Nov. 19, 1929. C. R. KINDT ET AL 1,736,447

GAME DEVICE

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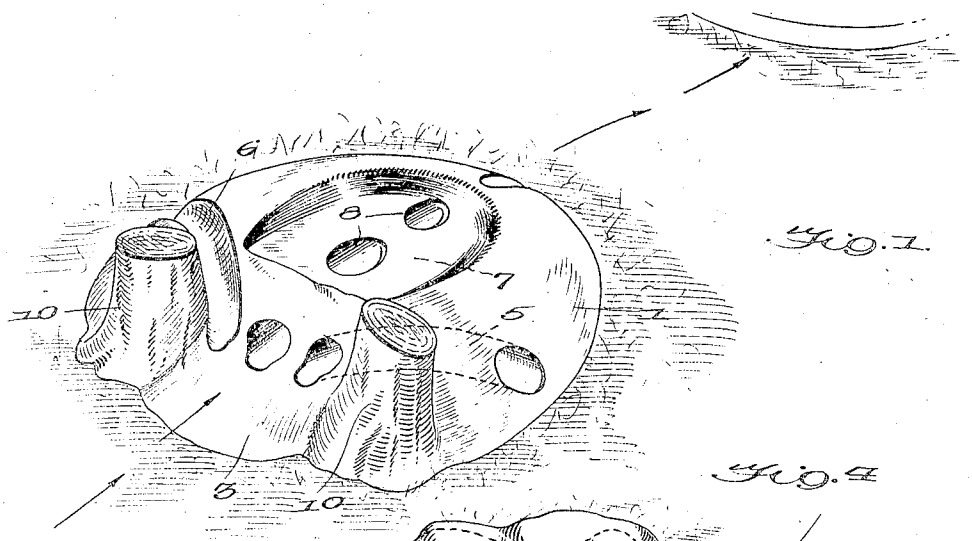


Fig. 1.

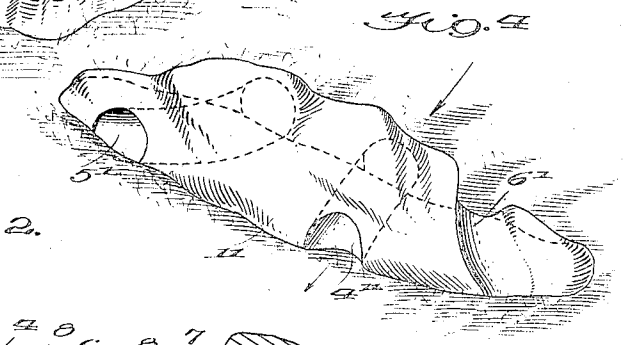


Fig. 4.

Fig. 2.

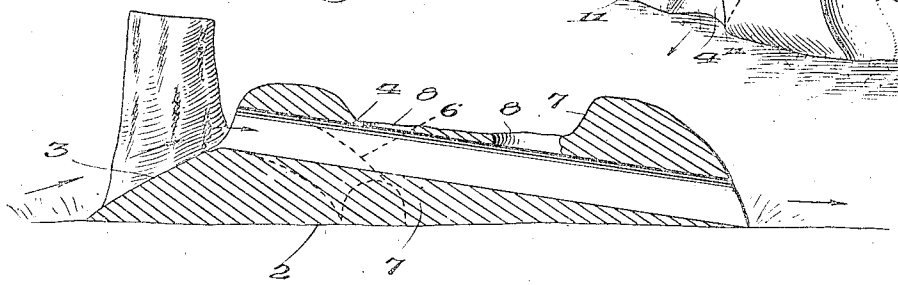
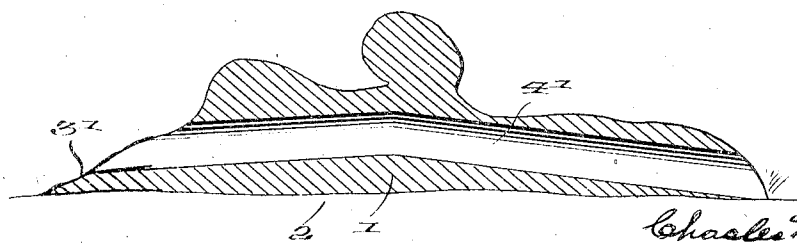


Fig. 3.



