Jan. 17, 1928. 1,656,739

P. KURTZ

GOLF GAME

Filed Feb. 8, 1927

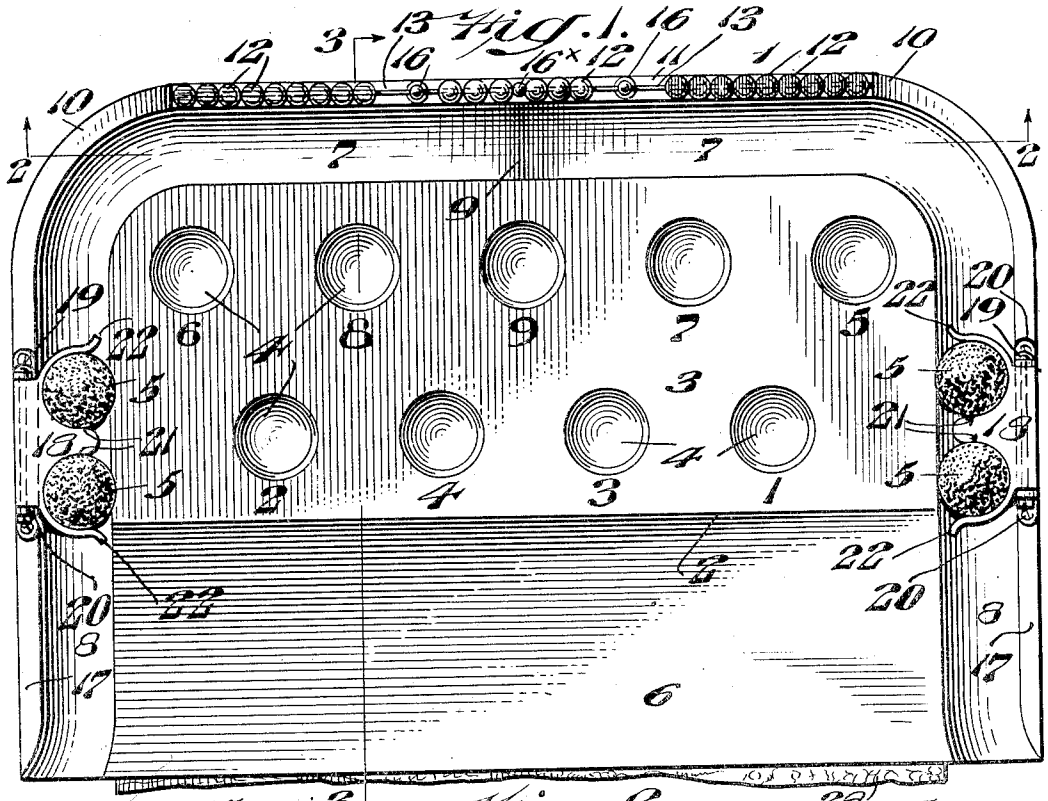


Fig. 1.

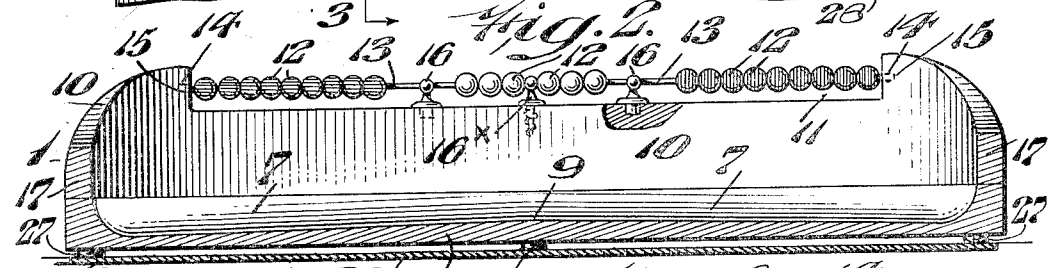


Fig. 2.

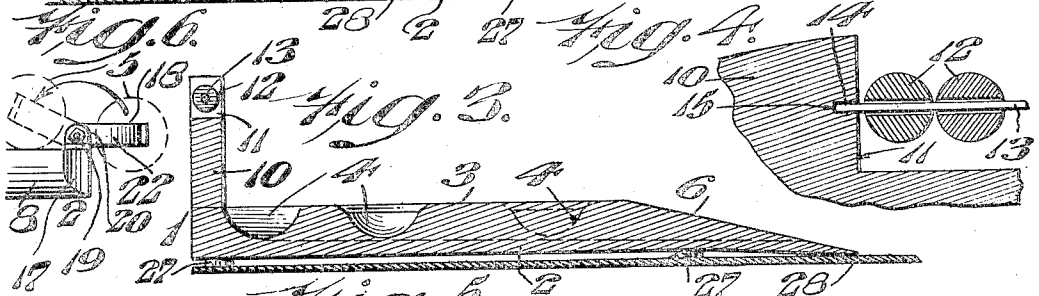


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 6.

