



(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**
published in accordance with Art. 153(4) EPC

(43) Date of publication:
26.01.2011 Bulletin 2011/04

(51) Int Cl.:
A63B 71/00 (2006.01) A63B 63/00 (2006.01)
G09F 17/00 (2006.01)

(21) Application number: **09745869.9**

(86) International application number:
PCT/ES2009/070153

(22) Date of filing: **13.05.2009**

(87) International publication number:
WO 2009/138543 (19.11.2009 Gazette 2009/47)

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC MK MT NL NO PL PT RO SE SI SK TR
Designated Extension States:
AL BA RS

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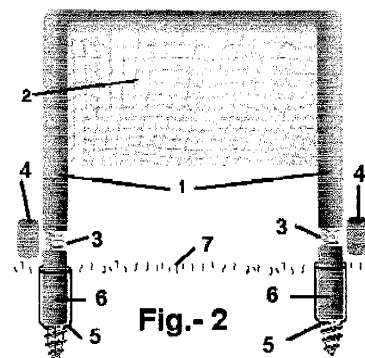
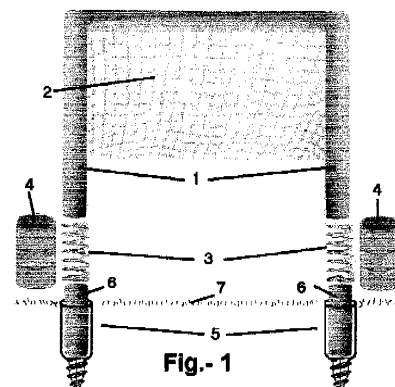
(30) Priority: **14.05.2008 ES 200801098 U**

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(54) **FLEXIBLE COLLAPSIBLE FRAME WITH ROUND CORNERS FOR POSITIONING ADVERTISING NEXT TO FOOTBALL GOALS**

(57) The invention relates to a flexible collapsible frame provided with round corners, which is intended to be used as a means for displaying advertising messages in positions close to football goals. The frame is designed so as to not pose any danger to football players in the event of an impact and is made such that it automatically returns to the initial position thereof should it be knocked down following a strike or impact. The frame consists of: a one-piece body produced using a mold and provided with an inner support on which the printed advertising message is displayed, and it incorporates, in relation to each of the side posts, a spring coupled between the side post and a respective part joining same to a peg designed to be screwed into the ground, each spring being covered with a resilient, flexible protective sleeve.



Description

Object of the Invention

[0001] As expressed by the title of this specification, the present invention relates to a flexible collapsible frame, made in a single piece by means of a mold, with materials of polyethylene, polyurethane, rubber or with any material with the property of flexibility and which is furthermore collapsible, by means of a spring, so that it can bend in the event that a player falls on it or hits against it, and which can house advertising, in order to be able to place it next to the sides of football goals, and in the rear parts thereof. The collapsible frame has been designed so that in addition to complying with FIFA regulations, it does not constitute any danger to the players or referees because accidents have occurred with other fixed supports and they are therefore dangerous and can cause accidents upon against them.

[0002] Likewise, this flexible collapsible frame is designed to house and place therein either printed, screen printed or painted advertising on a material such as cloth, nylon, mesh, paper, vinyl, plastic or any other material that can be printed on.

[0003] The field of application of the invention is comprised in the sector dedicated to the manufacture of advertising devices and supports.

Background of the Invention

[0004] In football today, there are advertising supports which are placed around the playing field which are hard or even flexible supports, but they are rigid and not collapsible and they do not have round corners, therefore they cannot be placed next to football goals given their rigidity and hardness because they would be dangerous for the players or referees and therefore their placement is forbidden by football professionals. For this reason this new flexible collapsible support with round corners has been designed.

[0005] As is known, Spanish utility model U-200600523 describes a flexible support developed to display advertising messages preferably positioned next to football goals, which, according to one of its embodiments, is formed by a support made of flexible material, in the manner of a one-piece frame, made with a single mold, which frame includes an advertising mesh integrally joined to said frame by means of any suitable known technique, and which frame is fixed to the ground by means of respective conical parts driven into the grass, ground, etc., prepared to receive the corresponding ends of the side posts of said advertising frame.

Brief Description of the Invention

[0006] To achieve the raised objectives and to prevent the aforementioned drawbacks, the invention consists of a collapsible frame or support which, in addition to being

flexible, made of a single piece and having round corners, properties constituting the utmost priority and claim of this invention, has the additional particularity of being provided with the property of flexibility for the purpose of achieving the ideal formula so that the frame of the invention provides a perfect solution and cannot injure the players, the preferred embodiment of which has been achieved by means of manufacturing a frame from a polyurethane elastomer with a hardness of 98 Sh°A (shore A) equivalent to 60 Sh°D (shore D), and with a diameter of the order of 25 mm, all of it manufactured by means of a mold and in a single piece so that the ends are round and there are no joints or glued or welded points that can pose a danger for players and referees, together with the property of being collapsible as a result of including a spring in relation to the lower ends of each of the side posts through which the coupling between the post of each side and the respective peg previously driven into the grass is arranged. This spring is covered with a rubber sleeve that protects the spring from the strikes of the players without at all affecting its property of being collapsible.

[0007] With this innovation of being collapsible, two essential objectives have been met: on one hand, the fact that when the support is struck by a player the player will not be injured, and on the other hand, in the event that this action occurs or that the frame is even struck by the ball, the support returns to its original state by itself, without needing an operator to position it again, achieving an innovative advertising effect that has never been seen before in a football field.

[0008] As stated, it is fixed to the playing field by means of two hollow pegs which have a screw threading in order to be able to bury them in the grass without having to strike them, thus preventing their deformation.