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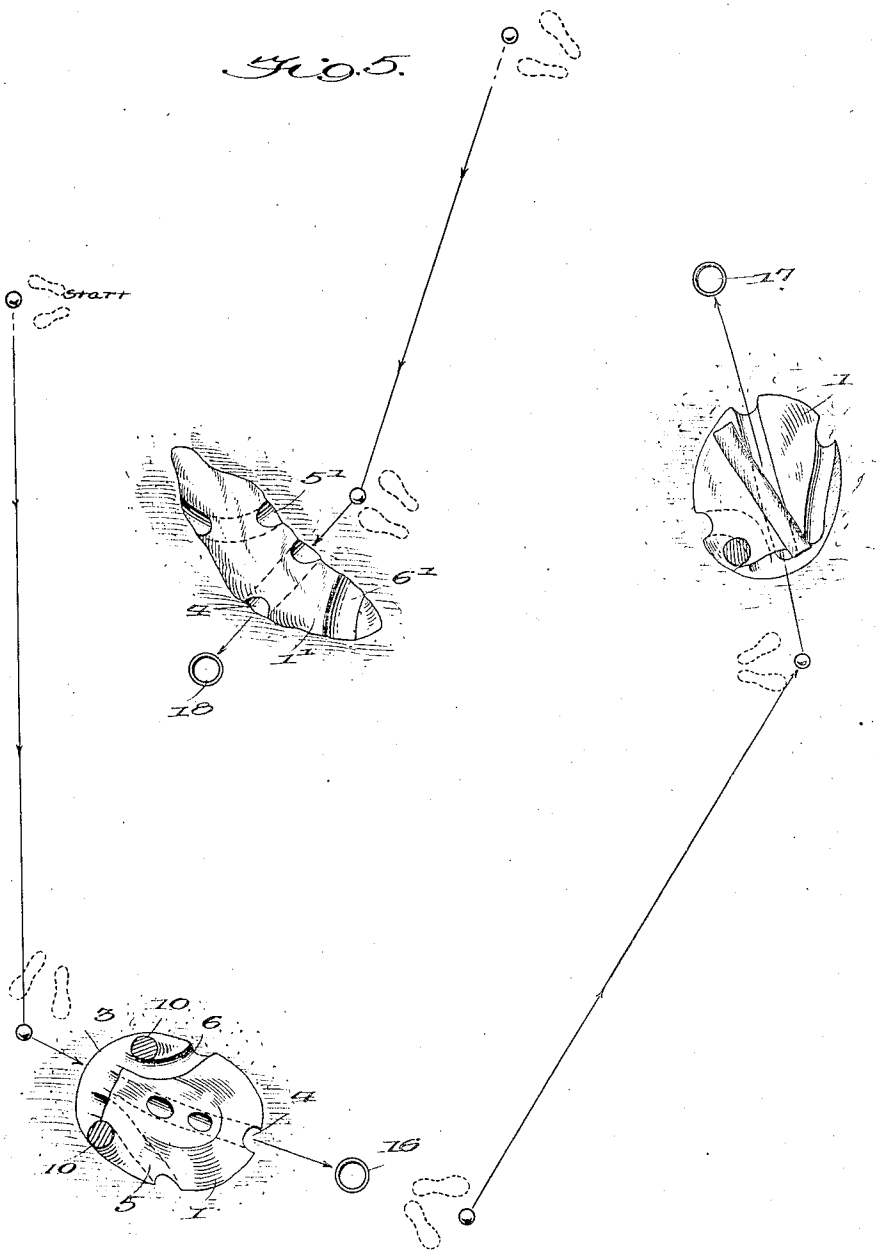
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Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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GAME DEVICE

Application filed October 3, 1928. Serial No. 309,353.

The invention relates to an improved game device, more particularly to a novel form of putting hazards to be used for either indoor or outdoor putting practice or competition, the device comprising a body portion having a flat base and inwardly and upwardly sloping sides, one side preferably being formed as a ramp face, the body being traversed by multiple conduits, which may be either open or closed, said conduits having inlets arranged in substantially horizontal juxtaposition in the ramp face and having outlets arranged in relatively widely separated relation in the rear and lateral faces of the body, one conduit being relatively straight fore and aft and the other or others being laterally deflected.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of an exemplary hazard, including three channels or conduits traversing the same.

Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section through the same.

Fig. 3 is a similar view of a slightly modified form.

Fig. 4 is a perspective of a further modification.

Fig. 5 is a plan view showing the disposition of three different forms of hazard arranged on a miniature putting course.

