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AUXILIARY POCKET FOR GOLFER'S SLACKS

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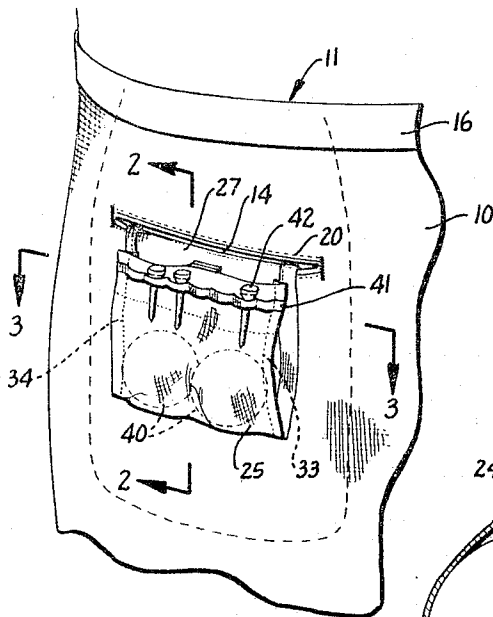


FIG. 1.

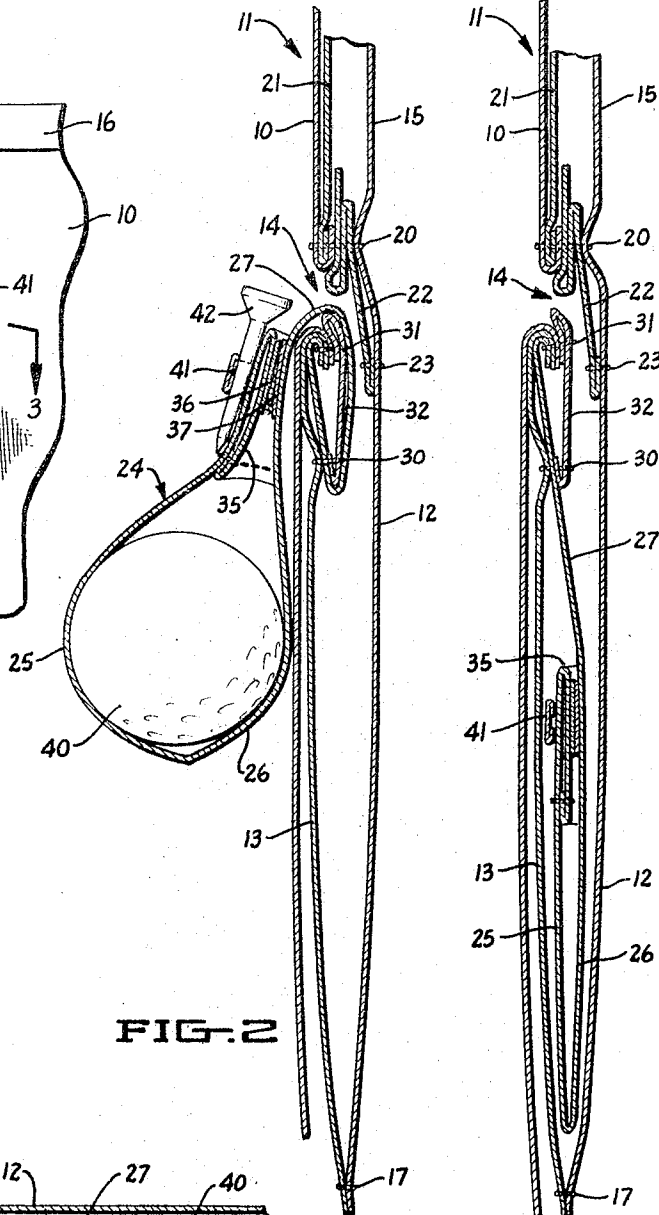


FIG. 2

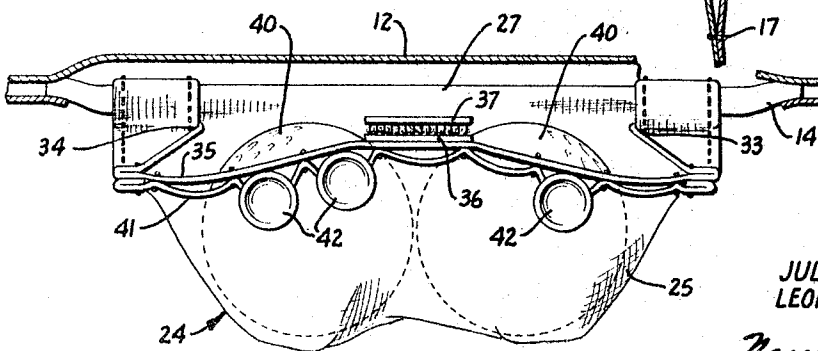


FIG. 3.

