My invention relates to a mobile golf club carrier, and has particular reference to a combined caddy cart and golf bag that permits ready access to golf clubs.

The use of caddy carts for carrying golf clubs is well known, the golfer merely placing the usual golf club carrying bag upon the caddy cart, and thereafter moving the cart as desired. When a club is required, a golfer may select one from the bag and replace it when he has finished using it.

Caddy carts have been constructed, however, that employ racks for individually mounting clubs so that they may be easily selected, removed, and replaced. Such rack carts, however, have not employed a club bag or provided space for a club bag. The user of a rack cart accordingly must remove clubs from a bag, place them on the rack, and then store the bag. When the player has finished the game, the clubs must be placed back in the bag for storage or transportation.

My invention provides a self-contained and self-sufficient caddy cart of the rack type including a club bag. The caddy cart is made in a collapsible or folding construction so as to occupy little space and accordingly may be readily transported with the bag attached. When it is placed in use, the clubs are merely removed from the bag and arranged on the rack, the bag remaining with the cart. Accordingly there is no problem of storage of the bag while the golf game is in progress, and the bag is instantly available for receiving the clubs from the rack. The clubs may also receive the protection of the bag while being transported to and from the golf course.

The collapsible nature of my caddy cart permitting the bag to remain attached provides the golfer with a readily portable caddy cart, and accordingly it is not necessary for him to rent one separately when he arrives at the golf course. Further the folding caddy cart may be so lightly constructed as to impose but little added weight compared to the conventional golf bag. Additionally its shape may be such as to give further protection to the bag during transport or storage.

It is therefore an object of my invention to provide a combined rack type of caddy cart and golf club carrying bag.

Another object of my invention is to provide a collapsible caddy cart adapted to remain attached to a golf club bag during storage or transport of the bag.

A further object of my invention is to provide a collapsible caddy cart having a bag attached that is so arranged as to be movable while partially collapsed.

Other objects, advantages, novel elements, and interrelationships of parts will be apparent in the accompanying description and claims, together with the drawings forming an integral part of this specification, and in which:

Fig. 1 is a side view of an illustrative caddy cart and bag embodying my invention and disposed in a partially collapsed position that permits movement of the cart;

Fig. 2 is an exploded view of the caddy cart of Fig. 1 showing the principal detachable parts separated from each other;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the caddy cart of Fig. 1 as fully opened or extended and ready for use and illustrating in broken outline one typical club disposed in the rack;

Fig. 4 is a sectional view along the line IV—IV of Fig. 1 showing a mount for removably securing a handle;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view oppositely taken from that of Fig. 3 showing the other side of the combined caddy cart and bag;

Fig. 6 is a vertical sectional view through the fully opened caddy cart;

Fig. 7 is an enlarged sectional view of the construction of the upper end of the golf bag;

Fig. 8 is a sectional view along the line VIII—VIII of Fig. 6;

Fig. 9 is a fragmentary view partly in section of the wheel mount of the caddy cart;

Fig. 10 is a plan view of a clip for retaining a golf club handle; and

Fig. 11 is a perspective view of a club head bag particularly adapted for use with my combined caddy cart and bag.

Referring to the drawings, my combined caddy cart and bag may be referred to generally by the numeral 12, and may include a generally vertical frame member 13 and a folding platform member 14 hinged thereto as by a hinge 15. A bag 16 may be secured to the frame 13 in any suitable manner, and I have found that mounting strips 17 having figure-eight slots 18 may be conveniently utilized so that they may be disposed over projecting screws 19 secured to the frameboard. The entire assembly is rendered mobile by means of a pair of wheels 21 journaled on a shaft that is preferably disposed adjacent the hinge 15. While this shaft could be secured to the vertical frame 13, I have found it convenient to attach it to the bottom of the folding platform 14.

My caddy cart may be conveniently collapsed or folded by rotating the platform 14 from the position shown in Fig. 3 to the folded position illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2. In this connection...
it will be noted that the lower end of the bag 16 is not attached to the frame 13, and accordingly when the bag is free of clubs the bottom may be pulled outwardly away from the frame 13 so that the platform 23 related to parallel relation-ship with the frame 13, as illustrated. While the frame 13 and the platform 14 may be formed of any suitable material such as sheet metal or specially fabricated metal, I find it desirable at present to utilize plane material, and for this purpose I have successfully employed half-inch plywood. Accordingly when the platform is rotated parallel to the frame 13, as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, the thickness of the entire caddy cart is reduced to a minimum.

