

The Passback Story

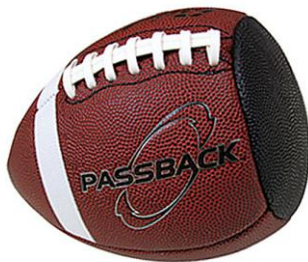
Famed Basketball Coach, Bobby Knight was quoted to say, *“The key is not the “will to win” – everybody has that. It is the will to prepare to win that is important.”*

On athletic stages throughout the world, youths can be seen shooting baskets, throwing tennis balls at brick walls, kicking soccer balls into a net, or merely spending time on the field while the other children are heading to the lockers. These youths are the ones which are preparing themselves for future athletic success, but how does one achieve independent repetition catching and throwing a football?

Football is a team sport, which requires individual players on the team to act as a single unit. For every quarterback’s throw, there must be a receiver to catch the pass. For millions of children and adults around the nation playing a game of catch is not only fun, but essential in the development of skills needed to play the game. But what about the child who has no one to receive his pass? What about the child that requires individualized receiving repetition? The shape and design of regulation footballs does not tolerate individualized practice.

The Passback™ Football (*U.S. Patent No. 6,264,574*) was invented by Mr. Mike McGonigle in 1993. While watching a football game at a friend’s home on Halloween 1993, “Inventor”, Mike McGonigle noticed this goofy looking pumpkin staring down at him. The pumpkin’s wide smile seemed to be daring Mike to pick it up ... and pick it up he did. Without giving it a second thought, Mike chucked it at the wall. Lo and behold, it came back to him in a slight spiral. Mike returned home and began lopping his old nerf balls into flat footballs. These, like the pumpkin, came spiraling back when he tossed them against a wall. The PassBack was born.

Mr. McGonigle originally licensed his patent to Hasbro, the manufacturer of Nerf products in the mid 1990’s. Hasbro introduced a nerf version of the ball under the name Turbo Blast-Back and marketed the product over a 2 ½ year licensing period. In a consorted effort to improve the design and make it more pertinent for actual football training applications, Mr. McGonigle went back to work and re-engineered the design to accommodate air filled, rubber and composite footballs. First Base Sports Group, LLC is the World Wide Exclusive Licensee for introduction of the new and improved design to the Global Market Place.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is The Passback™ Football?

A: The Passback™ football is the only ball that you can throw and catch by yourself. It is the world's only football that rebounds and spirals back to the passer. It is used for training, practice, and play.

Q. Do professional and college football players train with The Passback™ Football?

A. Yes. The Passback™ Football is invaluable for training quarterbacks, receivers, long snappers, DB's and any hands on football player.

Q. Where has it been used?

A. Professional football teams who have trained with the Passback include: the Carolina Panthers, Detroit Lions, Denver Broncos and Tennessee Titans. College teams include: Wisconsin, Georgia Southern, Arkansas, North Carolina Central, Cornell, Akron, Western Michigan, Minnesota State, University of Tennessee - Martin, Nicholls State, Earlham and Kenyon.

Q. How does it improve your throwing and catching skills?

A. The Passback is designed to award the thrower. If you throw a spiral against the wall, you will get a spiral in return. Adversely, throw a duck and get a duck. The fundamentals are reinforced without the need of a partner.

Q. What Positions can benefit from training with the Passback?

A. The Passback Football is quickly redefining coaching techniques for all skill position athletes. Obviously Quarterbacks benefit from applied training through increased arm strength and accuracy, while wide receivers and running backs gain increased reaction time and ball handling proficiency via increased repetitions. Long snappers can perfect their spirals and even defensive players can gain increased ball awareness and reactions speed.

Q. Where is it available?

A. An ever growing network of Team Sport Dealers and Distributors throughout the U.S., Canada and Germany is established. For a complete list of Dealers or to acquire a Passback on line, please visit www.passbackfootball.com.

Q. Can you share some training exercises?

A. Certainly!

Pick a Spot:

It is as easy as it sounds! Standing approximately 6-10 feet from any solid wall, focus your attention to a small spot or point about 10 feet from the ground. Practice hitting that spot repeatedly. This is the best way to learn accuracy and throwing efficiency. Count how many times you can hit the spot in ten throws.

Quick Release:

When a receiver comes open, there is no time to spare. Facing the wall take a three step drop back remembering your footing techniques and then release the ball as quickly as possible.

