Feb. 20, 1973 J. L. BOWERS 3,717,348

CATCHING POST AND PROJECTILE

Filed Feb. 10, 1971

FIG. 1

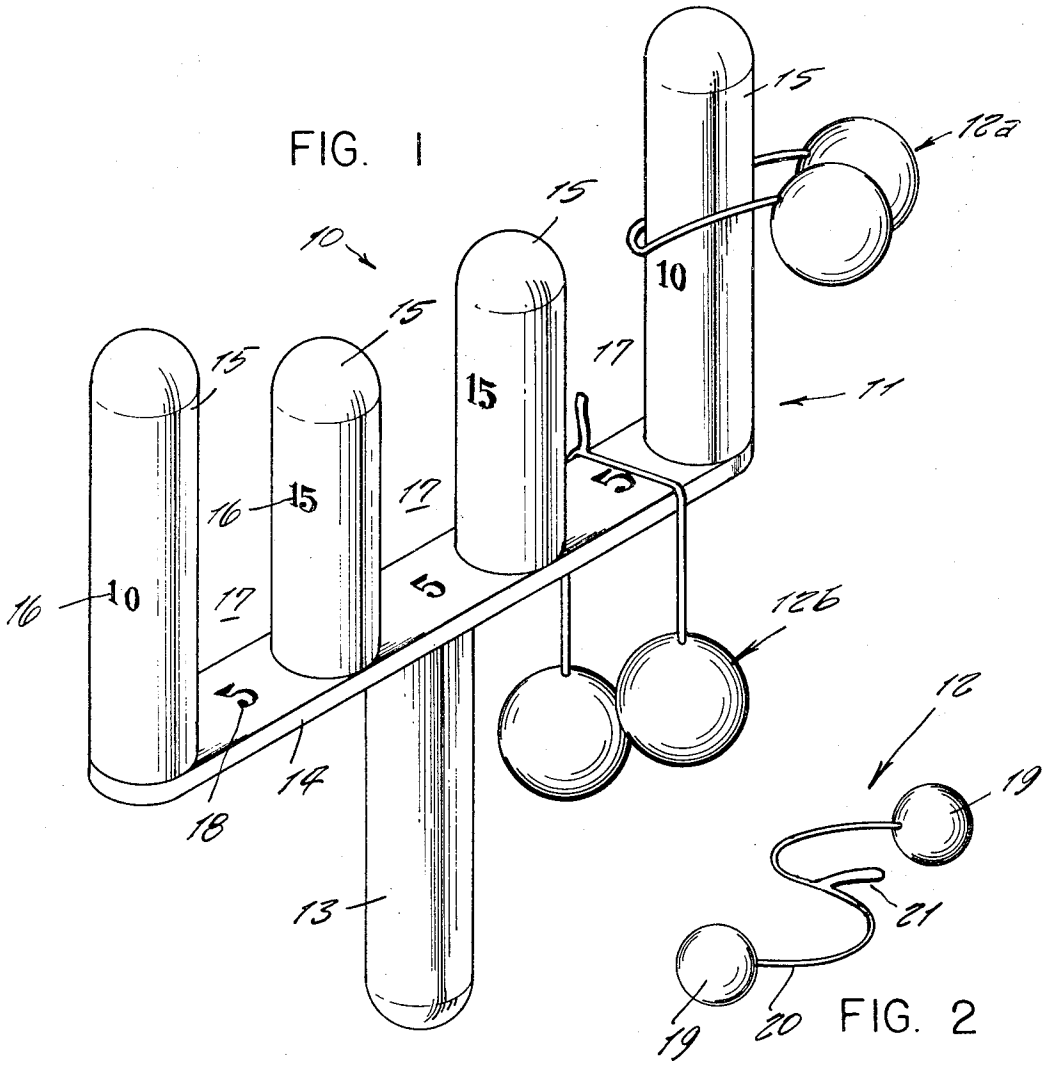


FIG. 2

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CATCHING POST AND PROJECTILE

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A competitive skill game which may be played by several players and wherein each player holds a projecting unit in his hand, the projecting unit being adaptable for throwing a ball unit to another player who likewise holds a projecting unit and upon which the player attempts to catch the ball unit in such position that it will attain a highest score, each of the projecting units having a series of upstanding fingers each one of which is individually scored and around which the ball unit is intended to be caught.