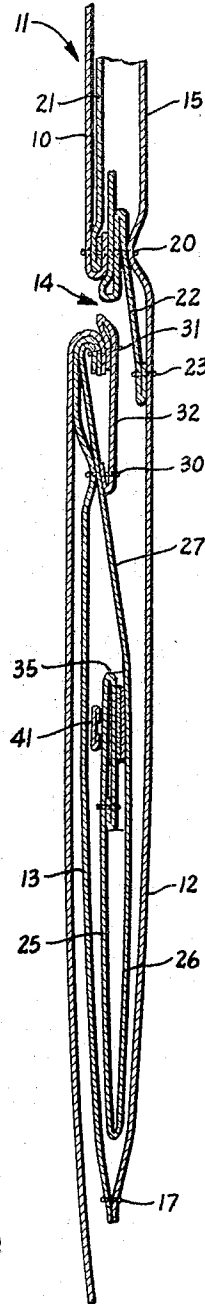


FIG. 4.

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**AUXILIARY POCKET FOR GOLFER'S SLACKS**  
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The present invention relates to an improved pocket adapted to be incorporated into golfer's slacks, and more particularly is directed to such a pocket which is selectively movable between exposed and concealed positions. This invention is especially directed to such a pocket adapted to carry bulky articles, such as golf balls, which does not detract from the appearance of the slacks used therewith when in the concealed position.

In the prior art, various devices have been provided for use with golfing togs in order to provide for the storage of the various articles necessary to play golf. These devices have generally either taken the form of rather unsightly attachments to accommodate bulky golf articles, such as golf balls, or concealed inner pockets to accommodate smaller articles, such as tees. Thusfar, however, no device has been provided which accommodates the storage of bulky articles, and yet is adapted to readily assume a concealed condition when not in use.

It is, accordingly, a principal object of the present invention to provide a device overcoming the shortcomings of the prior art, such as those discussed above.

Another object of the invention is to provide a golf ball pocket which may be incorporated into slacks of a conventional nature and which is adapted to assume a non-detracting position when not in use.

A further object of the invention is to provide a golf ball pocket of the type described which is comfortable for the wearer and easily used.

Yet another object of the invention is to provide a golf ball pocket which insures that golf balls stored therein will not be inadvertently displaced and lost.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a golf ball pocket with means incorporated therein for the storage of golf tees.

The foregoing and other objects and the detailed structure of the invention will be more apparent when viewed in light of the following description and accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view showing the hip pocket of a pair of slacks, with parts thereof broken away for the sake of clarity, incorporating the golf pocket of the present invention;

FIGS. 2 and 3 are sectional views taken on lines 2—2 and 3—3, respectively, of FIG. 1; and

FIG. 4 is a elevational sectional view corresponding to that of FIG. 2, but showing the pocket of the present invention emptied and in the concealed position.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, therein is shown the hip section 10 of a pair of slacks designated in their entirety by the numeral 11. The slacks include a hip pocket of relatively conventional character which includes inner and outer side walls 12 and 13 defining at their upper ends an opening 14 which extends through the section 10. It is noted that although the upper end of the wall 12 is said to define part of the opening 10, the wall 12 actually has formed as an integral extension thereof a pocket supporting portion 15 which is secured to a waistband 16 defining the upper extremity of the slacks. The walls 12 and 13 are joined at their peripheral edges by stitching 17 to define a closed pocket. Stitching 20 closes the upper extremity of the pocket at the upper periphery of the opening 14 and also secures reinforcing fabric 21 and backing fabric 22 in place. The latter

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fabric is secured at its lower edge portion to the wall 12 by stitching 23.

The golf ball pocket to which the present invention is primarily directed is defined by a strip of fabric 24 having a first or outer sheet 25 and a second or inner sheet including a lower pocket forming portion 26 and an upper securing portion 27. Although the fabric 24 comprising the sheet 25 and portions 26 and 27 is shown as being one continuous integral piece, it is to be understood that this fabric could be assembled from separate sheets which are sewn together.

The upper securing portion 27 is anchored to the outer side wall 13 by stitching 30, which stitching also functions in combination with stitching 31 to secure pocket facing fabric 32 in place. The latter stitching 31 also secures the outer side wall 13 in place. The side edges of the fabric 24 are folded inwardly and secured together at their edge portions 33 and 34 to define pleated side walls. It is noted that the edge portions 33 and 34 are only secured to each other at their lower portion, whereas at their upper portion they are also sewn to the upper portion 27. Thus, as shown in FIG. 1, the pocket formed by the outer sheet 25 and the inner sheet defined by the portions 26 and 27 tends to bellow out at its lower portion and to be constricted at its upper portion.