Wide Receiver Warm-up:

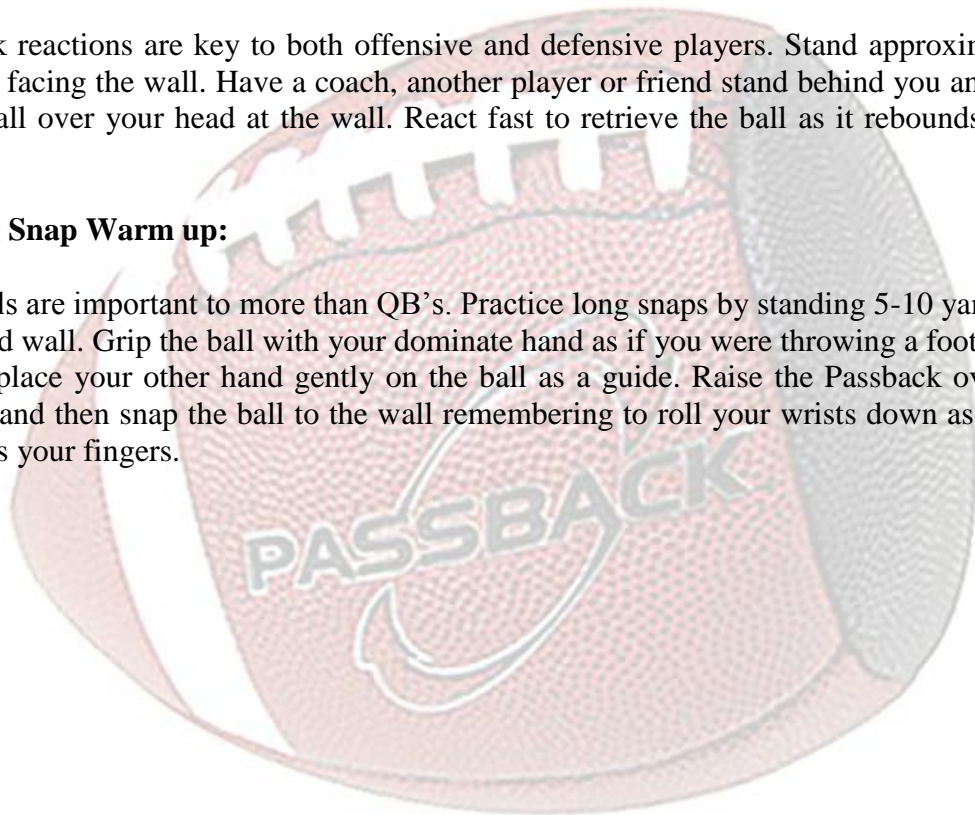
Stand a minimum of 5 yards from a solid wall. Throw and catch the Passback as many times as possible in one minute. You must catch it to count it.

Quick Reactions:

Quick reactions are key to both offensive and defensive players. Stand approximately 5 yards facing the wall. Have a coach, another player or friend stand behind you and throw the ball over your head at the wall. React fast to retrieve the ball as it rebounds off the wall.

Long Snap Warm up:

Spirals are important to more than QB's. Practice long snaps by standing 5-10 yards from a solid wall. Grip the ball with your dominate hand as if you were throwing a football and then place your other hand gently on the ball as a guide. Raise the Passback over your head and then snap the ball to the wall remembering to roll your wrists down as the ball leaves your fingers.



Testimonials

"Maybe you've noticed, as I have, that not enough kids come to us with the ability to throw and catch the ball. Maybe it's because they don't play catch the way they used to - maybe because even when they play baseball they're not taught to catch with two hands. Whatever, as football coaches we've just had to live with it. Until now. Now, though, we can do something about it. Better still, the kids themselves can do something about it!

Now, for the first time ever, there's a training device that looks, feels, throws and catches just like a real football and a player can use it by himself. No trying to find someone to throw to! It's the Passback. It's not a toy and I predict it will revolutionize coaching the skill positions."

-Hugh Wyatt

Former World Football League Coach
www.coachwyatt.com

"I just wanted to say thanks and give praise to your product. We are currently incorporating the Passback into our winter and spring workouts. It's an easy way for our skill players to get reps catching daily, plus they really enjoy using them."

-Kyle Cutnaw

Offensive Coordinator/QB & WR Coach
Kenyon College
<http://athletics.kenyon.edu/x485.xml>

"I do see a stabilizing muscle building element for wrists, elbows and shoulders by doing high, repetitive, thoughtless reps....especially when a QB can't find someone to throw with....which is often."

-Steven Gregory

Founder/Head QB Coach
Blue Chip Quarterback Farm
www.QuarterbackFarm.com

"The Passback football provides my high school athletes and the athletes of the national underclassmen combines the opportunity to train in throwing and catching by getting an amazing amount of reps perfected their skills of catching and throwing I fully endorse and use it with my athletes."

