CLAIMS:

1. A drag-inducing mat; comprising:

a main body configured to accommodate a rider, wherein the main body comprises a rider surface configured to face the rider and an opposing surface configured to face a slide surface; and

a sipe array defined within the opposing surface, wherein the sipe array includes a plurality of sipes that extends from a first lateral edge of the main body to a second lateral edge of the main body, and wherein sipe walls of each sipe of the plurality of sipes are in contact with one another when the drag-inducing mat is uncompressed, and wherein the sipe walls move away from one another when the drag-inducing mat is compressed to selectively induce friction between the main body and the slide surface based on force applied to the sipe array by the rider on the rider surface.

2. The drag-inducing mat of claim 1, wherein the main body comprises one or more handles coupled to the rider surface of the main body, and wherein the sipe array is defined within the opposing surface in an area configured to receive pressure transmitted through the main body from forearms of the rider as the rider grasps the handles.

3. The drag-inducing mat of claim 1, wherein each sipe of the plurality of sipes extends through 10 percent to 25 percent of a thickness of the main body.

4. The drag-inducing mat of claim 1, wherein at least one sipe wall of the plurality of sipes is configured to at least partially contact the slide surface in response to the drag-inducing mat being compressed against the slide surface by the rider.

5. The drag-inducing mat of claim 1, wherein the sipe walls of each sipe of the plurality of sipes comprise a first sipe wall, a second sipe wall, and an inner profile extending therebetween, and wherein the first sipe wall, the second sipe wall, and the inner profile are vulcanized, cauterized, or melted.

6. The drag-inducing mat of claim 1, wherein each sipe of the plurality of sipes comprises a linear shape, a zig-zag-shape, or an arrow-shape.

7. The drag-inducing mat of claim 1, wherein the plurality of sipes is arranged along a first direction, wherein the drag-inducing mat comprises an additional plurality of sipes that is arranged along a second direction, crosswise to the first direction.

8. The drag-inducing mat of claim 1, wherein the plurality of sipes is defined within a portion of the opposing surface corresponding to an expected elbow position of the rider, and wherein the drag-inducing mat enables the rider to adjust the friction induced between the main body and the slide surface by adjusting a weight applied to the portion of the opposing surface.

9. The drag-inducing mat of claim 1, wherein the sipe array comprises a through-hole formed at an internal end of each sipe of the plurality of sipes, and wherein the sipe array is formed within the main body via an injection molding process.

10. The drag-inducing mat of claim 1, comprising: a first layer having the rider surface; a second layer having the opposing surface, wherein the plurality of sipes extends through a full thickness of the second layer; and a flexible membrane positioned between the first layer and the second layer to prevent propagation of the plurality of sipes from the second layer to the first layer.

11. A drag-inducing mat, comprising:

a main body configured to accommodate a rider, wherein the main body comprises a rider surface configured to face the rider and an opposing surface configured to face a slide surface; and

a sipe army defined within the opposing surface, wherein the sipe array includes a plurality, of sipes that extends from a first lateral edge of the main body to a second lateral edge of the main body arranged along a first direction, and wherein the drag-inducing mat

comprises an additional plurality of sipes that is arranged along a second direction, crosswise to the first direction, to selectively induce friction between the main body and the slide surface based on force applied to the sipe array by the rider.

12. The drag-inducing mat of claim 11, wherein each sipe of the plurality of sipes comprises sipe walls that are configured to contact one another when the sipe array is uncompressed.

13. The drag-inducing mat of claim 11, wherein the sipe array comprises a through-hole formed at an internal end of each sipe of the plurality of sipes.

14. The drag-inducing mat of claim 11, wherein the main body comprises one or more handles coupled to the rider surface of the main body, and wherein the sipe array is defined within the opposing surface in an area configured to receive pressure transmitted through the main body from forearms of the rider as the rider grasps the handles.

15. The drag-inducing mat of claim 11, wherein each sipe of the plurality of sipes comprises a linear shape, a zig-zag-shape, or an arrow-shape.

16. A drag-inducing mat, comprising:

a main body configured to accommodate a rider, wherein the main body comprises a first layer having a rider surface configured to face the rider and a second layer having an opposing surface configured to face a slide surface, wherein a plurality of sipes extend through a full thickness of the second layer; and

a flexible membrane positioned between the first layer and the second layer to prevent propagation of the plurality of sipes from the second layer to the first layer; and

a sipe array defined within the opposing surface, wherein the sipe array includes the plurality of sipes that extend from a first lateral edge of the main body to a second lateral edge of the main body to selectively induce friction between the main body and the slide surface based on force applied to the sipe array by the rider.

17. The drag-inducing mat of claim 16, wherein the sipe array comprises a through-hole formed at an internal end of each sipe of the plurality of sipes, and wherein the sipe array is formed within the main body via an injection molding process.

18. The drag-inducing mat of claim 16, wherein the main body comprises one or more handles coupled to the rider surface of the main body, and wherein the sipe array is defined within the opposing surface in an area configured to receive pressure transmitted through the main body from forearms of the rider as the rider grasps the handles.

19. The drag-inducing mat of claim 16, wherein sipe walls of each sipe of the plurality of sipes are in contact with one another when the drag-inducing mat is uncompressed, and wherein the sipe walls move away from one another when the drag-inducing mat is compressed.

20. The drag-inducing mat of claim 16, wherein each sipe of the plurality of sipes comprises a linear shape, a zig-zag-shape, or an arrow-shape.