Oct. 23, 1951 R. KAPLAN 2,572,349

GOLF BALL CLEANER

Filed July 21, 1950

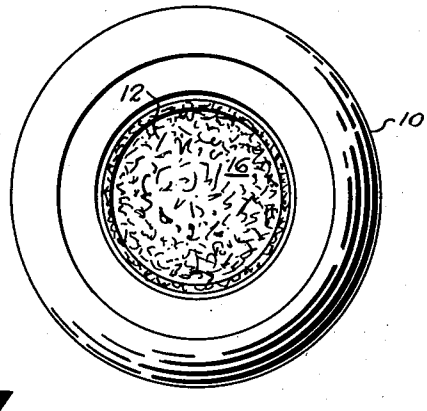



Fig. 1.

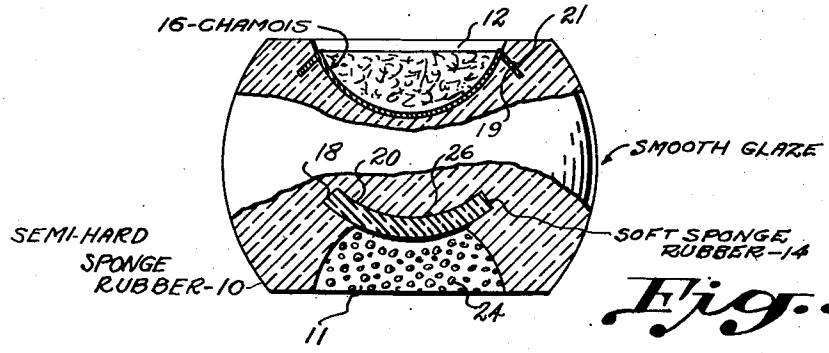



Fig. 3.

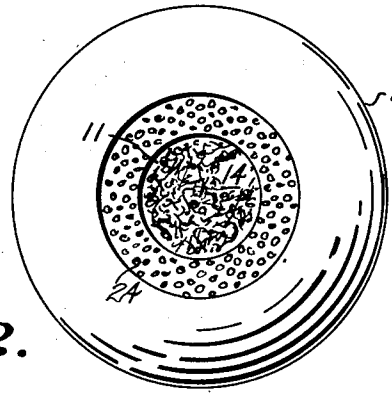



Fig. 2.

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Patented Oct. 23, 1951

2,572,349

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,572,349

## GOLF BALL CLEANER

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Application July 21, 1950, Serial No. 175,142

5 Claims. (Cl. 15—118)

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This application discloses a portable cleaner for golf balls comprising a rubber block in which is disposed a golf ball scraping means, a golf ball washing means, and a golf ball drying means.

The invention broadly comprises a cleaner in the form of a block of semi-hard sponge rubber having opposed concave, hemi-spherical golf ball receiving sockets, one of which has its surface roughened for scraping a golf ball therein and also has a cleaning pad therein, and the other of which has a chamois liner for drying a golf ball in such socket.

For a better understanding of the invention, reference should be had to the accompanying drawing which shows a preferred embodiment of the invention.

In this drawing:

Figs. 1 and 2 are top and bottom plan views of the golf ball cleaner in its presently preferred form.

Fig. 3 is an elevation view, partly in section, for purposes of clarity.

The portable golf ball cleaner shown in the drawing comprises a block 10 of semi-hard sponge rubber, preferably, for appearance purposes, being in the form of a partial sphere, as shown, and having its spherical surface smooth glazed and possibly dimpled to simulate a golf ball, with the block, however, being substantially larger than the conventional golf ball.

At opposite ends of the block, as shown, are hemi-spherical golf ball receiving sockets 11 and 12 in each of which a golf ball may be disposed and rolled around to have its surface come in firm pressure contact with the surface of the socket.

Socket 11 has a soft sponge rubber pad 14 on its bottom surface. Such pad is adapted to be wetted and possibly, if desired, saturated with detergent for cleaning a golf ball disposed in socket 11, with excess water held in the device by the spongy character not only of the pad 14, but also of the block 10.

Socket 12 has its bottom lined with a chamois disc 16 for drying a golf ball previously wetted and cleaned in socket 11.

The surface of socket 11 is roughened for scraping a golf ball placed in and rolled around in such socket.

Pad 14 and liner 16 are in the form of discs and the sockets have side grooves 18 and 19 undercut therein for receiving the edges 20 and 21 of such discs and thus holding them in place, reliance being had upon the nature of the block 10 to frictionally grip the discs once these are

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tucked into the sockets and the side grooves. Thus, the discs are held in place firmly and yet easily insertable and removable with no attaching means such as clamps, adhesive, etc.

