No. 860,589. PATENTED JULY 16, 1907.

S. E. WHARTON.

GAME BALL.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 31, 1906.

Fig. 1

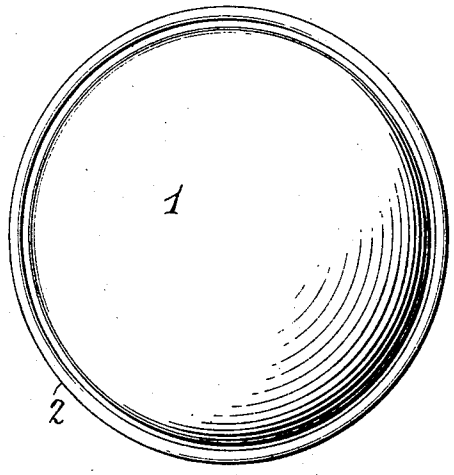


Fig. 2

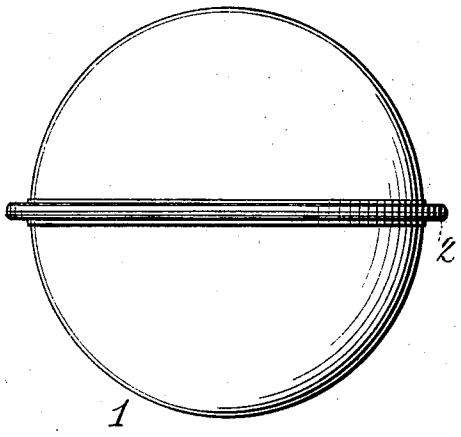


Fig. 3

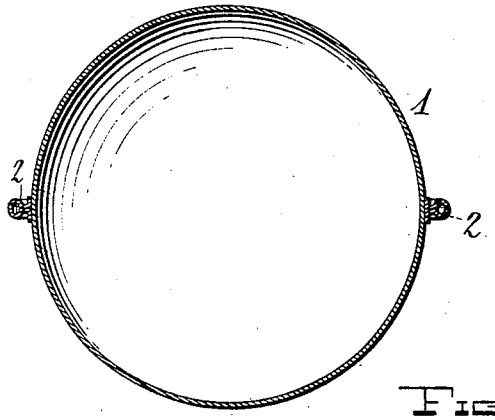


Fig. 4

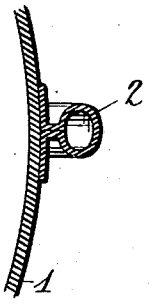
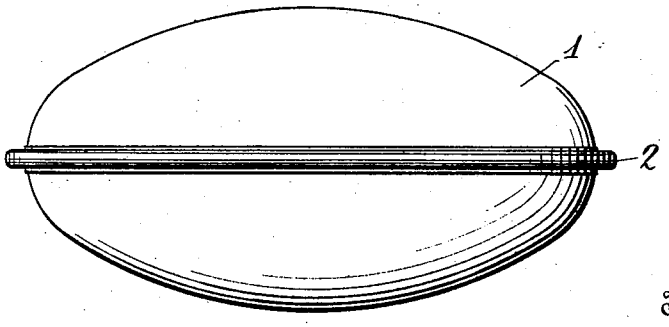


Fig. 5



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SAMUEL E. WHARTON, OF EVERETT, WASHINGTON.

GAME-BALL.

No. 860,589. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 16, 1907.

Application filed May 31, 1906. Serial No. 319,557.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL E. WHARTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Everett, in the county of Snohomish and State of Washington, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game-Balls; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in game balls of the kind used in playing foot-ball, basket-ball and similar games.

The object of the invention is to provide a large ball of this character with a hand-grip or grips which may be grasped by the players to facilitate the carrying and the throwing of the ball.

Further objects and advantages, as well as the structural features by means of which they are attained will be made clear by examination of the following specification taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a spherical game ball having my invention applied thereto; Fig. 2 is a plane view of the same; Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view through the same; Fig. 4 is a detail sectional view, on an enlarged scale, showing the construction of the hand-grip; and Fig. 5 is a view showing the application of the invention to the oval-shaped ball.

In the practice of my invention, I form or provide upon a game ball 1 of spherical shape as shown in Fig. 1, of elliptical shape as shown in Fig. 5, or of any other form or shape, a hand-grip 2, which latter may be of the form and construction shown in the drawings, or of any other suitable form and construction which will permit it to be readily grasped by the thumb and fingers of the player's hand to enable him to throw the ball with speed and accuracy. As shown, the hand-grip 2 is continuous, extending entirely around the body of the ball, but it will be understood that it may be of any shape, and one or more may be provided. This hand-grip is also preferably made hollow and flexible and is inflated so as not to materially affect the resiliency of the ball and so as not to interfere with its use in the usual games played with large balls of this character. The ball 1 may also be solid or hollow and inflated.

From the foregoing description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction, use and advantages of the invention will be readily understood without requiring a more extended explanation.

Various changes in the form, proportion and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention, as defined by the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters-Patent is:—

1. A game ball of the character described having a continuous hand-grip upon its outer surface that is constricted adjacent to the ball.

2. A game ball of the character described having a projecting rib spaced from the ball to serve as a hand-grip.

3. A game ball of the character described having upon its outer surface a continuous inflated rib to serve as a hand-grip.

4. A game ball of the character described having a continous hollow rib projecting from its outer surface and surrounding the same to provide a hand-grip.

5. A ball having a circumferential hand-hold secured thereto, said hand-hold at its point of attachment with the ball being of less diameter than at its body portion, whereby the fingers may grasp said hand-hold.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

SAMUEL E. WHARTON.

Witnesses:
J. W. OYEN,
W. H. CLAY.