-David Schuman

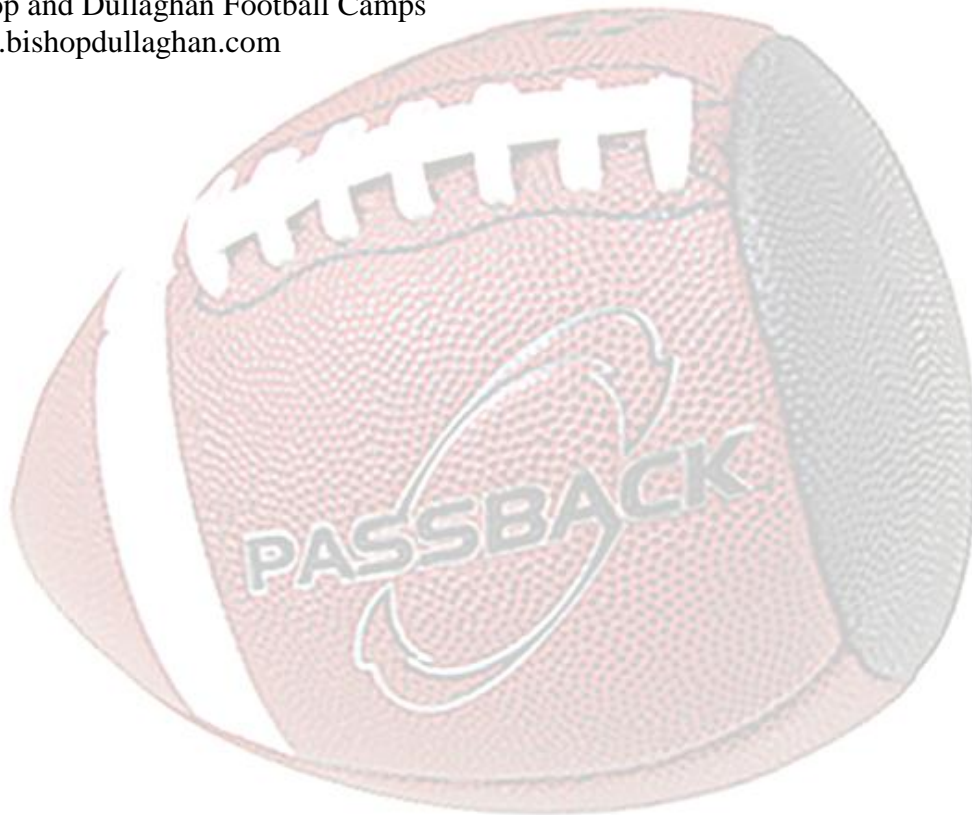
President
National Underclassmen Combines
www.nationalunderclassmen.com

“I totally believe that the Passback Football is a great teaching tool. Growing up, many of us used to work on our baseball catching and throwing skills by throwing a tennis ball against a wall to work on skills and to have fun when we were by ourselves. The Passback football is the answer to that method of skills development and enjoyment. We have run the Bishop and Dullaghan football camps for 34 years and my partner and I are both Indiana Football Hall of Fame coaches who have tried virtually every new gimmick, gadget or drill available to teach skills development. The “Passback” football is terrific for the young QB or WR or any player who wishes to improve their ball skills. I know that it works!”

-Dick Dullaghan

Bishop and Dullaghan Football Camps

www.bishopdullaghan.com



Bios

Mike McGonigle – Inventor

McGonigle developed and patented the Passback Football (U.S. Patent No. 6,264,574) in 1993. The prototype was originally developed from a nerf ball, patented by McGonigle's company Fast Side Forward and licensed to Hasbro, the manufacturer of Nerf products.

In a concerted effort to improve the design and make it more applicable for actual football training applications, McGonigle went back to work and reengineered the design to accommodate air filled rubber and composite footballs.

This resulted in the design of the Passback Football, which provides the ability to practice throwing and catching a football independently. The ball is a one of a kind training and learning tool which comes in both junior and official sizes. It is thrown like a regulation football, but is engineered to hit a surface and come spiraling back.

First Base Sports Group, LLC, a Montana Limited Liability Company founded in 2008, holds the exclusive licensing agreement for this patented product. First Base Sports is a marketing and management company dedicated and committed to introducing the Passback™ air filled football to the American Public.

Mark J. Shutey – Co-Founder of First Base Sports Group

Shutey is a dynamic leader with in excess of 18 years proven management and entrepreneurial experience. He possesses an extremely diverse range of abilities which include strategic planning, business finance, corporation start up, new technology development, market analyses, market introduction, advertising and sales. Shutey's background includes experience with cutting edge technological development resulting in extensive patent, trademark, and publishing involvement. He has managed major projects throughout the U.S., Canada, and Europe. Shutey's career has been focused on turning concepts into reality and reality into profits. Mr. Shutey holds a B.S. degree in engineering from Montana Tech.

