

[54] ANTI-THEFT APPARATUS FOR SKIS

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[58] Field of Search **70/18, 15, 14, 58, 70/57; 280/11.37 C, 11.37 K, 11.37 A; 211/60 SK**

[56]

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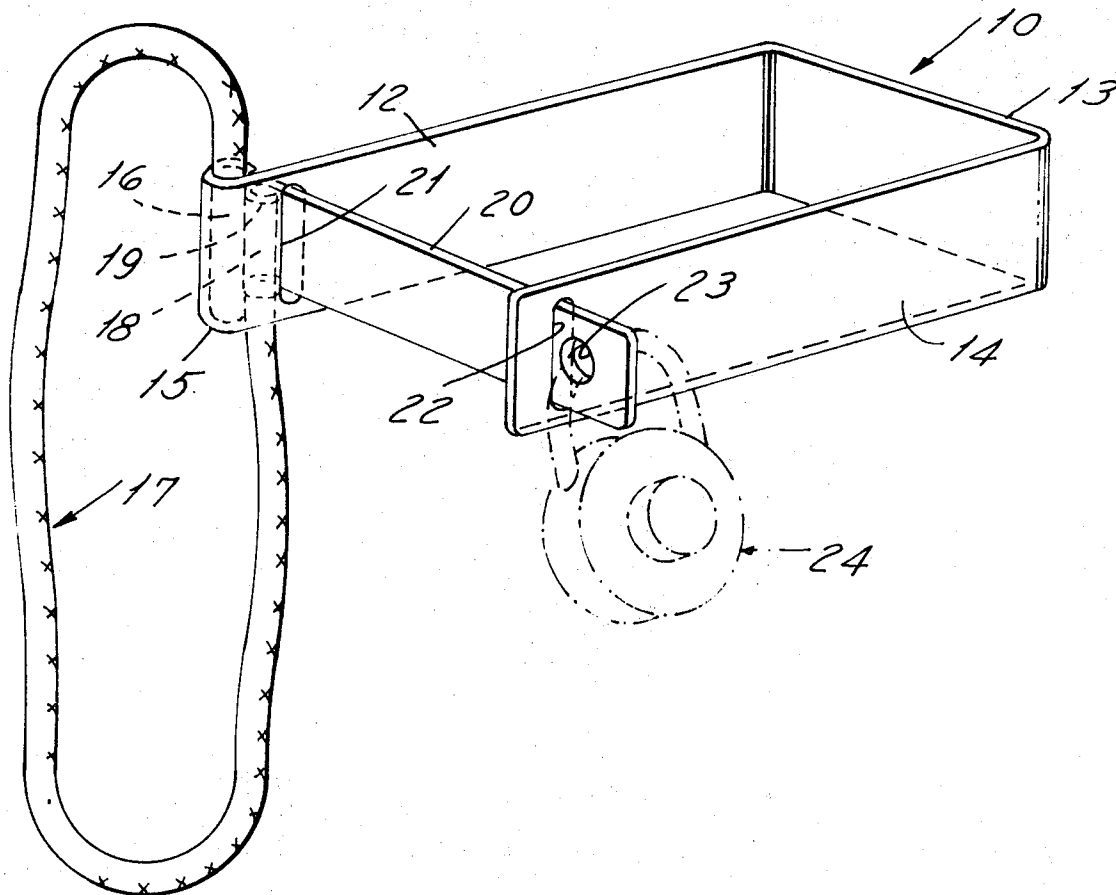
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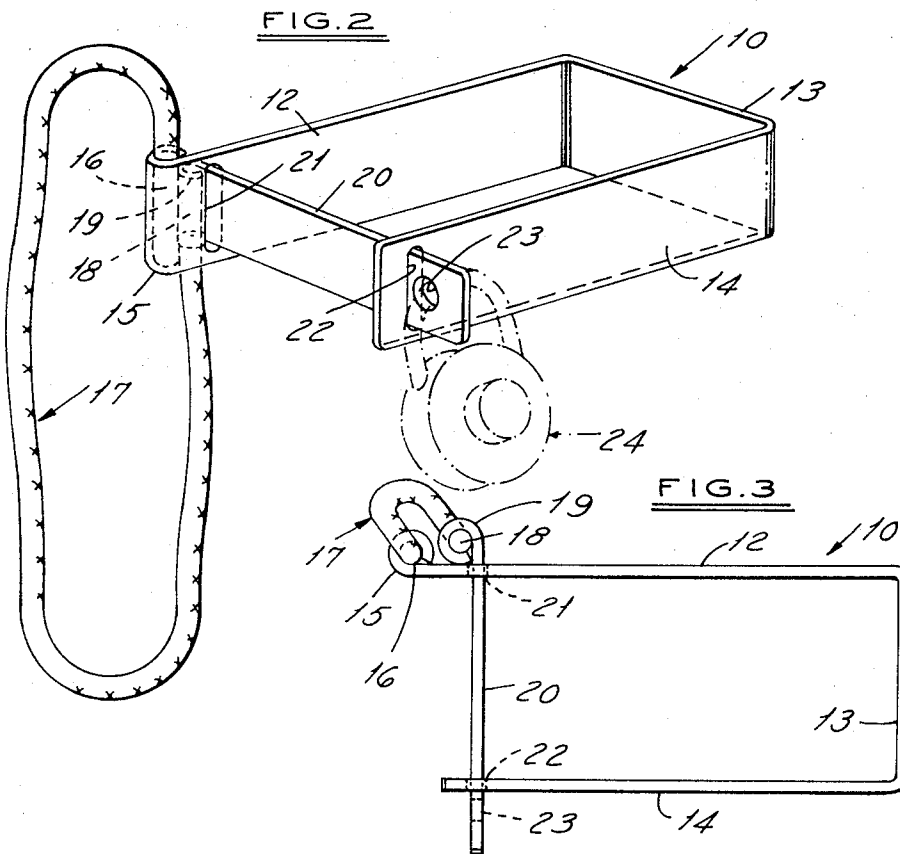
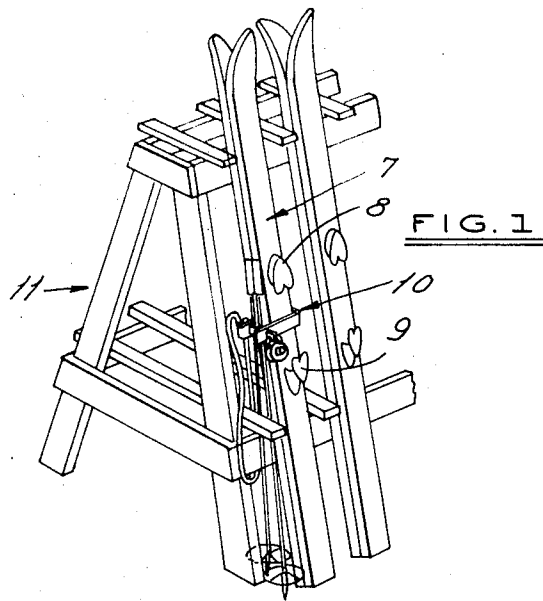
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ABSTRACT