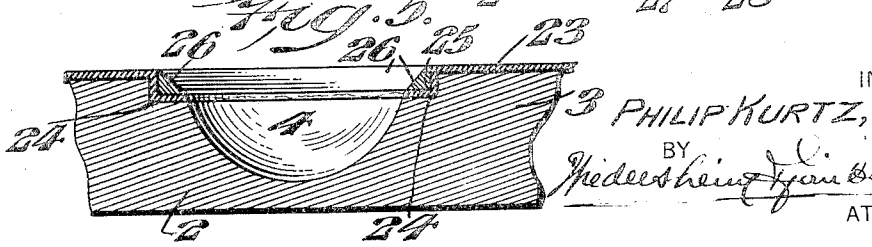


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PHILIP KURTZ, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

GOLF GAME.

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My invention relates to a novel construction of a game board or panel which is adapted to be placed on a floor, carpet rug or ground and to be used in practicing golf putting.

The object of my invention is to provide a novel, simple and durable device which can be manufactured at a low cost, and which can be used at any convenient place particularly indoors, to practice golf putting, my novel board comprising an inclined plane, which can be omitted if desired, leading up to the horizontally disposed artificial putting green, in which are positioned cups for the reception of the golf balls, the rear and sides of the putting green being provided with gutters of a novel construction so that any golf ball missing a hole will be instantly out of play whereby an interesting and amusing game requiring care and skill may be played which will interest a novice as well as the most advanced golfer, my novel device thus providing a golf game for indoor or outdoor use which will enable golf enthusiasts during all seasons of the year, to keep in form and at the same time furnish a game which will afford not only a delightful recreation, but also keep the players in physically fit condition, and assist materially in improving and developing their strokes and accuracy.

My invention further consists of novel means for retaining certain sizes of golf balls as required in proximity to the board when not in use in a suitable holder or holders positioned on the board and it further consists of a novel series of markers or scoring devices arranged preferably at the rear of the rear gutter as may be desired on certain outfits, whereby the score of each player can be kept and the skill of the player accurately determined or other scoring means may be employed.

It further consists of other novel features of advantage and construction, all as will be hereinafter fully set forth in the claims appended hereto.

For the purpose of illustrating my invention I have shown in the accompanying drawings one form thereof which is at present preferred by me, since the same has been found in practice to give satisfactory and reliable results, although it is to be understood that the various instrumentalities of which my invention consists can be variously arranged and organized and that my invention is not limited to the precise arrangement and organization of the instrumentalities as herein shown and described.

Figure 1 represents a plan view of my novel game board for practicing golf putting.

Figure 2 represents a vertical transverse section on line 2—2, Fig. 1.

Figure 3 represents a vertical longitudinal section on line 3—3, Fig. 1.

Figure 4 represents on an enlarged scale a vertical sectional view of a portion of the rear of the board showing a pair of markers slidably mounted upon their support.

Figure 5 represents a vertical sectional view showing the manner of covering the artificial putting green with cloth or the like.

Figure 6 represents an end view of the right hand portion of Fig. 1 showing the ball holder in the different positions it may assume.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts.

Referring to the drawings:—

1 designates my novel construction of golf game, the same comprising a panel or game board 2 having a flat or rectilinear upper or putting green surface 3 in which are positioned the cups or cavities 4 for the reception of the golf balls 5, which are propelled up the incline 6 to or upon the putting green 3. Around the rear and sides of the putting green 3, I form gutters or troughs composed of the rear portions 7 and the side portions 8. At the central median line of the panel or game board as indicated at 9 in Figs. 1 and 2, the junction of said rear gutters is raised or in other words said rear portons 7 of the gutters each slope downwardly and outwardly from the point 9, as will be understood from Fig. 2, so that any golf balls missing the holes 1 to 9 more or less and reaching either of the rear gutters 7, will roll by gravity to the right or left and travel rearwardly towards the player in one or the other of the side gutters 8. In the rear of the gutters 7 is provided the rear wall 10, which has a cut out portion 11 for the reception of the counters 12, which are balls slidably mounted on the horizontally disposed wire 13, which has its ends 14 secured in the seats 15, as will be understood from Figs. 2 and 4. The intermediate portions of the wire 13 may be supported in the posts 16 as