The compact fold-in structure of my caddy cart may be additionally enhanced by making the wheels 21 removable. As shown particularly in Fig. 9, it will be noted that the wheel 21 may be provided with a stub shaft 22 that fits within a tubular axle 23 and may be maintained therein by means of a pin 24 passing through both members. The wheel 21 accordingly may be removed by removing the pin 24, and the wheel may then be disposed flat against a surface of the frame 13 by passing the axle 23 therethrough, for example through holes 25. If desired, the pin 24 may pass through the projective end of the shaft 22 to lock the wheels to the frame 13.

It will be obvious from an inspection of the drawings that the weight of the entire caddy cart will be disposed on the side of the axle 23 toward the longest end of the platform 14. Accordingly a removable brace 26 may pass upwardly through the platform 14 when in its extended position to thereby provide a third point at which the weight of the combined caddy cart and bag is supported. As much as the brace provides a frictional support against the ground, the caddy cart will be rendered non-rolling when part of the weight is assumed by the brace 26.

The caddy cart may be easily rolled by the user thereof grasping a U-shaped handle 27 which may be inserted in a pair of sockets 28 illustrated in detail in Fig. 4. Each socket 28 may include a U-shaped member 27 passing through parallel slots 31 in each side of the frame member 13, and may be secured within the frame member by a plurality of screws 32 passing through the shanks of the U-shaped sheet metal. A pressure plate 33 may be provided within the U-shaped member and may be secured towards the handle 27 by means of a thumb screw 34. Thus each end of the handle 27 may be securely grasped by tightening the thumb screws 34, and may be readily removed therefrom by loosening the thumb screws and pulling the handle ends from their sockets.

Both the brace 26 and the handle 27 may be made of lightweight tubular material such as aluminum tubing, and when detached the brace may be disposed flat against one side of the frame 13 by disposing one leg within one of the sockets 28, and the handle 27 may be held against the frame 13 by fitting an end portion of the handle 27 in a clip 63 on the brace 26 and by disposing the bent ends of the handle 27 through apertures in the platform 14 as illustrated in Fig. 1.

Referring now particularly to the bag 16, it will be noted that this bag may include the usual handles 43 for protecting the heads of the clubs when they are inserted in the bag. When the clubs have been removed from the bag, this hood may be disposed downwardly therein as illustrated in Fig. 6. Further the bag may have a telescoping bottom portion 36 which may be projected upwardly within the bag as is also illustrated in Fig. 6. If desired, a stiff hoop 31 may be disposed at the juncture of the bottom portion with the main part of the bag, and this hoop may be positioned by one leg of the brace 26 when the caddy cart is being used in its open or extended condition. The hoop in this event, as shown in Figs. 6 and 3, will give shape to the bag, and in addition, the hoop may have a rigidness to the brace 26 because of the bearing of the hoop against the cart frame 13. The brace 26 may be retained in the platform 14 by frictional engagement, but suitable retaining mechanisms could be employed such as clamps or set screws.
permitting a substantial portion of the blade to be cupped by the sockets 53, and the toe of the club will be restrained by the opposite end of the sockets 53.

The rocking of the wood clubs is best illustrated in Figs. 6 and 8, and there it will be noted that a looped strap 55 may be attached to the underside of the platform 14 so as to span across a plurality of generally circular apertures 56 corresponding in number to the clips 52a. While the wood clubs could be simply mounted by dropping their heads in the apertures 56, I prefer to employ a special construction of club head bag that may be utilized as a cushioned socket member. Thus, as illustrated in Fig. 11, a club head bag 57 may have a metal strip 50 fastened on a portion of the outer edge thereof, and may have a pair of snaps 65 which may be mated to secure the bag around the shaft of the wood club being protected. When the wood clubs are racked on the combined caddy cart and bag 12, the opening of the bag 57 may be turned downwardly as indicated in broken outline in Fig. 6 so that the metal plate 55 may fit between one of a plurality of wire brackets 51 and the frame 13 adjacent to the lower portion of the frame. The metal plate 55 forms a stiffening for the portion of the rolled over bag rim 57 to prevent the bag from working loose from the bracket. Additionally the metal plate 55 may be slightly curved to conform to the bag's shape, as illustrated in Fig. 11, and accordingly when the bag edgewise is rolled over, as illustrated in Fig. 6, there will be a reverse curvature of the metal that will securely lock the bag between the wire brackets 51 and the surface of the frame 13.