While in many cases the rough character of the surface of socket 11 provided by the nature of the block material will be adequate for scraping golf balls in socket 11, if desired, small projections 24 may be formed on such surface as, for example, when the socket 11 is moulded with the block 10 and these projections will beyond any question function efficiently for scraping and thus cleaning a golf ball in socket 11 as the latter is rolled around in such socket and wetted from sponge 14.

The bottom of the socket 11 may be formed with a hump 26 for convexing the pad 14 and thus enhancing the functioning of such pad to clean a golf ball.

If desired, but not shown, the block may be formed with any suitable means for receiving a flexible cord to enable the block to be removably attached to a golf bag or a golfer's belt.

When a golf ball is to be cleaned it is first placed in socket 11 and rolled around under pressure so that its surface is scraped by the roughened surface of such socket as well as wetted and cleaned from the sponge 14, after which the golf ball may be placed in socket 12 to be dried by liner 16.

Undercuts at 18 and the space occupied by pad 14 provide a basin adapted to be filled partially with water for saturating sponge pad 14 therein and held in place by block 10.

Now having described the golf ball cleaner herein disclosed, reference should be had to the claims which follow for a determination of the invention hereof.

I claim:

1. A portable golf ball cleaner comprising a block of rubber material having opposed substantially parallel faces, these faces having opposed concave golf ball receiving sockets which are in spaced back to back relation, each socket being substantially hemispherical and of a size to receive a substantial part of a golf ball, one of these sockets having a soft spongy water absorbing pad on its bottom surface for absorbing water and for washing a golf ball therein, and the other having a wiping material liner on its bottom surface for wiping a golf ball therein, the block being of a material that is substantially non-absorbent and impervious to flow of water through it from the pad, whereby neither the

liner nor the outer surface of the block will become wet from the pad.

2. A portable golf ball cleaner comprising a block of rubber material having opposed substantially parallel faces, these faces having opposed concave golf ball receiving sockets which are in spaced back to back relation, each socket being substantially hemispherical and of a size to receive a substantial part of a golf ball, one of these sockets having a soft spongy wated absorbing pad on its bottom surface for absorbing water and for washing a golf ball therein, and the other having a wiping material liner on its bottom surface for wiping a golf ball therein, the block being of a material that is substantially non-absorbent and impervious to flow of water through it from the pad, whereby neither the liner nor the outer surface of the block will become wet from the pad, the pad and the liner being in the form of discs, with the sockets having side grooves for receiving the edges of said discs and thus holding them in place.

3. A portable golf ball cleaner comprising a block of rubber material having opposed substantially parallel faces, these faces having opposed concave golf ball receiving sockets which are in spaced back to back relation, each socket being substantially hemispherical and of a size to receive a substantial part of a golf ball, one of these sockets having a soft spongy water absorbing pad on its bottom surface for absorbing water and for washing a golf ball therein, and the other having a wiping material liner on its bottom surface for wiping a golf ball therein, the block being of a material that is substantially non-absorbent and impervious to flow of water through it from the pad, whereby neither the liner nor the outer surface of the block will become wet from the pad, the first named socket having a basin in its bottom formed by side grooving or undercutting the socket at its bottom, said basin containing said pad.

4. A portable golf ball cleaner comprising a block of rubber material having opposed substantially parallel faces, these faces having opposed concave golf ball receiving sockets which are in spaced back to back relation, each socket being substantially hemispherical and of a size to receive a substantial part of a golf ball, one of these sockets having a soft spongy water absorbing pad on its bottom surface for absorbing water and for washing a golf ball therein, and



the other having a wiping material liner on its bottom surface for wiping a golf ball therein, the block being of a material that is substantially non-absorbent and impervious to flow of water through it from the pad, whereby neither the liner nor the outer surface of the block will become wet from the pad, the first named socket having a basin in its bottom formed by side grooving or undercutting the socket at its bottom, said basin containing said pad, with the pad containing socket having its exposed surface roughened for scraping a golf ball in said socket, with such roughened surface comprising projections formed on and projecting from the surface.

5. A portable golf ball cleaner comprising a block of rubber material having opposed substantially parallel faces, these faces having opposed concave golf ball receiving sockets which are in spaced back to back relation, each socket being substantially hemispherical and of a size to receive a substantial part of a golf ball, one of these sockets having a soft spongy water absorbing pad on its bottom surface for absorbing water and for washing a golf ball therein, and the other having a wiping material liner on its bottom surface for wiping a golf ball therein, the block being of a material that is substantially non-absorbent and impervious to flow of water through it from the pad, whereby neither the liner nor the outer surface of the block will become wet from the pad, the first named socket having a basin in its bottom formed by side grooving or undercutting the socket at its bottom, said basin containing said pad, the bottom of the basin having a convex hump for convexing the pad in said basin.

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