Brief Description of the Drawings

[0009] To facilitate better understanding of this specification and forming an integral part thereof, a set of drawings is attached in which the following has been depicted with an illustrative and non-limiting character:

Figure 1 depicts a front view of the flexible collapsible frame with round corners, object of the invention, and

Figure 2 shows a view equivalent to Figure 1, with the difference that the springs of both sides are integrated inside the rubber of the frame.

Preferred Embodiment of the invention

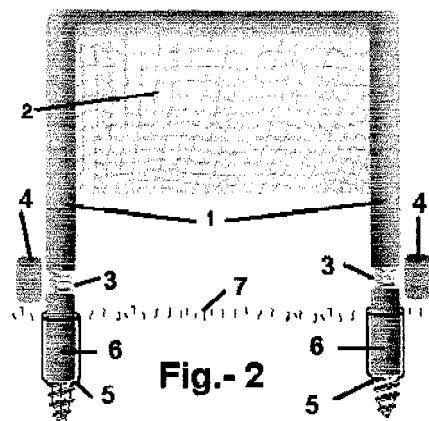
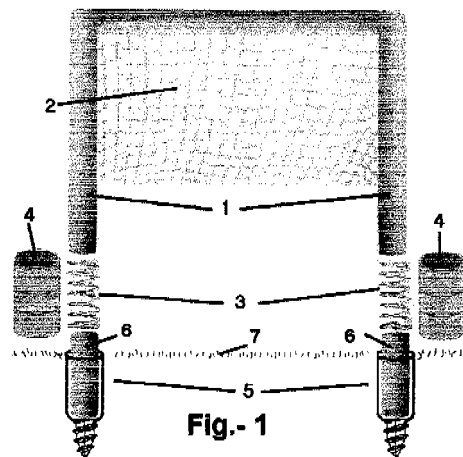
[0010] A description of the preferred embodiment of the invention will be provided below making reference to the numbers used in the figures. Therefore, this embodiment of the flexible collapsible frame with round corners for placing advertising in football goals will preferably be carried out as follows:

A flexible collapsible frame made of polyurethane elastomer of 98 Sh°A (shore A), equivalent to 60 Sh°D (shore D) and 25 mm in diameter, which has been manufactured by means of a mold and in a single piece, having reference number (1) in the figures, is joined by means of seaming, welding or gluing to a support (2) made of mesh, cloth, or any other material, to insert advertising that could be printed, screen printed, painted, etc., on said support (3). Once the advertising is incorporated in the support (2) a respective spring (3) is incorporated in each of the side posts of the frame (1), which spring has the function of joining and assembling each side of the frame (1) with the part (6) for joining same, manufactured with the same material, and introducing it all in the cylindrical peg (5) which in turn will be introduced in the grass (7) of the football field after first protecting the spring (3) with a cylindrical foam or rubber sleeve (4). This results in an assembly such that in the event of a frontal or lateral collision of a football player against the support (1) and as a result of the action of the spring (3), the support overturns in the same direction in which the force is applied so that by means of its flexible collapsible function, the player is not injured, and in the event that the collision is against the spring, as a result of the protective sleeve (4), the football player will not sustain any injury either upon hitting against the spring (3). Likewise, in the event of hitting against any corner of the frame, since they are round, the football player will not sustain the injury that would be caused by a corner with an edge.

2. The frame according to claim 1, **characterized in that** each of the cylindrical pegs (5) consists of a hollow body which is screwed into the ground as the result of providing a thread portion formed therein.

Claims

1. A flexible collapsible frame with round corners to place advertising next to football goals, which frame consists of a one-piece element produced by means of a mold, with materials selected from polyethylene, polyurethane, rubber or any other flexible material, which frame contains therein a support (2) made of mesh, cloth, nylon, or any other suitable material for containing a message printed by means of any suitable technique, said support (2) being expended between the side posts (1) of the frame to which it is integrally joined by means of seaming, welding or gluing, **characterized in that** the mentioned frame additionally includes in relation to each its mentioned side posts (1) the inclusion of a spring (3) which provides it with the feature of being collapsible, the mentioned spring (3) of each side being inserted between the respective post (1) and a part (6) for the coupled joining thereof to a cylindrical peg (5) designed to be fixed to the ground, and each spring (3) of each side furthermore being covered by means of a resilient flexible sleeve (4).



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/ES 2009/070153

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

see extra sheet

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

A63B+,G09F+

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

INVENES,EPODOC,PAJ,WPI

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	ES 1063607 U (MORA VERA) 16.11.2006, the whole document.	1,2
Y	WO 0240106 A1 (DUSSAULE) 23.05.2006, the whole document.	1,2
A	WO 2005046808 A1 (SOYKA et al.) 26.05.2005, abstract; figure 6C,	1,2
A	GB 2343633 A (NORTH DENNIS) 17.05.0200, the whole document.	1,2
A	US 5553863 A (WYNNE) 10.09.1996, the whole document.	1,2

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance.		
"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date		
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure use, exhibition, or other means	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	"&"	document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

24.August.2009 (24.08.2009)

Date of mailing of the international search report

(26/08/2009)

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Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 2008)

EP 2 277 608 A1

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/ ES 2009/070153

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GB 2343633 A B	17.05.2000	NONE	-----
US 5553863 A	10.09.1996	NONE	-----

Form PCT/ISA/210 (patent family annex) (July 2008)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/ES 2009/070153

CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

A63B 71/00 (2006.01)

A63B 63/00 (2006.01)

G09F 17/00 (2006.01)

REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

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Patent documents cited in the description

- ES U200600523 [0005]