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M. C. HAMBLET

PLAYING BALL

Filed Jan. 17, 1924

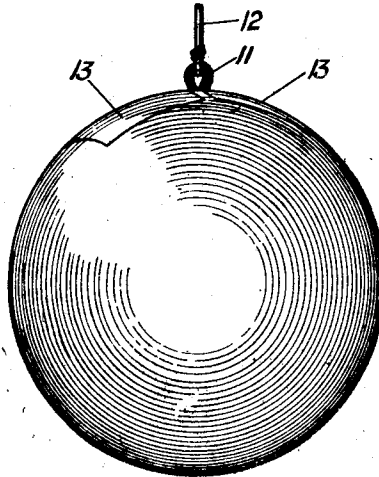


FIG-1.

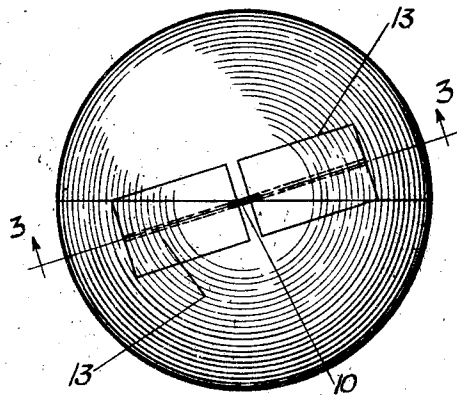


FIG-2.

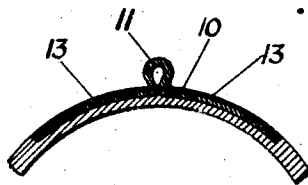


FIG-3.

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PLAYING BALL.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARCIA C. HAMBLET, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Akron, county of Summit, State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Playing Balls, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to playing balls and particularly to rubber or elastic balls having means formed thereon whereby an elastic cord may be attached to the ball so as to form a return ball. Heretofore, the various means used for attaching the cord to the ball have not proven satisfactory, as no way has been devised to fasten the cord securely to the ball, and in usual constructions the cord has pulled out of the ball after brief use.

The object of the present invention is to construct a new form of playing ball which shall have securely fastened thereon, means by which the return cord can be attached. It is also an object of the invention to provide such an attaching means from which the cord can be removed without injury to the ball and the ball used as an ordinary playing ball without the return attachment.

In the drawings and description, there is shown one form of the invention, but it will be understood that the invention is not necessarily limited to the exact form as shown and described, but may be modified within the scope of the appended claims.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a view of the ball, looking at the attaching means from the side;

Figure 2 is a view looking down upon the attaching means; and

Figure 3 is a section through the ball at the attaching means on the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

The ball is made in the usual way, with the two hemispheres connected along the center line where the mold separates. The attaching means is of strong, flexible, substantially inextensible material and in the preferred form, is a short piece of string 10, the ends of which are vulcanized within the wall of the ball and provided with a central loop 11 which projects outwardly of the ball and to which the elastic cord 12 may be attached. If it is desired to use the

ball in play without the cord, this can be done and the cord can later be attached. The ball may thus be made to serve a double purpose, which is not possible with former constructions.

The loop or retaining means may be secured to the ball in any suitable manner. It is an important feature of the invention, however, that it be vulcanized to the ball and thereby securely fastened in position.

In vulcanizing the string in position, one end of the string is placed on each hemisphere and over the ends of the string are placed small patches of rubber 13. The loop projects into a cavity formed in one-half of the mold. The ball is then cured as in the usual practise.

While I have particularly described the retaining member as a string, it is not my desire to be restricted to a string, as other attaching means may be used if desired. Other methods may be devised for vulcanizing the attaching means in place and the method described may be modified as desired.

The construction which has been shown can be readily manufactured at very slight expense over that required to manufacture the ball without it. The attaching means is securely vulcanized in place and cannot pull out. Other advantages have been described and will be apparent to those skilled in the art.

In addition to those features which have been described, it will be observed that the attaching means does not destroy the balance or contour of the ball and its resiliency and liveliness is retained. This is a considerable advantage over prior constructions in which the surface of the ball has been pierced or depressed. The ball is a perfect sphere and is thus adaptable for use in other ways than as a return ball. The construction may be used with solid as well as hollow balls.

What is claimed is:

1. An elastic playing ball having means whereby a return cord may be attached, said attaching means comprising a string the ends of which are vulcanized to the body of the ball and having a central loop projecting outwardly from the surface of the ball.

2. An elastic playing ball having means whereby a return cord may be attached, said attaching means comprising a flexible element the ends of which are embedded within the wall of the ball and having a central loop projecting outwardly from the surface of the ball.
3. An elastic playing ball having a string embedded within the wall of the ball and projecting outwardly from the surface thereof to provide means by which a return cord may be attached.
4. A rubber playing ball and an elastic cord, in combination with a flexible element vulcanized within the ball and having a portion projecting outwardly therefrom to provide an attaching means for the cord.
5. A playing ball and an elastic cord, in combination with a string permanently secured to the ball and having a portion projecting outwardly therefrom to provide attaching means for the cord.
6. A rubber playing ball and an elastic cord, in combination with a string, the ends of which are vulcanized within the wall of the ball and the central portion of which is formed as a loop projecting outwardly of the surface of the ball.
7. A hollow resilient playing ball of rubber and a return cord attaching means permanently secured within the wall of the ball and projecting outwardly therefrom.
8. A hollow resilient playing ball of rubber and a return cord attaching means comprising a string permanently secured to the wall of the ball and having a loop projecting outwardly therefrom.
9. A hollow resilient playing ball of rubber and a return cord attaching means comprising a string the ends of which are vulcanized within the wall of the ball and the central portion of which projects outwardly of the ball to form a loop.
10. A hollow resilient playing ball of rubber and a return cord attaching means comprising a flexible element the ends of which are vulcanized within the wall of the ball and the central portion of which projects outwardly of the ball to form a loop.

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