This invention relates generally to competitive games. Still more specifically the present invention relates to a skill game.

A principal object of the present invention is to provide a novel finger ball game wherein several players are each provided with a projecting unit and from which a ball unit is thrown toward another player who is likewise equipped with a similar projecting unit and upon which the ball unit is intended to be caught in such position that it will attain a desirable high score.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a finger ball game which can be played by two or more players.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide a finger ball game which can be played indoors as well as out-of-doors.

Yet another object of the present invention is to provide a finger ball game wherein a catching skill can be attained and improved by practice in playing the present game.

Other objects of the present invention are to provide a finger ball game which is simple in design, inexpensive to manufacture, rugged in construction, easy to use and efficient in operation.

These and other objects will be readily evident upon a study of the following specification together with the accompanying drawing wherein:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the present invention showing the ball unit held upon the projecting unit; and

FIG. 2 is a perspective view of the ball unit shown independently.

Referring now to the drawing in detail, the reference numeral **10** represents a finger ball game, according to the present invention, wherein there is a projecting unit **11** and a ball unit **12**.

The projecting unit **11** serves likewise as a goal unit alternately during the progress of a game. The projecting unit **11** includes an elongated handle **13** which at one end is secured under the longitudinal center of a flat bar **14**. Upon the upper side of the bar **14** there are mounted a

plurality of four upstanding fingers **15**, the outermost thereof being longer than the center of the fingers. The fingers are spaced apart from each other, the space between the fingers being approximately equal to the diameter of the fingers themselves.

As is shown in FIG. 1 of the drawing, each of the fingers are imprinted with a numeral **16** on a side thereof, the numeral **16** defining a scoring point value. Accordingly, the longer outermost fingers have a scoring value of 10 points whereas the shorter and inner fingers have a scoring value of 15 points. It is to be noted that the spaces **17** between the fingers are likewise scored by a numeral **18** which is imprinted upon the upper side of the bar **14**, this scoring value comprising five points as indicated. Accordingly, in the illustration at FIG. 1, there is shown a ball unit **12***a* which is fitted around the upstanding end finger so that such a position would give a 10 point scoring value. Likewise the ball unit **12***b* caught only around the bar **14** has attained a scoring value of only five points.

For an attractive appearance, the outermost fingers may be provided with a different color than the color of the innermost fingers **15** depending on the judgment of the manufacturer.

The ball unit **12**, shown per se in FIG. 2 is indicated to be comprised of a pair of rubber balls **19** which are permanently attached to opposite ends of an elastic **20**. The elastic **20** at its center is provided with an extending tab **21** and which is adaptable for being held in a person's hand. The balls **19** may likewise be attractively colored so to appear to players.

In playing the game, one player throws the ball unit **12** by means of the projecting unit **11** toward another player who attempts to catch the ball unit upon his own projecting unit **11** in such a manner so that it will attain a highest score. Accordingly, in a most desireable catch, the ball unit will be caught with the elastic **20** being hooked around one of the center fingers **15** so as to gain a scoring value of 15 points. Lesser scoring points can be obtained if the ball unit is caught upon the endmost finger or only around the bar **14** such as is illustrated in FIG. 1 of the drawing.

In playing the game, the person attaining the highest score is the winner. The game can be played until a certain predetermined score is obtained by one of the players or else the game is limited to a number of tosses of the ball unit so to determine how many points each of the players has attained.

Thus there is provided a finger ball game which is fascinating, develops skill and which is a pleasant exercise.

What I now claim is:

1. In a finger ball game, the combination of a projecting unit and a ball unit; said projecting unit being adapted to be held in the hand of one player for catching a ball unit thrown by another player in such a position thereon as to obtain a highest scoring point value, and comprising an elongated flat bar which at its center is secured upon its underside to one end of an elongated handle, said bar having an upper side to which is secured a plurality of upstanding, equidistantly spaced apart relatively parallel inner and outer fingers having diameters approximately equal to the space between adjacent fingers, the outer fingers being relatively longer and having a lower score point value than the inner fingers; said ball unit comprising a

pair of rubber balls secured, respectively to the opposite ends of an elongated piece of elastic material, said piece of elastic material being provided at its central region with an extending tab for being held in a person's hand.

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