

April 7, 1925.

W. B. PEDERSEN

1,532,545

GOLF CLUB

Filed Dec. 11, 1923

Fig. 1.

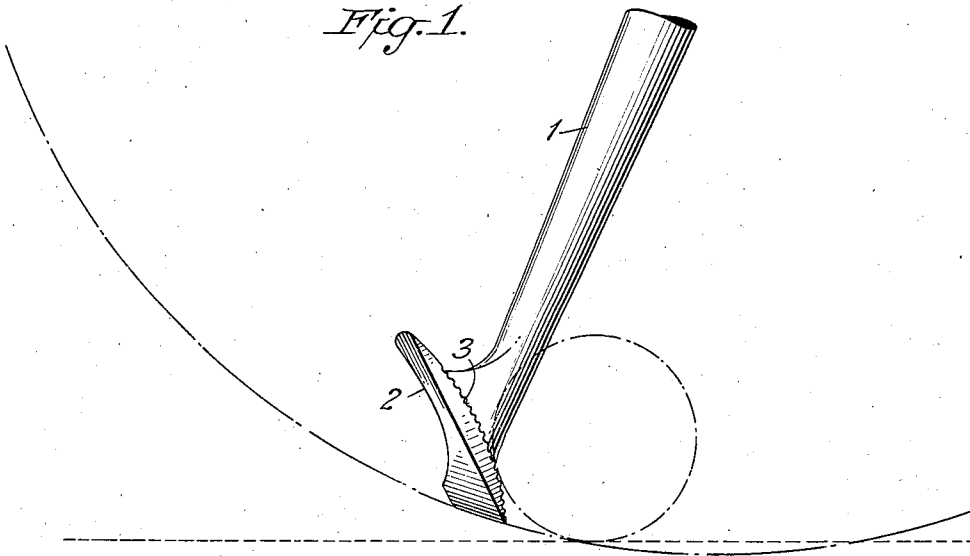


Fig. 2.

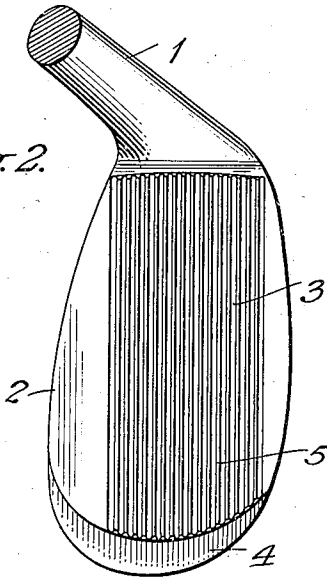


Fig. 3.

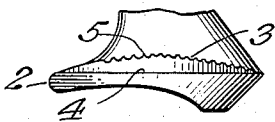
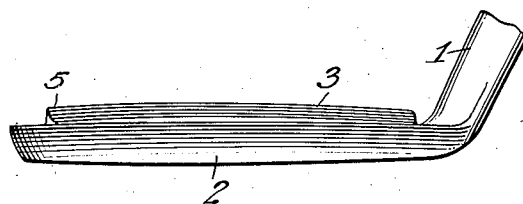


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER B. PEDERSEN, OF MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK.

GOLF CLUB.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER B. PEDERSEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Mount Vernon, in the county of Westchester and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Golf Clubs, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

As is well known, the back spin shot is one of the most difficult a golfer is called upon to perform. The purpose of this shot, of course, is to prevent the ball from rolling appreciably after it strikes the ground. It is ordinarily made with a mashie or mashie-niblick. The striking face of each of these clubs is obliquely arranged with respect to the shaft and when it comes in contact with the ball, with the ordinary stroke, it does so below the center of the ball and, with the follow-through, projects the ball without any noticeable twist on it. The back spin is imparted to the ball by striking it with the club in such a way as to give the ball a rearward rotation. This is effected by the usual iron club employed for this purpose by causing the face of the club to strike the ball above the normal point of contact, adjacent to the center of the ball, but this means that the natural swing of the club must be altered. If this stroke be continued as it was started the head of the club will strike directly into the ground with no opportunity for a follow through. So that in order to get a full stroke, with its follow through, and also to change the angle of the face of the club while it is in contact with the ball a quick wrist movement is made which turns the face of the club rearwardly and enables the stroke to be continued and finished without digging into the ground and having its movement suddenly arrested. Every golfer knows how difficult all this is. Very few players are able to make the back spin shot successfully. It is attempted only by professionals, or by amateurs who are exceptionally expert.