A turned-under portion 35 at the upper extremity of the sheet 25 defines a smooth wear resistant edge on the auxiliary pocket of the invention. In addition to providing for wear resistance, this edge also reinforces the upper portions of the pleated edge portions 33 and 34, as can be seen in FIG. 3. The middle of the portion 35 and the surface of the portion 26 immediately therebehind have secured thereto mating Velcro fasteners 36 and 37, respectively. These fasteners provide for the selective opening and closing of the auxiliary pocket and assure that articles carried therein, such as the illustrated golf balls 40, will not be inadvertently displaced. Although the fastener for the pocket has been specified and illustrated as being of the Velcro type, it is to be understood that other types of fasteners, such as snaps, could be used without materially departing from the invention.

The structure of the auxiliary pocket is completed by a strip of material 41 sewn to the outer surface of the sheet 25 at spaced locations so as to define therewith loops for receiving and retaining the shanks of golf tees 42. At this point it is noted that the strip of material 41, together with the slack material and the main pocket material, are all formed of conventional flexible fabric as is typically used in the garment industry. Thus, the auxiliary pocket formed by the fabric 24 and the strip of material 41 readily assume the configuration illustrated in FIGS. 1, 2 and 3 when in the loaded condition.

In operation, the auxiliary pocket composed of the fabric 24 is readily swingable between the exposed in-use position illustrated in FIGS. 1, 2 and 3 and the concealed position illustrated in FIG. 4. The swinging is effected simply by pushing the auxiliary pocket through the opening 14 into the main pocket and, thus, forcing the portion 27 from the bent condition illustrated in FIG. 2 to the straight condition illustrated in FIG. 4. The manner in which the auxiliary pocket is attached to the outer wall 13 of the main pocket through the portion 27 is particularly desirable, since it facilitates substantially unimpeded use of the main pocket when the auxiliary pocket is either in the exposed or concealed position. Specifically, as can be seen in FIG. 2, when the auxiliary pocket is in the exposed condition both the opening and the interior of the main pocket are unobstructed. In the concealed position illustrated in FIG. 4, the auxiliary pocket assumes a position juxtaposed parallel to the outer wall 13 of the main pocket, in which position it obstructs the main pocket to a minimum. Obstruction of the main

pocket is also minimized by the locating of the pocket edge portion 35 and tee retaining strip of material 41 so that they are orientated between the portion 26 and outer wall 13 when the auxiliary pocket is in the concealed position. Through the latter arrangement, when in the concealed position, the auxiliary pocket presents a smooth surface to the user of the main pocket.

To conclude, from the foregoing description it is believed apparent that the present invention enables the accomplishment of the objects initially set forth herein. In particular, a conventional and auxiliary pocket combination is provided wherein the auxiliary pocket may assume a concealed position in which it does not detract from the appearance of the garment in which the conventional pocket is incorporated. It is to be understood, however, that the invention is not intended to be limited to the specific embodiment illustrated and described, but rather is defined by the following claims.

It is claimed:

1. In a garment having a pocket with inner and outer side walls defining at the upper ends thereof an opening, an auxiliary pocket for carrying bulky articles, comprising:

- (A) a first sheet having upper and lower portions;
- (B) a second sheet secured in opposed facing relationship to said lower portion by bottom and side edge connections therewith to define a bag-like receptacle having a closed bottom and open top, said side edge connections comprising:
  - (1) first pleat panels extending, respectively, from and over the length of the side edges of said second sheet in folded relationship towards the surface of said second sheet facing said lower portion;
  - (2) second pleat panels extending, respectively, from and over the length of the side edges of said lower portion in folded relationship towards the surface of said lower portion facing said second sheet so as to be disposed, respectively, in opposed relationship to said first pleat panels;
  - (3) first means securing the free edges of said opposed first and second panels together over the length thereof; and,
  - (4) second means securing the free edges of said first pleat panels directly to the surface of said lower portion at an area immediately adjacent said open top;

(C) a connection between said upper portion and one of said side walls; and wherein:

- (1) said upper portion is flexible to facilitate swinging of said lower portion between positions disposed inside or outside of said pocket; and,
  - (2) said open top is so orientated as to be exposed to the exterior side of said first sheet when said lower portion is disposed outside of said pocket.
2. An auxiliary pocket according to claim 1 wherein said second mentioned connection is between said upper portion and the outer side wall of said pocket.
3. An auxiliary pocket according to claim 2 wherein:
- (A) said second mentioned connection is adjacent the opening of said pocket;
  - (B) said first and second sheets are adapted to assume a position parallel to said outer side wall when said lower portion is disposed in said pocket; and,
  - (C) said open top is positioned between said outer side wall and said first sheet when said lower portion is disposed within said pocket.
4. An auxiliary pocket according to claim 3 wherein a fastener is provided between said second sheet and the lower portion of said first sheet to selectively close the open top of said bag-like receptacle.
5. An auxiliary pocket according to claim 4 wherein said second sheet is so oriented as to extend over the exterior side of said first sheet when said lower portion is disposed outside of said pocket and including a strap secured to the exterior side of said second sheet at spaced locations to define therewith golf tee retaining loops.

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