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AT BE CH DE FR GB IT LI LU NL SE(71) Applicant: **NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**
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Eric Potter & Clarkson 14 Oxford Street
Nottingham NG1 5BP(GB)(54) **Playing surface for sports.**

(57) A playing surface with selected bounce characteristics is constructed by confining particulate material (7) preferably sand or fine soil in a shallow trench (3). For indoor use a flexible sheet (11) is rested on the top layer (9) of the particulate material thereby spreading the load produced by the ball

during bouncing and the feet of the players thereby preventing excessive bumps being formed in the surface. The particulate material must be kept dry to achieve the constant characteristic and thereby for outdoor use the flexible sheet and shallow trench must be waterproof.

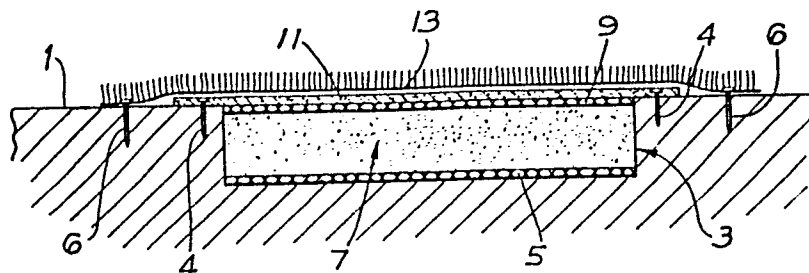


Fig. 1



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

0177155

Application number

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			EP 85305962.4
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4)
Y	US - A - 1 699 660 (FORREST) * Totality *	1	A 63 C 19/00
A	* Fig. 2; page 1, lines 26-30 of the left column *	4	
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Y	US - A - 2 515 847 (WINKLER) * Totality *	1	
A	* Fig. 2,3; 3rd column, lines 46-67 *	3	
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Y	AT - B - 56 808 (JUNAK-MOCNIK) * Totality *	1	
A	* Fig. 2; lines 23,29 *	4	
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Y	FR - A - 2 315 570 (BECKER-MORALES) * Fig. 1; claim 1; pages 2-4 *	1	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
A	* Fig. 1; claim 1; pages 2-4 *	2	A 63 C 19/00
--			A 63 C 19/02
A	US - A - 3 682 476 (KEMPSON) * Fig.; abstract *	1	A 63 C 19/04
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A	DE - B - 1 658 476 (HOCH) * Totality *	1	
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A	GB - A - 1 539 475 (KUREHA KAGAKU) * Totality *	1,3	

The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search VIENNA		Date of completion of the search 09-04-1987	Examiner SCHÖNWÄLDER
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			