Corey F. Brock – Co-Founder of First Base Sports Group

Brock provides both legal expertise and business finance expertise. Brock is a general partner in Brock Carpenter and McGuire P.S. Graduating cum laude from Willamette College of Law, Brock's career has been focused around corporate and business law, as he has been heavily involved with countless corporation start-ups, growth oriented companies, acquisitions/mergers, business planning and raising capital.

Steve Emtman – Co-Founder of First Base Sports Group

Emtman is one of the most highly recognized collegiate and professional athletes in the U.S. As a Defensive Lineman and Leader for the 1991 National Championship, Washington Huskies, Emtman received accolades to include the Outland Trophy, Lombardi Trophy, selection as All-American Chevrolet Defensive Player of the year and candidacy for the Heisman Trophy. He was the first player selected in the first round of the 1992 NFL draft and played six years of professional football for the Colts, 49ers, Red

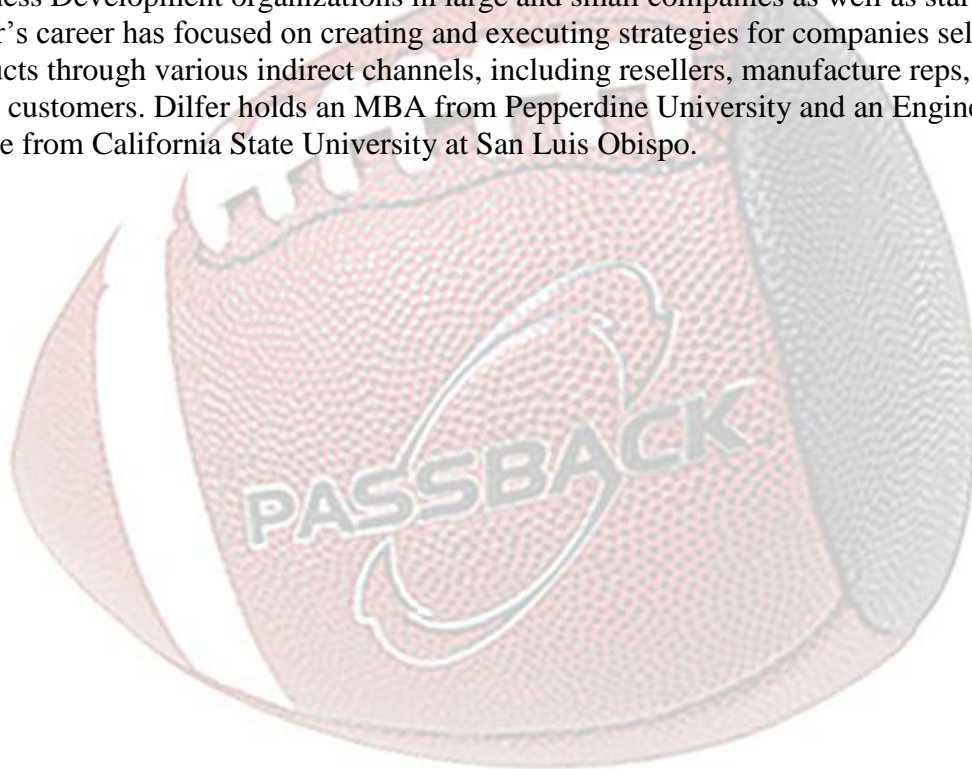
Skins and Dolphins before being forced to retire due to injury. Emtman was a Business Management Major at the University of Washington and has been involved with and invested in numerous start-up companies over the past several years.

Matthew P. Pelletier, CPA – Co-Founder and CFO of First Base Sports Group

Pelletier provides over 22 years of accounting and entrepreneurial experience. Pelletier is a general partner in MR & Company, Inc. graduating with a Business Administration degree from Carroll College, as well as an accounting degree from the University of Nevada Reno. Pelletier specializes in Corporate as well as Individual Taxation and business start up and formation.

Bill Dilfer – Co-Founder of First Base Sports Group

Dilfer is a proven executive with over 25 years experience leading Marketing and Business Development organizations in large and small companies as well as start-ups. Dilfer's career has focused on creating and executing strategies for companies selling products through various indirect channels, including resellers, manufacture reps, and OEM customers. Dilfer holds an MBA from Pepperdine University and an Engineering degree from California State University at San Luis Obispo.



Contact Us

First Base Sports Group, LLC
P.O. Box 3466
Butte, Montana 59702

Phone: 406-782-9532
Fax: 406-723-0151

Website: www.passbackfootball.com

Executive Team

Mark Shutey
mark@passbackfootball.com

Corey Brock
corey@passbackfootball.com

Matt Pelletier
matt@passbackfootball.com

Bill Dilfer
bill@passbackfootball.com

Sales Team

sales@passbackfootball.com

