



## **Full90's Response To USSF's Position Statement Regarding Soccer Headgear**

Full90 Sports, Inc. ("Full90") has received numerous inquiries regarding the recently issued United States Soccer Federation ("USSF") Position Statement ("Statement") on Head Injuries and Padded Headgear. Rather than speculate on the motive for such a paper, Full90 provides the following response.

Full90's mission is to reduce the incidence and severity of soccer related concussions. Virtually every soccer governing body from FIFA to USSF has acknowledged that head injuries in soccer, specifically concussions, caused by head-to-head, head-to-ground and head-to-goal post impact are a problem. In fact, Full90 was created after the daughter of one of its founders suffered from life-altering concussions while playing soccer. Thus, Full90 is deeply troubled that USSF's Statement may discourage the use of headgear, resulting in a rise in the number of injuries that could have been avoided or reduced in severity.

Full90 is wholly confident in its products. Full90 Performance Headguards have already been used by over 100,000 youth players, and by players in the MLS, WUSA, NCAA College Cup, Olympics, Mexican League Championship, and World Cup. As the laboratory commissioned by FMARC, FIFA's Sports Medicine Committee, concluded, headguards such as Full90 Performance Headguards reduce peak impact forces on head-to-head impact. This conclusion is consistent with the conclusions of two independent laboratories commissioned by Full90 to test its products.

Full90 believes that soccer enthusiasts should be aware that a representative laboratory test found that when two soccer players' heads collide, the rotational acceleration is 7,750 radians per second squared ("rad/sec<sup>2</sup>"), but when only one player is wearing padded headgear the acceleration is reduced to 3,600 rad/sec<sup>2</sup>. When both players are wearing padded headgear the acceleration is further reduced to 2,200 rad/sec<sup>2</sup>. Similarly, while the typical linear acceleration in a head-to-goal post impact is 148 gravitational units ("g"), the typical acceleration is reduced to 73g when the player is wearing padded headgear. Full90 encourages review of additional data on its website at [www.full90.com](http://www.full90.com).

Full90 has repeatedly invited USSF to witness the testing of Full90's Performance Headguards first-hand. USSF has yet to accept our invitation. Full90 has also repeatedly requested an opportunity to review the data on which USSF allegedly based its Statement. To date, USSF has not shared its data with Full90.

Soccer head injuries are a serious matter that deserve an open, honest debate. Thus, Full90 proposes an "educational summit" on the issue of head injuries and headgear at the upcoming USSF Annual General Meeting in March in Florida, or at any other time or venue that is convenient for USSF.