

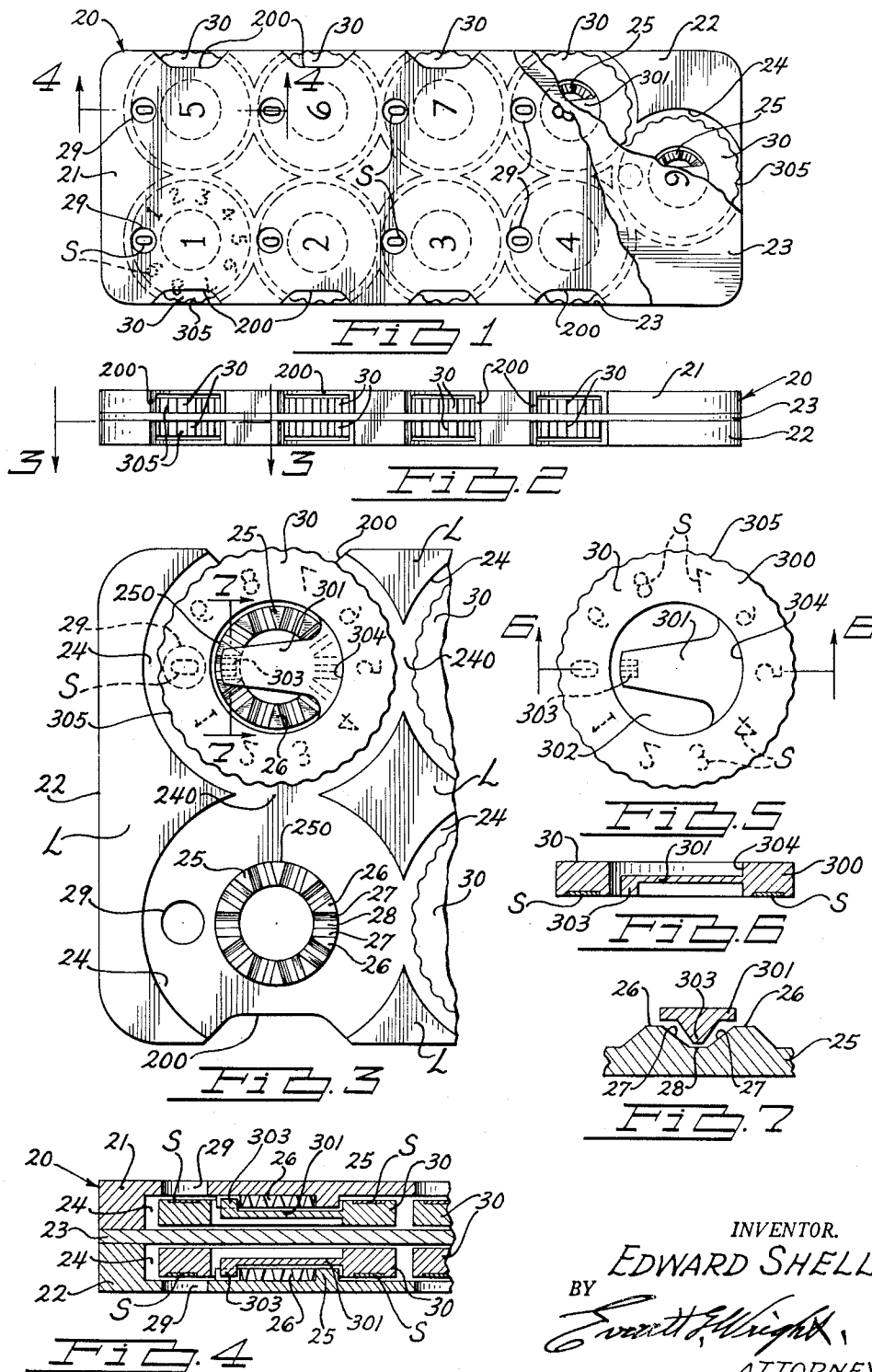
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GOLF SCORING DEVICES

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GOLF SCORING DEVICES

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This invention relates to scoring devices, and in particular to an improved and greatly simplified pocket type golf scoring device.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a simple, inexpensive and rugged scoring device constructed of a minimum number of parts which are readily and economically assembled into a convenient manually operated scorer that positively maintains the registered score for each of 18 holes of golf until such a time as it is reset to a zero.