will be understood from Figs. 1 and 2, said posts being dropped into position as seen in Fig. 2, said wire passing through the central post 16ˣ, which is screwed or attached otherwise as conditions warrant, into the rear wall 10 as seen in Fig. 2. The rear wall 10 is continued around the sides of the board as indicated at 17 so as to properly guide the balls during their exit in the side gutters 8. In order that the golf balls may be conveniently carried and be accessible at all times, I provide the ball holders 18, which are blocks pivotally mounted on the rods 19 which are supported in suitable ears or brackets 20, said blocks having a pair of concave seats 21 therein, whose outer walls 22 are springy or resilient, so that when a golf ball 5 is snapped into position in its seat, it will be frictionally held. The blocks 18 and the balls therein can be turned outwardly from the position seen in Fig. 1 to the position seen at the right of Fig. 6 when the game board is in use. If desired I can cover the putting green 3 and the incline 6 leading thereto with green baize or cloth 23 as seen in Fig. 5, similar to that used on billiard and pool tables, so as to simulate a natural putting green, in which case I provide an annular, angular recess around each hole or cup as seen at 24 in Fig. 5 and retain the cloth therein by an annular angular ring 25, having the inner bevelled wall 26. The bottom of the board 2, may rest directly on the indoor floor, carpet or rug, or if desired small knobs or blocks of rubber 27 or vacuum cups of rubber may be attached to the bottom of the board as will be understood from Figs. 2 and 3. If desired I may also attach or secure to the bottom of the board or to the said blocks 27, a strip of textile material 28, the latter being of about the same width as the distance between the inner edges of the side gutters 8, as will be understood from Fig. 1, said strip projecting beyond the incline 6 for a suitable distance as will be understood from Fig. 3. The strip 28 may be of any desired color as green so as to simulate the turf in proximity to a natural putting green and thus corresponding with the green color of the artificial putting green 3 and the incline 6 leading thereto. The left hand set of markers 12 may be blue, the right hand set of markers red, and the centrally disposed markers 12 white, as will be understood from the shading in Figs. 1 and 2, and the golf balls may also be similarly colored if desired, or striped or dotted or in solid color, so that for example the score of the blue golf ball may be kept on the blue markers, the score of the red ball on the red markers, etc. The putting green area 3 and the incline 6 leading thereto may be green and the cups or concavities 4 white, while the gutters 7 and 8 may be green or any other desired color. The game board may be composed of any suitable material as wood, rubber, vulcanized fibre, bakelite, leather, paper, cork or pasteboard composition, or any other composition or materials desired, and if desired the entire apparatus can be pressed or formed from suitable plastic material, rubber compound or the like, between suitable dies by a simple and inexpensive pressing operation. The board can be made of varying dimensions, so as to be used with standard sized golf balls or it can be constructed in miniature or midget sizes, and the game played with smaller golf balls, or with regulation sizes as used on regular course or standard links.

It will be understood that the incline plane 6 can be omitted if desired in which case the putting green board 3 can be made somewhat thinner than shown in Figure 3. It will also be understood that my novel game board is adapted not only for indoor use, but it can be used with equal facility outdoors, and while I have shown nine cups the number of cups may be increased or diminished according to requirements, since by making the board of sufficiently large area I can employ 18 cups if desired, as well as 9. While I have shown a form of markers or scoring device which may be employed, it will be evident that other equivalent constructions of scoring devices may be used if desired.

It will now be apparent that I have devised a novel and useful golf game which embodies the features of advantage enumerated as desirable in the statement of the invention and the above description, and while I have, in the present instance shown and described forms thereof which will give in practice satisfactory and reliable results, it is to be understood that such preferred embodiments are susceptible of modification in various particulars without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a device of the character stated, a board provided with a rectilinear, horizontally disposed putting green surface having concavities therein adapted to receive a putted golf ball, an incline leading thereto, side gutters, rear gutters having their central meeting point raised, whereby said rear gutters incline downwardly from said central meeting point and merge into said side gutters leading to the front of the board.

2. In a device of the character stated, a board provided with a putting green surface having concavities therein adapted to receive a golf ball, an incline leading thereto, an outer wall, and a golf ball holder pivotally mounted upon said outer wall and com-

prising a block having a seat therein and a resilient arm for frictionally retaining a golf ball in said seat.

3. In a device of the character stated, a board provided with a rectilinear, horizontally disposed putting green surface having concavities therein adapted to receive a putted golf ball, parallel gutters extending to the front of said board, rear gutters having their central meeting point raised whereby said rear gutters incline downwardly from said meeting point and merge into said parallel side gutters leading to the front of the board, and outer rear and side walls surrounding and extending above said gutters.

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