modification to a ball (primarily a football) having exterior surface markings located in correct positions on only one face, to allow the learner to kick the ball in the pre-selected direction.
2. A ball (prototype 2) as claimed in claim 1 with pressure sensors (connected to an internal micro-electrical circuit) underneath the surface markings which make an audible signal when adequate pressure is exerted.
3. A ball substantially as herein described and illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Application No: GB 0319662.3  
Claims searched: all

Examiner: Mark Sexton  
Date of search: 21 January 2004

### Patents Act 1977 : Search Report under Section 17

#### Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance
X	all	GB 2372710 A (DEAN & WAY) - see whole document
X	all	WO 98/16279 A1 (EITLE) - see whole document
X	all	US 5947845 (CANELAS) - see whole document
X	all	US 5251903 (BIXLER ET AL.) - see whole document, note particularly figures 4 & 5
X	all	US 4534557 (BIGELOW ET AL.) - see whole document, note particularly figure 1

#### Categories:

X Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
& Member of the same patent family	E Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

#### Field of Search:

Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKC<sup>W</sup>:

A6D

Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC<sup>7</sup> :

A63B

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this search report :

Online: WPI, EPODOC, JAPIO , TXTE