Referring to Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings, which exemplify one of the many forms which the hazard may take, 1 indicates the body of the device which, as shown, is a generally mound-shape structure having a flat base 2 to afford a firm support on the floor or ground surface over which the putting of a golf ball, with a suitable putting club, may be effected. The body portion of the device may be either cast or molded as an integral structure in concrete or similar material, or, if desired, may be fabricated in sheet metal or the like, or may be built up of various appropriate materials. Preferably, one lateral face of the body 1, namely, that toward which the putting of the ball is directed, is formed as an integral ramp 3, which may, if desired, be guarded on either side by an obstruction, such as illustrated conventionally at 10, 10. Opening into the surface of the ramp face 3 are the inlets to multiple channels or conduits which traverse the body of the structure in various directions, so that the ball, when putted, will be directed either toward the hole or away from the hole laterally, depending upon the particular conduit which it enters. As exemplified in Fig. 1, the middle conduit 4 runs fore and aft and its axis is in a plane normal to the base 2 and is inclined downwardly toward the rear, so that the ball passing through said conduit may be directed toward the golf cup, which may be placed at any desired distance from the putting hazard. Likewise, opening into the ramp face 3 are conduits 5 and 6, 5 being closed and 6 being open, the entrances thereto being arranged in close horizontal juxtaposition to the entrance of conduit 4, thereby increasing the chances of the putted golf ball entering one of the conduits. When the ball enters either conduit 5 or conduit 6, instead of being directed toward the golf cup, it will be deflected laterally and be discharged from the channel or conduit to one side or the other of the hazard and generally away from the cup or hole.

In this particular form of hazard, the top is provided with a central depression 7 having one or more openings 8 connecting the bottom of the depression with conduit 4, so that, if the ball is putted in a true line toward the golf cup, but misses the entrance to conduit 4, it may roll up the ramp face into the depression 7 and pass to the conduit 4 through one of the openings 8.

In Fig. 3, a slightly modified form of hazard is shown, which it will be understood, however, involves the same general arrangement of multiple conduits, one of which leads directly toward the golf cup and one or more of which, being deflected laterally in the body of the device, directs the ball away from the straight line toward the cup or hole. In this particular modification, the ramp face 3′ is relatively short and the direct conduit 4′ has an initial upward inclination and a final downward inclination, which inclinations are relatively slight, so that the course traversed by the putted ball will be compara-

tively level. The laterally deflected conduits in this modified form of hazard may have a similar double inclination or may, if desired, be substantially horizontal.

In Fig. 4, the same general arrangement is followed, except that the body portion 1′ is in the form of an elongated mound transverse to the line of the putt, with the traversing channels or conduits 4″, 5′ and 6′ being arranged substantially as in the preceding modification.

As hereinbefore stated, the device is particularly adapted for putting practice or competition either indoors or outdoors and, for this purpose, may be made in sizes that enable it to be readily moved from place to place, or in a stationary position, the traversing channels or conduits preferably having a radius of approximately four to eight inches, which will admit of the ready entrance into and a passage through any one of the conduits by a standard golf ball.

Fig. 5 illustrates a typical or exemplary disposition or layout of a miniature putting course including three holes or cups, with the hazards disposed at any desired distance between the corresponding golf cup and the point where the initial putt is to be made. As in the regular game of golf, the object to be attained is to putt the ball into any cup in the least number of strokes, which object will usually be obtained when the ball is accurately putted through the relatively straight conduit, which, as indicated in the several modifications, is the intermediate channel or conduit. Should the putting stroke be inaccurate and the ball enter either of the lateral conduits, it will be deflected thereby to one side and, therefore, away from the cup or hole and will ordinarily require a greater number of strokes to reach the hole than would be the case if it were putted through the relatively straight conduit directly toward the cup or hole 16, 17 or 18 as the case may be.

It will be understood that the particular forms, constructions and arrangements of the device, as hereinbefore illustrated and described, are merely exemplary and may be changed or modified without departing from the invention, so long as the general principle of the multiple conduits or channels, two or more in number, is preserved, with one of said channels adapted to direct the putted ball in a straight line toward the golf cup or hole and the other channel or channels being so disposed as to deflect the ball laterally of the direct line toward the cup.

What we claim is:

1. A putting hazard comprising a body having a supporting base, multiple conduits formed in and traversing said body having inlets arranged in substantially horizontal juxtaposition and outlets arranged in widely separated relation.

2. A putting hazard comprising a body having a supporting base and a ramp face, multiple conduits formed in and traversing said body having inlets arranged in substantially horizontal juxtaposition in said ramp face and outlets arranged in widely separated relation.

3. A putting hazard comprising a body having a supporting base, a conduit traversing said body having its axis in a plane normal to said base and one or more laterally deflected conduits traversing said body, the inlets of said conduits being arranged in substantially horizontal juxtaposition.

4. A putting hazard comprising a body having a supporting base and a ramp face, a conduit traversing said body having its axis in a plane normal to said base, and one or more laterally deflected conduits traversing said body, the inlets of said conduits being arranged in substantially horizontal juxtaposition in said ramp face.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures.

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