Other objects of the invention will become apparent by reference to the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a top view of a pocket type golf scoring device embodying the invention, portions being broken away successively to better illustrate the construction thereof.

FIG. 2 is a side elevational view of the golf scoring device shown in FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of FIG. 2, the scoring element being removed from one of the walls in which scoring elements are journaled.

FIG. 4 is an enlarged vertical sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of FIG. 1.

FIG. 5 is an enlarged top plan view of one of the scoring elements employed.

FIG. 6 is a cross sectional view taken on the line 6—6 of FIG. 5.

FIG. 7 is a fragmentary cross sectional view through the fixed ratchet teeth over which the resilient tongue of the scoring element travels and between which the said tongue element becomes positioned to maintain the scoring element in a zero or any scoring position to which it may be manually turned.

Referring now to the drawings wherein like reference characters refer to like and corresponding parts throughout the several views, the golf scoring device disclosed for the purpose of illustrating the invention is formed of molded and sheet plastic elements only, and consists of a molded housing 20 comprising an upper housing element 21, a lower housing element 22 with a partition 23 disposed therebetween. The upper and lower housing elements 21 and 22 are identical except for the indicia carried thereby. The top of the upper housing element 21 is preferably marked as shown from 1 to 9 inclusive above the centers of the upper scoring elements 30 hereinafter described, and the lower housing element is marked (not shown) from 10 to 18 inclusive below the centers of the lower scoring elements 30.

Each of the upper and lower housing elements 21 and 22 are provided with nine cylindrical wells 24 arranged laterally and longitudinally and diagonally adjacent each other in a suitable pattern preferably as shown in FIGS. 1 and 3. To save space, the wells 24 may overlap slightly leaving an opening 240 therebetween. However, it is important that this overlapping of the wells 24 be limited so that the scoring elements 30 in adjacent wells 24 will not contact each other.

Centrally located in the bottom of each of the wells 24 is a short annular stub shaft 25 having on the top thereof, in the particular embodiment of the invention shown, ten evenly radially disposed and evenly circumferentially spaced truncated ratchet teeth 26 with sloping sides 27 and a valley 28 therebetween, as best shown in FIGS. 3

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and 7. The bottom of each well 24 is provided with a suitable score reading aperture 29 therein aligned with one of the valleys 28 of the stub shaft 25 through which any registered score may be read.

Each scoring element 30 is formed of molded plastic and consists of an annular disc 300 of substantial thickness incorporating an integral thin flexible tongue 301 cantilevering from one side of the annular wall 304 of the central annulus 302 of the said disc 300 and extending to a point adjacent but spaced from the opposite side of the said annular wall 304. The said tongue 301 as viewed in FIGS. 5, 6 and 7 has at the outer end thereof a depending wedge shaped pawl 303 formed to enter valleys 28 between ratchet teeth 26 on the top of the annular stub shaft 25 when the scoring element is rotated. The bottom of each scoring element 30 as viewed in FIG. 6 has numerical scoring indicia S, preferably zero, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 evenly spaced therearound, the zero indicia being shown in central alignment with the tongue 301 and pawl 303 thereof.

The periphery of each scoring element 30 is preferably scalloped, knurled or otherwise roughened at 305 to admit of easy and positive finger turning thereof. The outer periphery of the housing elements 21 and 22 of the housing 20 are notched out at 200 adjacent each scoring element 30 to provide finger access to the scalloped edges of the scoring elements 30. This notching out is preferably accomplished in the molding of the upper and lower housing elements 21 and 22. It should be noted that the partition 23 is not scalloped out adjacent the scoring elements 30. This permits only one of vertically aligned scoring elements 30 to be manipulated without accidental movement of the other.

To assemble a scoring device embodying the invention, the upper housing element 21 is placed smooth side Down in a suitable rectangular fixture, not shown, with the wells 24 thereof Up. A scoring element 30 is journaled in the bottom of each well 24 on the annular stub shaft 25 in the bottom thereof with the numerical indicia thereon Down, and with the pawl 303 of the tongue 301 downwardly disposed in a valley 28 between the ratchet teeth 26. In such position, the inner annular wall 304 of the scoring element 30 is journaled on the outer peripheral wall 250 of the stub shaft 25. The partition 23 is placed on the bottom (top) of the upper housing 21 and secured thereto by cementing with acetate or other cementitious medium previously spotted on a plurality of the lands L of the said housing element 21.