A locking means for skis and the like which includes a U-shaped member having a pair of spaced apart side walls adapted to be slidably mounted over a pair of skis placed bottom to bottom between the foot bindings thereon, and a locking bar adapted to be operatively mounted between the free ends of the side walls of the U-shaped member after it is mounted around the skis to lock the U-shaped member on the skis. A flexible cable is provided for securing the locking means and skis to a ski rack or other fixed object. One end of the flexible cable is connected to the free end of one of the side walls of the U-shaped member, and the other end of the cable is attached to one end of the locking bar.

3 Claims, 3 Drawing Figures





ANTI-THEFT APPARATUS FOR SKIS

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to the ski art, and more particularly to a locking means or anti-theft apparatus for preventing the loss of skis.

The number of thefts of skis has increased with the increase of the popularity of the sport of skiing. Heretofore, various ski locking devices have been provided, but they are expensive, heavy and cumbersome to carry and store. Accordingly, it is the primary object of the present invention to provide a novel and improved anti-theft apparatus or locking means for skis which overcomes the disadvantages of the prior art locking devices.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a novel and improved locking means for skis which is simple and compact in construction, light in weight, economical to manufacture and efficient in use.

It is still another object to provide a novel and improved locking means for skis which includes a U-shaped member having a pair of spaced apart side walls adapted to be slidably mounted over a pair of skis placed bottom-to-bottom, between the foot bindings thereon, and a locking bar adapted to be operatively mounted between the free ends of the side walls of the U-shaped member after it is mounted around the skis to lock the U-shaped member on the skis. A flexible cable is provided for securing the locking means and skis to a ski rack or other fixed object. One end of the flexible cable is connected to the free end of one of the side walls of the U-shaped member, and the other end of the cable is attached to one end of the locking bar.

Other features and advantages of this invention will be apparent from the following detailed description, appended claims, and the accompanying drawing.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a fragmentary portion of a ski rack, and showing a conventional pair of skis secured to a ski rack by a locking means made in accordance with the principles of the present invention.

