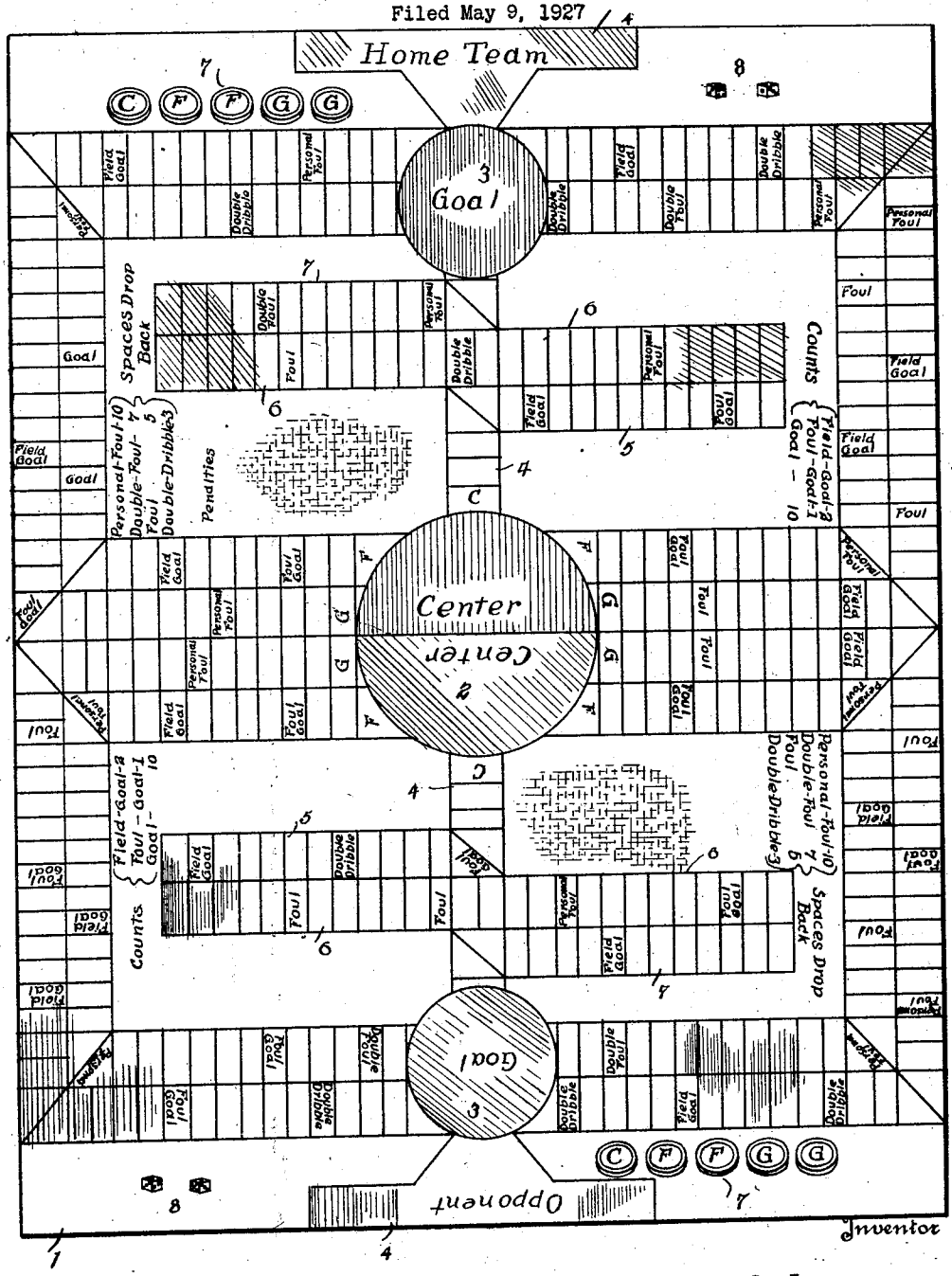
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S. DESTEFANO

BASKET BALL GAME

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL DESTEFANO, OF MONESSEN, PENNSYLVANIA.

## BASKET-BALL GAME.

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This invention appertains to means for affording a pastime and entertainment and supplies a game embodying the features of the popular game of basket ball, both as to play and count, thereby familiarizing the uninitiated with the various plays, counts and penalties of the game.

The invention contemplates a playing field having delineated thereon the goals, starting points and separate courses for the opposing teams, men representing the various players and chance play indicators, such as dice, for designating the moves, the counts and penalties being determined by markings appearing on the individual courses.