The lower housing 22 is assembled in a like or similar manner, and acetate or other cementitious material is spotted on the lands L of the said housing element. The sub-assembly consisting of the upper housing element 21 and the partition 23 is then turned over, and is registered with and pressed on the lower housing element 22 until the said cementitious material on the lands L of the lower housing element 22 and the partition 23 already fixed to the upper housing element 21 are firmly fixed together.

Obviously, other methods of assembly of golf scoring devices embodying the invention may be employed. The foregoing assembly procedure is described herein for the purpose of indicating how easily and inexpensively golf scoring devices of the invention may be assembled.

The simplicity of the device is its virtue. Only eighteen identical gang molded scoring elements 30 are required, and they can be placed on the stub shafts 25 of the upper and lower elements 21 and 22 with a minimum of time and effort. The upper and lower housing elements 21 and 22 are identical except that the indicia on the upper housing element represents golf holes 1—9 inclusive and the indicia on the lower housing element represents golf holes 10—18 inclusive. A pawl 303 on a flexible tongue 301 is molded integral with each scoring

element 30 while ratchet teeth 26 and a stub shaft 25 are molded centrally within the several wells 24 of the upper and lower housing elements 21 and 22.

Golf scoring devices of the invention are not only inexpensive to produce and assemble, but they are compact and accurate. The elements thereof are rugged, light in weight, and will give years of satisfactory service.

It is obvious that a scoring device of the invention may include only one housing element 21 with the required number of wells 24 therein, the required number of scoring elements 30, and a partition 23 which would serve as a base.

Although the invention has been disclosed and claimed as a golf scoring device, it obviously may be modified for other uses. It is the intention that many changes may be made in the size, shape, arrangement and detail of the various elements of the invention without departing from the spirit and scope thereof as defined by the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A golf scoring device comprising a housing consisting of an upper housing element, a lower housing element and a partition therebetween, each said housing element being structurally identical and molded of plastic of substantial thickness having a plurality of cylindrical wells formed therein, the sides of each said housing element being scalloped out opposite each said well, an annular stub shaft formed centrally in the bottom of each said cylindrical well extending upwardly therefrom, a plurality of radially disposed ratchet teeth formed in equally spaced relationship around the top of said annular stub shaft having sloping sides and valleys therebetween, an annular scoring element journaled in each well on the said annular stub shaft in the bottom thereof, the said annular scoring elements each including a thin flexible tongue formed integral therewith and cantilevered therefrom from one side of the central wall of said annular scoring element extending diametrically across the central annulus thereof with its free end spaced from the opposite side of said central wall, and a wedge shaped pawl depending from said flexible tongue adjacent the free end thereof formed to register with the valleys between the ratchet teeth formed in the top of said annular stub shaft and ride over said ratchet teeth when the said scoring element is manually rotated on said stub shaft,

each housing having a score reading aperture through the bottom of each well, each said scoring element including numerical indicia on the annular face thereof adjacent the bottom of said wells spaced evenly therearound and visible through the score reading aperture in the bottom of its well, each said housing element having indicia thereon opposite each scoring element therein indicating the number of the golf hole scored thereby.

2. A scoring device comprising a housing consisting of an upper housing element and a lower housing plate serving as a base, said housing element being molded of plastic of substantial thickness having a plurality of cylindrical wells formed therein, the sides of said housing element being scalloped out opposite each said well, an annular stub shaft formed centrally in the bottom of each said cylindrical well extending upwardly therefrom, a plurality of radially disposed ratchet teeth formed in equally spaced relationship around the top of said annular stub shaft having sloping sides and valleys therebetween, an annular scoring element journaled in each well on the said annular stub shaft in the bottom thereof, the said annular scoring elements each including a thin flexible tongue formed integral therewith and cantilevered therefrom from one side of the central wall of said annular scoring element extending diametrically across the central annulus thereof with its free end spaced from the opposite side of said central wall, and a wedge shaped pawl depending from said flexible tongue adjacent the free end thereof formed to register with the valleys between the ratchet teeth formed in the top of said annular stub shaft and ride over said ratchet teeth when the said scoring element is manually rotated on said stub shaft, said housing having a score reading aperture through the bottom of each well, each said scoring element including numerical indicia on the annular face thereof adjacent the bottom of said wells spaced evenly therearound and visible through the score reading aperture in the bottom of its well, each said housing element having indicia thereon opposite each scoring element therein indicating the item scored thereby.

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