The purpose of my invention is to provide a club which may, in the hands of an ordinary golfer, be successfully employed for the back spin shot without resorting to any unnatural stroke or difficult manipulation of the club while the shot is being performed. I accomplish this result by forming the striking face of the club of the mashie type with a convex surface so that after the face of the club strikes the ball

and during the time that it remains in contact therewith, the angle of the tangent to the ball at the point of contact will gradually decrease relatively to the ground.

The details of the invention will hereinafter be described and that which I regard as new will be set forth in claims.

In the accompanying drawing:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of the club, shown in operative position;

Fig. 2 is a view showing the upper face of the head of the club;

Fig. 3 is a side edge view of the head, and

Fig. 4 is an end view of the head.

In the illustrated embodiment of the invention, the shaft 1 of the club is provided at its lower end with a head 2, having a striking face 3 set at an angle oblique to the axis of the shaft, facing upwardly, and extending transversely to the shaft. The striking face 3 is made convex for the major portion of its area, as clearly shown, so that when the ball is engaged by the striking face, the point of contact will be higher than for a plane face, continued engagement with the ball causing the point of contact to move upwardly upon the striking face. Since the surface is convex, the tangent to the surface of the ball at the point of contact will decrease its inclination to the ground as the club moves forwardly and under the ball, and it has been found that this convex surface imparts to the ball a rearward rotation or back spin which will greatly curtail the forward rolling of the ball after it strikes the ground at the end of the shot. Heretofore with the plane striking face, in order to obtain a back spin, it has been necessary to employ an unnatural stroke in hitting the ball and, at the time of contact with the ball, and while following through with the club to change the axis about which the club is being swung. This unnatural stroke and subsequent change of position is difficult to accomplish by any except professional players or expert amateurs. With the convex striking face, the back spin can, with certainty, be obtained by anyone, when manipulating the club in the usual manner of making a shot.

The outer tip end 4 of the head is preferably made plane, so as to be of visual assistance to the player in determining the proper angle or position in which the club should be held and swung in making a shot. The

striking face is also preferably roughened or corrugated lengthwise, the corrugations being designated by the reference 5 in the drawings.

5 The convex surface is preferably cylindrically convex, with the axis of curvature extending substantially parallel to the striking face and transverse to the shaft of the club.

10 It will be obvious that various changes in the details herein described and illustrated for the purpose of explaining the nature of the invention, may be made by those skilled in the art within the principle and scope of the invention as expressed in
15 the appended claims.

Claims:

1. A golf club having its striking face convex, set at an angle oblique to the axis
20 of the shaft and facing upwardly.

2. A golf club having its striking face set at an angle oblique to the axis of the shaft and facing upwardly, with the major portion of the said face convex and a minor

portion substantially plane, whereby the
25 plane portion will serve as a visible reference to assist a player in selecting the proper angle at which the club should be held.

3. A golf club having its striking face
30 set at an angle oblique to the axis of the shaft and facing upwardly, the striking portion of said face being cylindrically convex with the axis of the cylinder running substantially parallel to the striking face and
35 transversely of the shaft.

4. A golf club having its striking face set at an angle oblique to the axis of the shaft and facing upwardly, the striking portion of said face being cylindrically convex
40 with the axis of the cylinder running substantially parallel to the striking face and transversely of the shaft, the cylindrically convex surface having ribs running lengthwise thereof.

45 In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my signature.

WALTER B. PEDERSEN.