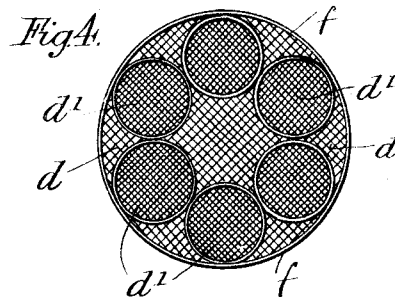
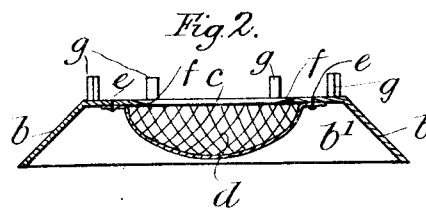
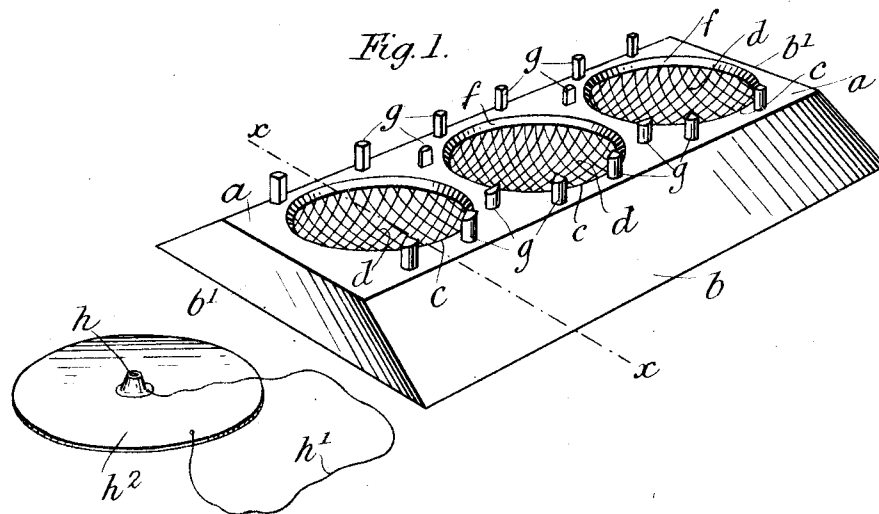


S. CLIFFORD.
 APPLIANCE FOR USE IN PLAYING A GAME OF GOLF.
 APPLICATION FILED MAY 4, 1912.

1,063,119.

Patented May 27, 1913



WITNESSES.

[Signatures of witnesses]

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APPLIANCE FOR USE IN PLAYING A GAME OF GOLF.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, STANLEY CLIFFORD, a subject of the King of Great Britain and Ireland, residing at Laleham-on-Thames, in the county of Middlesex, England, have invented a new and useful Appliance for Use in Playing a Game of Golf, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an appliance for use in playing a game of golf, and is more particularly designed for use indoors, although it can equally well be used out of doors.

Briefly, the said appliance consists of a raised stand or platform provided with a flat top and with inclined or sloping sides, and furnished in such top with a hole, or a series of holes, beneath which are disposed bags, pockets, or pouches, to receive the ball, or balls, played therein by means of ordinary golf clubs; said appliance being, in some cases, provided with obstacles to render the approach to the hole, or holes, more difficult of accomplishment. And in order that my invention may be readily understood, I will now describe it fully with reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the appliance embodying the elements of the same, although the application, or employment, of certain of them is optional, and Fig. 2 is a transverse section taken on the line *x, x*, of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of a cover for said holes; and Fig. 4 is a plan view of a modified form of pocket, bag, or pouch.

