

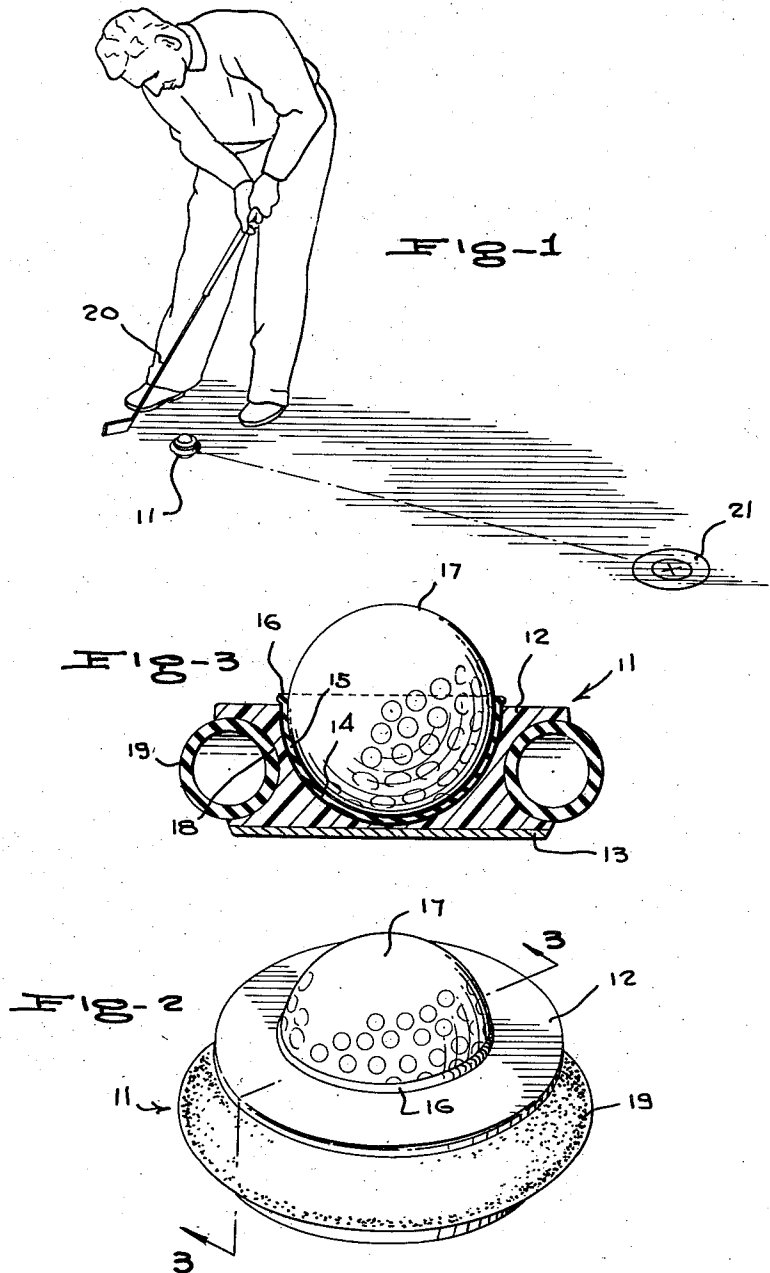
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SLIDING GAME PIECE FOR USE WITH A GOLF BALL

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SLIDING GAME PIECE FOR USE WITH A GOLF BALL

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3 Claims. (Cl. 273—199)

This invention relates to game pieces, and more particularly to a sliding game piece adapted to support a golf ball for use in practicing putting, or for playing games requiring accuracy in moving the game piece toward a designated target on a floor or other supporting surface.

A main object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved sliding game piece adapted to receive a golf ball, said game piece being simple in construction, being inexpensive to manufacture, and having a substantial degree of resiliency, simulating the reaction that a golf ball would have to a putter, whereby the device may be employed for putting practice on a smooth surface.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved sliding game piece useful for practicing golf putting, or for playing a game requiring putting accuracy, the game piece being durable in construction, being attractive in appearance, and being arranged to simulate a golf ball, when such a ball is placed in the game piece and the device is used on a waxed floor or on any other smooth surface.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the following description and claims, and from the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the manner in which a game piece according to the present invention is employed to support a golf ball and to enable a person to move the game piece toward a designated target on a floor by employing a golf putter.

