UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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PADDLE BALL DEVICE

Thomas F. Walsh, South Lancaster, Mass.

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1 Claim. (Cl. 273—95)

This invention relates to new and improved paddle ball devices and similar toys and amusement devices.

The principal object of the invention resides in the provision of a paddle ball device comprising a plane striking surface to the center of which is secured an elastic at one end thereof, and there being a rubber ball or the like secured to the other end of the elastic in the usual manner of paddle ball games, the present invention being concerned primarily with the handle therefor, which handle is hollow and has an open enlarged end provided with integral ball grasping fingers so that the ball may be inserted thereinto and held thereby, thus providing a convenient and novel arrangement thereof.

Another object of the invention resides in the provision of a molded plastic one-piece paddle and hollow handle, the latter having a reduced waist portion for winding the elastic band upon, in combination with the ball retaining fingers above stated.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear hereinafter.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a view in front elevation of a device according to the invention;

Fig. 2 is an end view thereof looking in the direction of arrow 2 in Fig. 1; and

Fig. 3 is a broken away view of the paddle handle at the ball retaining end thereof, and looking in the direction of arrow 3 in Fig. 2.

As shown in the drawing, the reference numeral 10 indicates a paddle having a plane ball striking element in the center of which there is attached an elastic 12 by one end thereof. The other end of the elastic serves to retain a rubber ball or the like 14. The present paddle also provides a handle 16 having a reduced waist-like or narrowed portion at 18 and an enlarged end portion 20 and it will be seen that this shape provides a comfortable hand fitting handle for the paddle ball device. The handle 16 is hollow as indicated at 22, thus saving material in cases where the device is injection molded of plastic materials and serving to lighten the same so that the paddle will balance correctly.

At the extreme end of the handle, there are provided a series of generally axially extending fingers 24 which are substantially alike and have inside surfaces arranged on the arc of a circle. These fingers are separated by recesses 26 and although the fingers 24 are not particularly resilient, they are of a nature to firmly hold the ball 14 when it is pressed into the handle between the fingers, lightly but firmly holding the same in the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

The elastic 12 may be wound about the narrow portion 18 so as to present a neat toy or amusement device which may be carried, held, or transported easily without the liability of tangled elastic, lost ball, etc., and of course the ball will never be lost when the device is not being used, if the ball is placed in the handle opening.

Having thus described my invention and the advantages thereof, I do not wish to be limited to the details herein disclosed otherwise than as set forth in the claim, but what I claim is:

A molded plastic one-piece paddle of flat planar form and a hollow handle therefor, said handle being relatively short, a reduced waist portion, and a relatively enlarged end portion on the handle, a series of broad, circumferentially spaced fingers on the handle and integral therewith, said fingers being in extension of the enlarged end portion, a resilient ball separable held and stored within the area of and by the fingers, the latter being diametrically spaced just sufficiently to cause the ball to be releasably held, said fingers extending only slightly past the center of the ball and being re-entrant and laterally arranged on the arc of a circle substantially of the ball diameter, and a cord connected to the ball and adapted to be wound around the handle waist portion, said cord being secured to the paddle.

THOMAS F. WALSH.

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