The clip band 51 may be detachably secured to the frame member 13 by means of a plurality of integrally formed hooks 62 that may project in complementary recesses in the mounting strip 7 (Fig. 3), and the hook engagement with this strip may be locked in position by means of latches 63 disposed one at each end of the clip band 51. It will be noted from Figs. 2 and 3 that the clip band 51 may have a spiral disposition on the frame 13 which will grasp the shafts at approximately the same relative position on each club due to the varying lengths of the iron clubs. This point of grasp is preferably just below the horizontal position of the shaft.

While the clips 52 may be of any convenient or conventional construction, I prefer to employ a strip metal construction as illustrated in Fig. 10, wherein a generally U-shaped metal portion 52b may have the shanks thereof triply bent to define a socket 52c for a club shaft or handle, and each shank may be covered with a resilient material 52d such as a tube of rubber or plastic.

The angular disposition of the platform 14 with respect to the frame 13 may be limited by means of a pair of slotted plates 65 cooperating with a thumb screw 64, one plate and thumb screw being disposed on each side of the frame 13. Not only does the thumb screw 64 act as a stop to limit rotation of the platform 14 to a horizontal position, but also it permits the platform to be locked in either the horizontal position of Fig. 3 or the parallel position of Fig. 1.

In some cases it is necessary or desirable to use the bag 16 separate from the cart, the bag may be removed by lifting upwardly until the screw heads 18, and a carrying strap 66 may be snapped to any convenient eyes or loops on the bag so that the bag may be manually carried. When the bag is attached to the caddy cart, the strap may be detached and conveniently carried in the separate bag 28 (Fig. 1).

The attachment of the handle 27, the brace 25, and the clip band 51 upon the combined cart and bag when in a partially collapsed position is illustrated in Fig. 1. There it will be noted that the brace 25 may have the short leg thereof disposed in the far handle socket 29, disposing outwardly the U-shaped clip 63 that engages the uppermost portion of the U-shaped handle 27. The bent ends of the U-shaped handle may be projected through the socket apertures 56 in the platform 14. The clip band 51 may be disposed around the reduced telescopic portion 36 of the bag 16, and the ends may protect through the same socket apertures 56. A suitable thong may be employed to tie the projecting ends of the handle 21 to the platform 14, which thong may also securely position the ends of the U-shaped handle 27.

In operation, the combined caddy cart and bag may be converted from a storage condition to an operating condition. The wheels 21 during storage may have their shafts 22 pass through the apertures 26 in the frame 13, and to render the combination club baggies 51, the metal plates 55 may be mounted on either end of the axle 23. The condition of the caddy cart is then that illustrated in Fig. 1. There it will be noted that the telescoping lower portion 36 of the bag 16 may extend to the ground so as to prevent the cart from moving on the wheels. Accordingly the folded cart with the wheels in operating position may be leaned against a wall, fence, or other structure without danger of the cart rolling.

On the combined cart and bag has been rolled to a suitable position such as the first tee, the thong binding the clip band 51 and the handle 27 may be removed and the clip band may be positioned as illustrated in Fig. 3 by inserting the hooks 62 in complementary slots. The handle 27 may be detached from the clip 51 on the brace 25 and the brace may be removed and the handle inserted in its sockets 28. The head 35 of the bag 16 may then be overviewed and the clubs manually grasped about their heads to lift the entire mass of clubs uniformly to permit flexing of the lower portion of the bag 16 so that the platform 14 may be rotated horizontally in position as illustrated in Figs. 3, 5, and 6. The wing screws 64 may then be tightened against the slotted brace 55 to lock the platform 14 in position after the manual grasp upon the club heads has been removed and they are allowed to then rest against the platform 14. The brace 25 may then be inserted in position by lifting the cart 12 forwardly, one leg of the brace passing through the frame 13 and the other passing upwardly through the platform 14 into the hoose 27. The iron clubs may then be removed from the bag 16 and positioned in their sockets 53 as illustrated in broken outline in Fig. 6. The wood clubs next may be disposed in the sockets 56, and the projecting bags may thereafter be unsmapped from the shafts and the edges rolled to dispose, the metal plate 53 (Fig. 11) behind the associated wire bracket 51, as illustrated in broken outline in Fig. 6.

