April 26, 1927. 1,625,856

R. F. JUDD

GAME BALL HOLDER

Filed Oct. 11, 1926

Fig. 1.

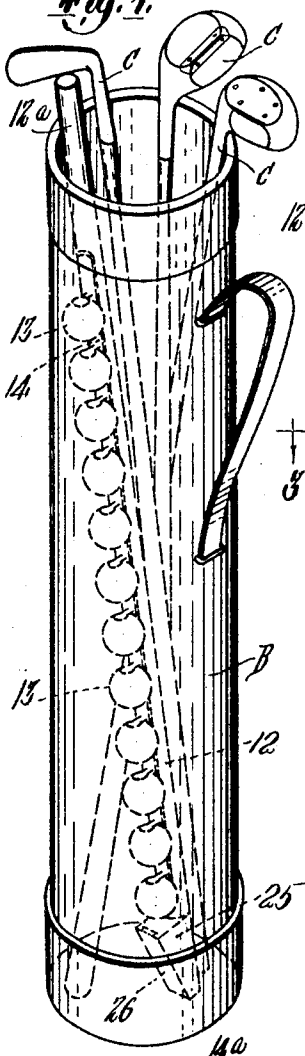


Fig. 2.

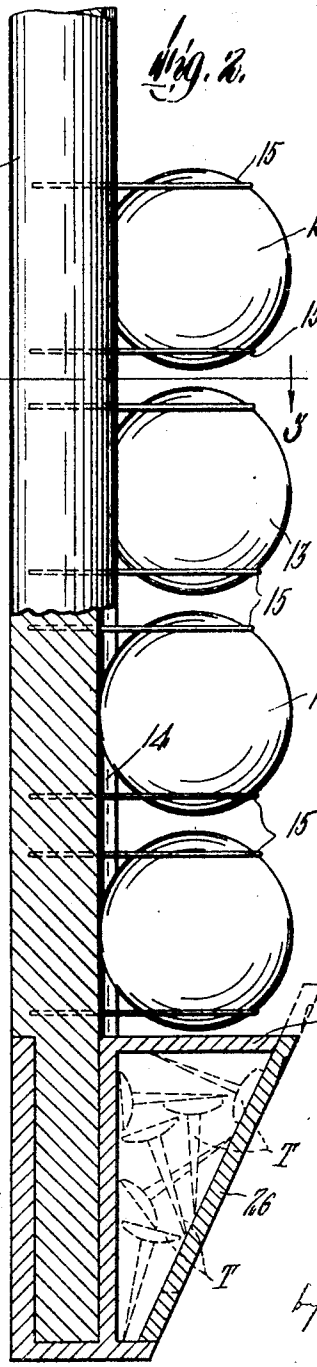
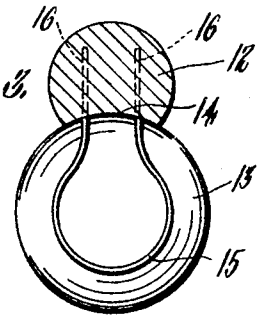


Fig. 3.



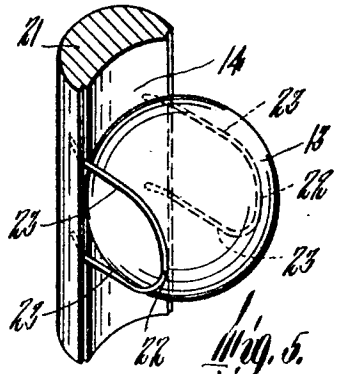


Fig. 5.

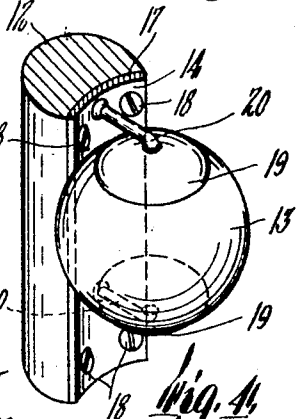


Fig. 4.

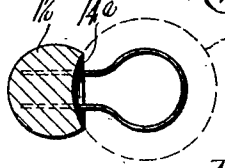


Fig. 7.

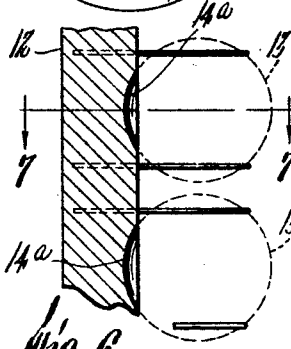


Fig. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RANDALL F. JUDD, OF BROOKLINE, MASSACHUSETTS.

GAME-BALL HOLDER.

Application filed October 11, 1926. Serial No. 140,831.

The chief object of this invention is to provide a holder adapted to be inserted in, and removed from a golf-bag, so that it may stand therein beside the clubs usually carried in the bag, and to separably confine a plurality of golf-balls, so that when the holder is inserted in the bag, the balls are confined at various heights above the bottom of the bag, and when the holder is removed from the bag, any ball may be detached from the holder.

The invention is embodied in the improvements hereinafter described and claimed, in a holder which may be used for holding and carrying other game balls, such as tennis balls.

Of the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification,—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing a golf-bag and a ball holder embodying the invention, inserted with golf-clubs in the bag.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary view, partly in elevation, and partly in section, showing a portion of the holder.