Figure 2 is an enlarged perspective view of the game piece of Figure 1, showing a golf ball mounted therein.

Figure 3 is a vertical cross sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Referring to the drawings, the improved game piece is generally designated at 11 and comprises a generally circular main rigid body 12 of plastic or other suitable substantially rigid material, the body 12 having cemented or otherwise suitably secured to its bottom surface a circular smooth disc 13 of metal or other suitable material, serving to slidably support the game piece on a floor or other smooth surface. The body 12 is formed with a top surface which is parallel to the bottom surface, said body having a generally hemi-spherical recess in its top portion, shown at 14, said recess being centrally located in the body 12 and having cemented or otherwise suitably secured therein a generally hemi-spherical liner 15 of deformable resilient material, such as rubber or the like. The rim of the liner 15 projects above the top plane of the body 12 and is formed with a peripheral bead 16 adapted to clampingly engage a golf ball 17 when the golf ball is inserted in the liner 15, in the manner shown in Figures 2 and 3, wherein a golf ball 17 is shown supported in the recess 14 and engaged in the resilient deformable liner 15. The bead 16 exerts a frictional clamping force on the golf ball, said bead being located slightly above the center of the golf ball,

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whereby the golf ball is securely held in the liner 15. The resilient deformable bead 16 is sufficiently yieldable, however, so that if so desired, the golf ball 17 may be readily removed from the liner 15.

The body 12 is formed at its periphery with an annular groove 18 of arcuate cross sectional shape, for example, of substantially semicircular cross sectional shape. Designated at 19 is a resilient toroidal band member which is positioned in the peripheral groove 18, said band member 19 being, for example, of rubber tubing and having substantial wall thickness so as to offer a degree of resistance to compression approximating the reaction offered by a golf ball when a putter strokes said golf ball on a putting green.

The device 11 may be employed on any suitable smooth surface, for example, on a waxed floor, as shown in Figure 1, wherein the person using same may employ a conventional golf putter 20 to stroke the game piece 11 so as to propel said game piece along the floor toward a designated target 21. As will be readily apparent, the game piece 11 may be thus employed for putting practice, or may be employed in playing a game requiring putting accuracy. By employing a golf ball 17 in the game piece, the weight of the device is made to approximate that of a conventional golf ball, taking into consideration the frictional resistance of the bottom plate 13 on a floor as compared to the inertia of a golf ball when stroked on a putting green.

While a specific embodiment of an improved sliding game piece for use in putting practice, or in playing a game on a smooth surface requiring putting accuracy has been disclosed in the foregoing description, it will be understood that various modifications within the spirit of the invention may occur to those skilled in the art. Therefore, it is intended that no limitations be placed on the invention except as defined by the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A sliding game piece comprising a generally circular main rigid body having a smooth bottom surface and a top surface parallel to said bottom surface, said body being formed in its top portion with a generally hemi-spherical central recess adapted to receive a golf ball, a generally hemi-spherical liner of resilient deformable material secured in said recess, a peripheral bead integrally formed on the rim of said liner, said bead being located above the center of the liner and being located slightly above the top surface of said body, said bead being adapted to grippingly engage a golf ball disposed in said liner, and a resilient toroidal band member secured around the periphery of said main body.

2. A sliding game piece comprising a generally circular main rigid body having a smooth bottom surface and a top surface parallel to said bottom surface, said body being formed in its top portion with a generally hemi-spherical central recess adapted to receive a golf ball, a generally hemi-spherical liner of resilient deformable material secured in said recess, a peripheral bead integrally formed on the rim of said liner, said bead being located above the center of the liner and being located slightly above the top surface of said body, said bead being adapted to grippingly engage a golf ball disposed in said liner, and a generally toroidal hollow tubular member of resilient deformable material secured around the periphery of said main body.

3. A sliding game piece comprising a generally circular main rigid body having a smooth bottom surface and a top surface parallel to said bottom surface, said body being formed in its top portion with a generally hemi-spherical central recess adapted to receive a golf ball,

a generally hemi-spherical liner of resilient deformable material secured in said recess, a peripheral bead integrally formed on the rim of said liner, said bead being located above the center of the liner and being located slightly above the top surface of said body, said bead 5 being adapted to grippingly engage a golf ball disposed in said liner, said body being formed with a peripheral groove of arcuate cross sectional shape, and a generally toroidal hollow tubular member of resilient deformable material disposed in said groove and extending around 10 the periphery of said main body.

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