FIG. 2 is an enlarged perspective view of the locking means illustrated in FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 is a top plan view of the locking means illustrated in FIG. 2.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Referring now to the drawings, and in particular to FIG. 1, the numeral 10 generally designates an anti-theft apparatus or locking means for skis made in accordance with the principles of the present invention. The numeral 7 generally designates a pair of conventional skis placed bottom to bottom and resting against a conventional ski rack, generally designated by the numeral 11. As shown in FIG. 1, the locking means 10 of the present invention is adapted to be operatively mounted around the pair of skis 7 in a position disposed longitudinally between the toe and heel bindings indicated by the numerals 8 and 9, respectively.

As best seen in FIGS. 2 and 3, the locking means 10 comprises a shackle in the form of a U-shaped member that comprises a pair of spaced apart side walls 12 and 14 which are joined at one of their ends by an integral end wall 13. The U-shaped member may be made from

any suitable material as, for example, a suitable metal strap material. the locking

As shown in FIGS. 2 and 3, the free end of the side wall 12 is rolled back on itself to form an elongated cylindrical clamp 15 for fixedly securing or clamping one end 16 of a suitable flexible means, as a metal cable 17. The other end 18 of the cable 17 is also fixedly secured or clamped in a similar cylindrical end 19 formed on one end of a locking cross bar 20. The locking bar 20 is adapted to have the other end or its free end extended through a slot 21 formed in the side wall 12 and then through a second slot 22 formed in the side wall 14. The free end of the locking bar 20 is provided with a transverse hole or bore 23 through which is adapted to be mounted the shackle of a suitable padlock, generally indicated by the numeral 24 in FIG. 2. It will be understood that the ends of the cable 17 may be secured in the clamping members 15 and 19 by any suitable means, as by clinching, welding or the like.

In use, the U-shaped member would be mounted around a pair of skis, as indicated by the numeral 7, when they are disposed in a bottom to bottom position. The U-shaped clamping or shackle member would be mounted around the skis between the foot bindings 8 and 9 so that the skis cannot be slid from the locking means. The cable 17 is then threaded around any suitable member to which it is desired to lock the skis 7 as, for example, a portion of the ski rack of the type indicated by the numeral 11 in FIG. 1. The locking bar 10 is then passed through the slots 21 and 22 and secured in place by a suitable padlock 24.

As shown in FIG. 1, a pair of ski poles may be disposed against one side of the skis 7, between the locking bar 20 and the adjacent side of the skis 7. The ski poles are prevented from being pulled out of the locking means because of the handles on one end thereof and the circular, outward extended baskets on the other end thereof. It will be seen that the skis 7 cannot be removed from the locking means because of the ski bindings 8 and 9. If the bindings are ripped from the skis, they still cannot be removed from the locking means because of the outwardly curved front shovel ends and because the width of the ski tails is greater than the distance between the end wall 13 and the locking cross bar 20. It will be understood that any suitable flexible means could be used in lieu of the cable 17 as, for example, a suitable chain means. It will also be understood that the present invention provides a novel locking means not only for skis but for ladders and the like. The locking means of the present invention can be made to any desired size.

While it will be apparent that the preferred embodiment of the invention herein disclosed is well calculated to fulfill the objects above stated, it will be appreciated that the invention is susceptible to modification, variation and change.

What is claimed is:

1. A locking means for skis comprising:

- a. a U-shaped member having a pair of spaced apart side walls joined at one of their ends by an integral end wall, and the other of their ends being free;
- b. a locking bar releasably positioned to interconnect said side walls at their free ends, and adapted to be secured in said position by a padlock to secure a pair of skis in said U-shaped member; and,
- c. an elongated flexible means having one end thereof fixedly secured to the free end of one of

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said side walls and the other end thereof fixedly secured to said locking bar.

2. A locking means for skis as defined in claim 1, wherein:

- a. the outer ends of each of said U-shaped member side walls are provided with a slot formed there-through;
- b. said locking bar is adapted to be passed through said slots in said side walls for releasably positioning said locking bar to interconnect and enclose the open free ends of said side walls; and,

c. said lock bar having one end extended beyond the outer face of one side wall and provided with an opening therethrough for the reception of the shackle of a padlock, and the other end of said bar being extended beyond the outer face of the other side wall and having said other end of said flexible means fixedly secured thereto.

3. A locking means for skis and the like as defined in claim 2, wherein:

- a. said flexible means comprises a metal cable.

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