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(54) Title of the Invention: training blinkers

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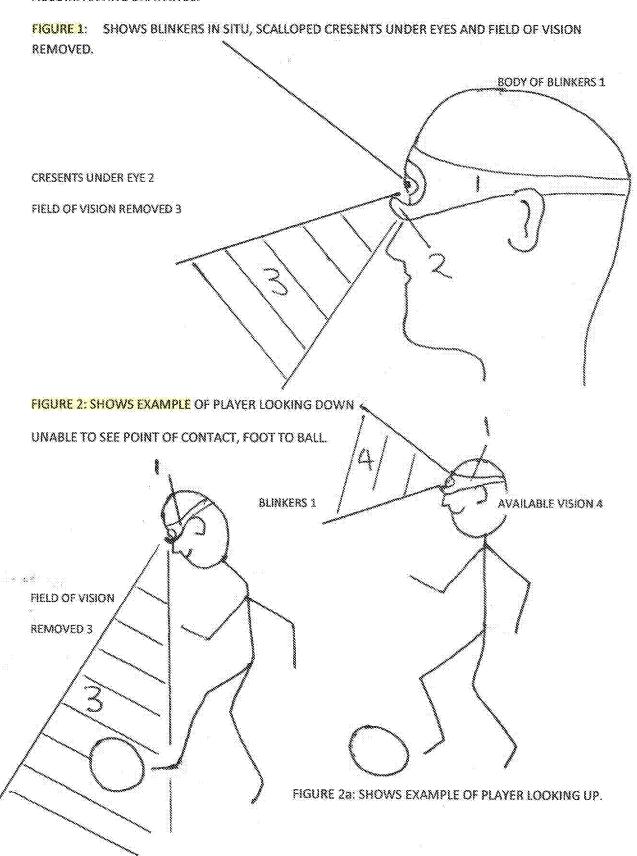
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Renzo Paul Bartoli The Old Mill, Kirkley, Ponteland, Northumberland, NE20 0BQ, United Kingdom DRAWINGS: AN EXAMPLE OF THE INVENTION WILL NOW BE DESCRIBED BY REFERRING TO THE ACCOMPANYING DRAWINGS:



Training blinkers

Background: This invention relates to soft blinkers worn as a training aid for footballers that prevents them from seeing their feet when kicking the ball. Footballers from an early age visually always follow the ball when kicking it, watching as it makes contact with the foot, hence very few come through with a natural ability of spatial awareness and coordination to an exceptional level.

Statement of invention: To overcome this, the present invention proposes soft blinkers incorporating scalloped portions under each eye worn by the player so that it is not possible to see the feet making contact with the ball even when looking down in playing conditions.

Advantages: The blinkers removing the capacity of the player to see their foot strike the ball will develop coordination, spatial awareness and naturally aid the player to look up to see where the ball is to be played.

Preferably the blinkers will be made from durable, breathable material and have 2 soft non rigid portions scalloped under the eyes extending forwards and upwards.

Preferably the scalloped crescents will be made of non-rigid material for safety should a ball hit the face.

Preferably the 'half' crescents will be designed to dimensions that prevent the wearer seeing the ball hit his feet even when looking down in playing conditions.

Detailed description, the invention will now be described solely by way of example and with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 shows the blinkers being worn and the way in which the vision is restricted. The body of the blinkers '1' are worn as a face mask with eye cut outs not restricting any vision and should be made of a durable, breathable soft material. Incorporated in the mask are two scalloped non rigid 'half' crescents'2' extending forwards and upwards situated under the eyes to dimensions and angles that restrict the required field of vision '3'.

Figure 2 shows the blinkers '1' and the restricted field of vision '3', portions '2' being effective even when the wearer is trying to look down to kick a ball.

Figure 2a shows the result of the wearer looking up and available field of vision '4'.

Claim:

1 Blinkers in the form of a non-rigid vision restricting training aid that fits comfortably on the wearer's face as a mask that holds form with cut outs around the wearer's eyes and comprising of two scalloped portions situated one under each eye from the nose following along the length of the eye socket that extend out forwards and upwards so that in use the wearer cannot see either foot making contact with the ball when looking down towards the ball in playing conditions.