The hood 36 may next be disposed inwardly within the bag 16, and the bag 44 may have one snap 45 released from the mating snap 46, and the other snap 45 attached to the mating snap 47 to define the bag 44 as shown in Fig. 5. This bag may be conveniently used for storage of less
and other small objects. The metal cover may then be rotated on its hinge to a horizontal position as illustrated in Fig. 3. The entire cart is then ready for use, balls being obtained from the pocket if desired, and articles of clothing being stored in the bag if desired.

The entire cart is lightweight and therefore easily moved from place to place on its wheels by tilting the entire cart forward so that the weight is taken off of the brace. When the grip of the user is released on the handle, the lower center of gravity of the entire cart due to the downward disposition of the club heads will immediately restore the cart to an upright position until a part of the weight is borne by the brace. This brace will frictionally engage the ground to hold the combined cart and bag in a stationary position. The clubs are not only available for instant identification and inspection, but are also readily removed by merely pulling the handle outwardly from the clips for the iron clubs, or the clips for the wood clubs. Furthermore, the rack arrangement dispenses the heads of the iron clubs away from the player, thus correctly positioning the club in the player’s hand for use when the club is removed from the rack. The clubs are readily replaced by inserting the heads in the respective sockets and again inserting the shafts in the clips.

The folding or collapsing operation for the combined cart and bag is the opposite from that described, and the clubs may first be removed from their sockets and held manually while the brace is removed and the platform is rotated to a position parallel to the frame. The telescoping portion of the bag is then extended as illustrated in Fig. 1, and the clubs may be inserted in the bag and the hood closed over their heads. The brace may then be positioned in the sockets and the handle may then be rotated 180° and placed against the frame so that its bent ends project through the outer sockets of the platform. The clip band may then be removed and disposed of the telescoping portion of the bag. The bag may then be rolled to a car or other means of transportation, and when it is desired to store the combined cart and bag, the wheels may be removed from their axles by removal of the pins. The wheel shafts may then be inserted through the apertures and locked by the pins. The bag as thus completely collapsed is adequately protected by the frame against rough handling or other abuse, inasmuch as a stiff frame member forms one entire side of the bag and projects upwardly therewith.

While I have described my invention with respect to a specific embodiment thereof, I do not limit myself to this embodiment, nor otherwise, since it is obvious that various modifications could be made therein without departing from the true spirit and scope of my invention. The described embodiment of my invention is accordingly merely illustrative and not definitive or limiting.

I claim:

1. A combined caddy cart and golf bag comprising: a generally vertical frame member; a golf bag secured to the frame member; a platform member hinged to the bottom of the frame and adapted to swing a hinge secured to the bottom of the frame member for rotation from a parallel position to a generally right angular position; a golf bag secured to one side of the frame adjacent the top of the bag.
so that the platform may be rotated against the frame member by lifting the bottom of the bag outwardly from the frame member; an auxiliary bag formed on the golf bag opposite each aperture in the frame member; a pair of detachable wheels secured to the bottom of the platform at opposite ends of the hinge; a clip band removably secured to the frame member and passing around an upper part of the golf bag; a plurality of iron club sockets formed in the platform below the clip band; a plurality of wood club sockets formed on the platform adjacent the other side of the frame member; a corresponding plurality of clips secured to the frame member above the wood head sockets; a removable handle secured to the side of the frame member adjacent the wood head sockets; and a removable brace secured to the bottom of the platform underneath the iron head sockets.

9. A combined caddy cart and golf bag comprising: a vertical generally planar frame member; a platform hinge-connected to the bottom thereof to rotate from a generally parallel position to a position at right angles to the frame; a golf bag secured to the front face of said planar frame member; a plurality of apertures through said planar member exposing the surface of said bag; and a plurality of pockets in said bag, one accessible through each of said apertures, said pockets defining compartments independent of the main body of the bag.

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