Figure 3 is a section on line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 shows in perspective a portion of the holder, some of the details of which differ from those shown by Figures 1, 2 and 3.

Figure 5 is a view similar to Figure 4, showing a different arrangement.

Figure 6 is a view similar to a portion of Figure 2, showing a different form of the recessed rod.

Figure 7 is a section on line 7—7 of Figure 6.

The same reference characters indicate the same parts in all of the figures.

My improved holder comprises an elongated rod 12, recessed at one side to conform to portions of the peripheries of balls 13 assembled on the rod, and jaws fixed to and projecting from the recessed side of the rod and adapted to cooperate therewith in separably confining the balls on the recessed side.

In the construction shown by Figures 1, 2 and 3, the rod 12 is provided with a single longitudinal groove forming a recess 14, constituting a seat on which the balls 13 may be assembled in a row. Inner zones of the balls project into the recess 14, so that the recess wall opposes displacement of the balls crosswise of the rod. The jaws are arranged in pairs, those of each pair being adapted to independently engage and confine a ball, each jaw being composed of a bent member of resilient wire including a ball-engaging neck portion 15, constituting an open jaw and a pair of shank portions 16, engaged with the rod between the longitudinal edges of the recess 14. The jaws of each pair are adapted to bear on opposite zones of a ball inserted between the jaws, and seated on the recess 14, the resilience of the jaws being such that the ball may be readily slipped into and out of place between the jaws. The arrangement of the jaws is such that they oppose displacement of the balls in various directions, and cooperate with the wall of the recess 14 in preventing displacement of the balls in other directions. Owing to the fact that the shanks of the jaws are between the longitudinal edges of the recess 14, said jaws are not exposed on the external surface of the rod 12, and are not liable to rub against the usual playing clubs C inserted in a golf-bag B.

The rod 12 may be made of wood, into which the shanks 16 are driven, as indicated by Figures 2 and 3.

Figure 4 shows a different construction, the longitudinal recess 14 being the outer side of a reinforcing plate 17, attached by screws 18 to the recessed side of a wooden rod 12. The jaws in this instance, include concavo-convex cups 19, having resilient shanks 20, riveted or otherwise rigidly secured to the plate 12.

Figure 5 shows an arrangement in which each jaw is made of a bent wire member including a neck portion 22, and shank portions 23, the inner ends of which are inserted in the rod at opposite edges of the recessed side thereof, said members constituting open jaws adapted to bear on opposite zones of a ball.

If desired, the recessed side of the rod 12 may be provided by forming in a flat side of the rod a plurality of concave recesses 14^a, each conforming to a portion of a ball 13, as indicated by Figures 6 and 7, the recesses being adapted to oppose displacement of the balls lengthwise, as well as crosswise of the rod. The jaws in this instance, may be constructed and attached to the rod, either as shown by Figures 2 and 3, or as shown by Figure 4, or as shown by Figure 5.

The holder when used for holding golf-

balls, may be readily inserted in, and removed from, a golf-bag, one end of the holder being formed as a handle 12^a, and the length of the rod being such that the handle projects from the mouth of the bag, as shown by Figure 1.

If desired, the rod may be provided at the end opposite the handle with a receptacle 25, adapted to contain golf tees T, as shown by Figure 2, the receptacle including a displaceable side portion 26, so that it may be opened and closed. One side of the receptacle 25 is preferably inclined, to facilitate the insertion of the holder in a golf-bag beside clubs therein.

The holder is adapted to support the balls 13 at different distances from the bottom of the bag, and when removed from the bag, permits any ball to be selected and removed from a pair of jaws, the other balls remaining in engagement with the other pairs of jaws, so that if the holder is laid horizontally on the ground, there is no liability of escape of the balls from the jaws.

The recessed side of the rod by opposing displacement in certain directions of balls seated thereon, enables the jaws to bear with a relatively light pressure on opposite zones of the balls inserted therebetween, so that the balls may be easily inserted and removed, and when inserted, are adequately confined. It is therefore unnecessary to make the jaws so stiff as to render the insertion and removal of the balls objectionably difficult, and cause wear by the jaws of the surfaces of the balls, when the latter are being inserted and removed.

It is obvious that a holder characterized as described, may be used for holding other game balls, such as tennis balls. The holder when used as last stated, may be carried to and from a tennis court by the handle 12^a.

I claim:

1. A game-ball holder comprising an elongated stiff rod, adapted to be inserted in a bag and having a recessed longitudinal side formed to receive and support zones of a row of game balls and oppose displacement of the balls in certain directions, and a plurality of pairs of resilient jaws projecting from the recessed side and formed to bear on opposite zones of a row of balls seated on the recessed side, and adapted to yieldingly oppose displacement of the balls in other directions, each pair of jaws independently confining a ball in a predetermined position on the rod and opposing its accidental removal from said position.

2. A game-ball holder comprising an elongated stiff rod, adapted to be inserted in a bag and having a recessed longitudinal side formed to receive and support zones of a row of game balls and oppose displacement of the balls in certain directions, and a plurality of pairs of curved resilient wire members projecting from the recessed side, and including shank portions fixed in the rod, and neck portions connecting the shank portions, said members constituting resilient open jaws arranged in pairs and formed to bear on opposite zones of a row of balls seated on the recessed side, and adapted to yieldingly oppose displacement of the balls in other directions, each pair independently confining a ball in a predetemined position on the rod, and opposing its accidental removal from said position.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

RANDALL F. JUDD.