According to the invention, the appliance consists of a raised stand or platform *a* of wood, or other appropriate tough and rigid material, provided with downwardly inclined or sloping sides *b*, and with straight ends *b'*, forming, together, a support or base for the said appliance. In the top of the stand or platform is a hole *c*, or preferably a series of holes, as shown in the drawings, and beneath each of these holes depends a bag, pocket, or pouch *d*, made of knitted string, canvas, holland, or other suitable material or fabric. These bags, pockets, or pouches are secured to the underside of the platform *a*, by any convenient means, as for instance by pins or tacks *e*, or by glue, and in such a manner that a lip or rim *f*, is formed or left around each of the holes *c*, the purpose of which is to prevent the balls

bouncing out or escaping when once played into a hole. If desired, a cover *a'*, shown detached in Fig. 3, may be fitted over each hole when played out, and said cover is pagoda shaped, or is provided with concave sides so as to make the ball "break up" at an angle instead of going straight on. The bags, pockets, or pouches may be formed and applied separately; or they may be formed from a continuous sheet or length of fabric gathered up at the desired parts to constitute the said bags, or the like, and this sheet may extend from end to end of the appliance, and be secured in position in any convenient manner. Each of the series of pockets may be further provided with a suitable number of smaller pockets *d'* (Fig. 4) to prevent the ball from jumping out. By making the sides *b*, inclined or sloping toward the ground, a ball may be "putted" up them. Obstacles, consisting of short posts *g*, or of arches, or hoops, or which may take the form of trees, bunkers, or other hazards, and made of wood, or other appropriate material, may be either rigidly or detachably set up at suitable points on the top of the stand or platform, as shown in the drawings, by way of example; or they may be fixed on the sloping sides *b*; or on both the top and sloping sides of the appliance, in order to render the approach to a hole, or holes, more difficult for "putting" purposes.

With this appliance ordinary golf clubs may be used, so that a ball may be "lofted" direct into a hole, or holes, *c* or "putted" up the inclines or slopes *b*.

The game is played as follows: A removable mat *h*² made of rubber, or other suitable material, is provided, as shown in Fig. 1 on which to "tee" a ball, and said mat may be placed at any desired distance from the stand or platform. Attached to this mat, by means of a string or cord *h*¹, is a loose "tee" *h*, of any appropriate height, made of rubber, cork, or other suitable material. When the ball has been "teed" on the mat, it is then struck in the manner usual in playing golf, the object being to pitch or "loft" it into the holes in rotation; if unsuccessful with the pitching or "lofting" shot, a "putter" may be used for putting up the slopes or inclines. When the first or nearest hole is played out, it may be covered with the cover *a'*, and the player then proceeds to

play the next hole, and so on; until the series of holes arranged to be played is accomplished.

This game may be used for practising the golf shots; or competitions may be played; the one who accomplishes the various holes in the fewest number of shots scores a win.

Having now described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. An appliance for use in playing a game of golf, comprising a rectangular, raised stand having inclined sides and straight ends and formed with a longitudinally-arranged series of ball-receiving holes disposed in its upper surface, and pockets of soft or pliable material arranged beneath said holes.

2. An appliance for use in playing a game of golf, comprising a rectangular raised stand having inclined sides and straight ends and formed with a longitudinally-arranged series of ball-receiving holes in its upper surface, soft or pliable pockets arranged beneath said holes, and a plurality of obstacles disposed so as to obstruct the entry of said balls into said holes and pockets.

3. An appliance for use in playing a game of golf, comprising a rectangular, raised

stand having inclined sides and straight ends and formed with a longitudinally-arranged series of ball-receiving holes in its upper surface, soft or pliable pockets arranged beneath said holes, said pockets being of larger diameter than the holes so as to leave a circumferential lip around each hole to prevent a ball played thereinto from bouncing out, and a plurality of obstacles so disposed as to obstruct the entry of the balls into said holes.

4. An appliance for use in playing a game of golf, comprising a rectangular, raised stand having straight ends and inclined sides and formed with a longitudinally-arranged series of ball-receiving holes in its upper surface, pockets of soft material arranged beneath said holes, a plurality of obstacles disposed so as to obstruct the entry of said balls into said holes, and a cover for each hole adapted to be placed thereon when the same has been played.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

STANLEY CLIFFORD.

Witnesses:

R. J. WILLIAMS,
O. J. WORTH.