For a full understanding of the invention reference is to be had to the accompanying drawing which is a plan view of the playing field embodying the invention, the two sets of men and play indicators being shown in perspective thereon.

The numeral 1 designates a suitable base or board having a surface upon which the playing field and coordinate parts appear in determinate contrasting colors. The board 1 may be of any construction and material, and usually folds upon a medial line to reduce the size and afford protection for the playing field. The board is of rectangular outline and is provided at a central point with a circle 2 which is divided into corresponding halves to represent the starting points for the men of opponent teams. The halves of the circle 2 are of contrasting color, such as red and green. Smaller circles 3 appear at opposite ends of the board in line with the centrally disposed circle 2 and designate the goals and are representative of the baskets of the ordinary game of basket ball. A space 4 is outlined at each end of the board and bears words designating the opponent players, such as —Home team— and —Opponent—. A line of spaces leads from each half of the center circle 2, as indicated at 4, and extends laterally towards a side of the board, as indicated at 5, and joins a line of spaces 6 extending across the board from one side to the other side. A line of spaces 7 connects the respective goals 3 with the end portion of the line of spaces 6 opposite that connected with the line of spaces 5. The lines of spaces 5 and 7 are located upon opposite side portions of the board and are connected by the intermediate line of spaces 6, the several lines of spaces being juxtaposed for compactness of arrangement. The lines of spaces 5, 6 and 7 represent a course for the man or game piece representing the center player and this course is designated by the letter —C—. The two courses are of contrasting colors, such as green and red.

Other courses proceed laterally from opposite sides of each space or starting point and extend laterally in opposite directions, thence longitudinally of the marginal edge portion of the board, and return and connect with opposite sides of the respective goals. These courses, four in number, are designated, two by the letter —F— and two by the letter —G—, the latter representing the side guards and the former the path of the forward players. There are two sets of courses, or paths, and each set comprises four separate and distinct paths, each being designated by the letters —F— and —G—, and the courses of one set being of a different color from the courses of the other set, the one being green and the other red.

Each of the courses or paths has certain data imprinted upon determinate spaces to indicate counts and penalties, the counts being designated by the words —Field goal —2—, —Foul goal —1—, and —Goal —10—, and the penalties being designated by the words —Personal foul —10—, —Double foul —7—, —Foul —5—, and —Double dribble —3—.

The playing field is divided to provide in effect two playing fields, one for each of the players or teams, and each of the playing fields is similarly outlined and provided with a schedule of counts and a schedule of penalties, said schedules agreeing with the matter appearing upon the several courses or paths of the individual men or game pieces. As hereinbefore stated, each of the courses or paths is designated by a letter which corresponds with the letter appearing upon the men or game pieces. The courses or paths for the guards and forwards extend laterally from the starting point, thence along the marginal edge of the board, thence inwardly parallel with the first stretch and connect with the goal.

There are two sets of men or game pieces. Each set of men or game pieces is designated by the numeral 7 and comprises five disks of like color, one disk of each set bearing the letter —C—, two disks bearing the letter —F— and two disks bearing the letter

—G—, corresponding to the center, the two side guards and the two forwards. The color of one set of men is different from the color of the other set to avoid confusion, and the colors match the color scheme of the playing field. The chance indicators preferably consist of two dice, designated by the numeral 8 and the dice of the respective sets are of contrasting color to agree with the color of the men or game pieces 7.

The game is designed for two players, each possessing a set of dice and a set of men. At the outset the players roll the dice for position, the highest being entitled to choice. The players roll the dice in turn and are entitled to enter a man for a five spot at each throw. In the event of a player throwing a double he is entitled to another roll or throw of the dice, and may count the number appearing on each of the dice and move two men. For all other throws only one man may be moved a distance corresponding to the sum of the two dice. Each of the spaces of a course or path represents a move of a man or game piece entered in play. The indications appearing on certain spaces determine the count or penalty of the man stopping thereon at the end of a move. In this manner the men may be advanced or penalized and counts scored. It is to be understood that a score is kept of the points and the player making the highest number wins.

Having thus described the invention, I claim:

A game of the character specified comprising a base having a playing field delineated thereon, and including a centrally disposed space divided to provide two starting points, and a space at each end of the base representing a goal, a line of spaces extending longitudinally from each starting point, thence extending laterally and across the base from one side to the opposite side and returning and making connection with the goal, and other lines of spaces extending laterally in opposite directions from each starting point, thence along the marginal edges of the base and returning and connecting with the goal, certain spaces of the several lines of spaces having data imprinted thereon indicating the move and count of the game pieces movable over the playing field.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

SAMUEL DESTEFANO. [L. S.]