June 23, 1970 R. E. BOBBITT 3,516,381

WATER SPORT DEVICE

Filed May 16, 1968

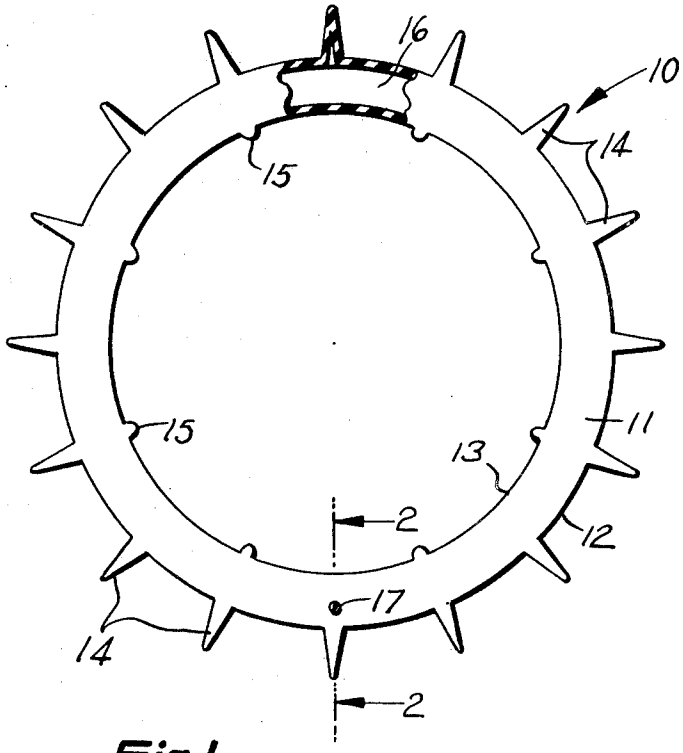


Fig.1

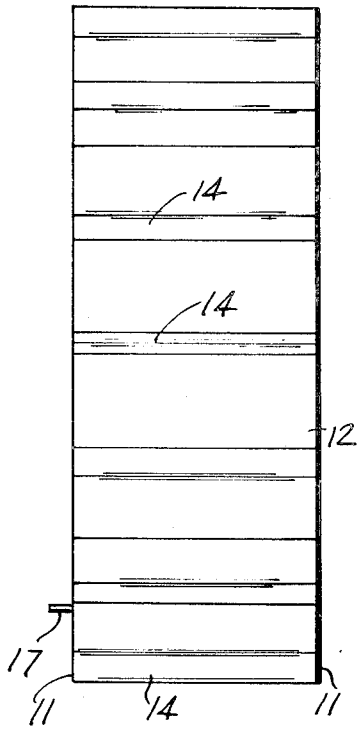


Fig.3

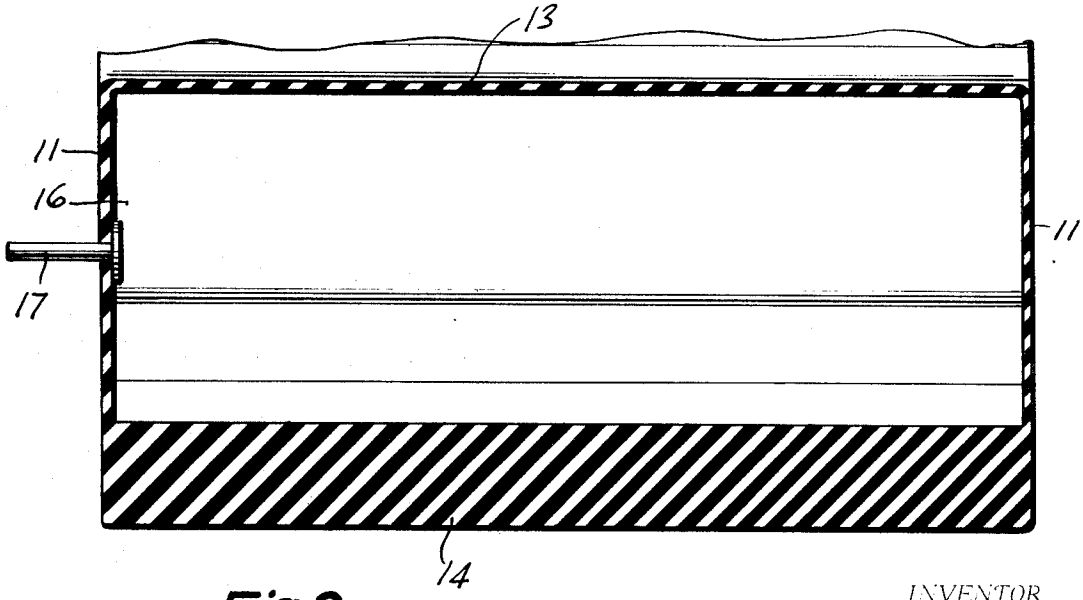


Fig.2

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WATER SPORT DEVICE

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A sporting device for use upon calm water. This device is of sufficient size to accommodate one, two or more individuals when they are standing upright and their walking motion causes the device to propel itself on top of the surface of water. The device is made of an inflatable rubber or plastic material in order that it may be light in weight and maintain its buoyancy.

This invention relates to sporting devices, and more particularly to a water sport device.

It is therefore the main purpose of this invention to provide a water sporting device which will be circular in configuration and will stand upright in order to allow the persons on the interior of the device to utilize a walking motion that will propel the device on top of the water.

Another object of this invention is to provide a water sport device which will have its body portion made of rubber or plastic material and will be inflatable by valve means in order that it may maintain its buoyancy on top of water.

A further object of this invention is to provide a water sport device which will provide recreation for the users as well as exercise and the outer periphery of the device will have radially extending and spaced apart handle-like extensions which when the device is rotated will propel the device in the water and a plurality of radially spaced apart projections on the inner periphery of the device to serve as non-slipping means for the users when they are performing the walking-like motion on the interior of the device in order to propel it on top of the water.

Other objects of the present invention are to provide a water sport device which is simple in design, inexpensive to manufacture, rugged in construction, easy to use and efficient in operation.

These and other objects will be readily apparent upon a study of the following specification together with the accompanying drawing wherein:

FIG. 1 is a side view of the present invention shown in elevation and partly broken away;

FIG. 2 is an enlarged cross-sectional view taken along the lines 2—2 of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is an end view of FIG. 1.

According to this invention a water sport device **10** is provided with rubber side walls **11** which are moulded integrally with the outer wall **12** and inner wall **13**. The structure of device **10** includes a plurality of hollow and radially spaced apart paddle portions **14** which extend from the outer periphery of device **10**. These paddle portions **14** serve as a means of propelling device **10**. A plurality of spaced apart raised portions **15** on the inner periphery of the inner wall **15** provides a means of positively gripping the device **10** with the feet of the operators in order to rotate it to create a forward or rearward motion of device **10**. The interior compartment **16** is filled with air or gas by means of the valve **17** secured through side wall **11**.

In use, the individual or individuals using device **10** stands on the inner wall **13** and with a walking motion by use of the raised portions **15** are able to rotate device **10** either clockwise or counter-clockwise which will propel the device forwards or rearwards.

What I now claim is:

1. A water sport device, comprising in combination parallel, spaced apart side walls of inflatable material, a circular outer wall of inflatable material, and paddle means for rotating said device for propulsion of the device on top of the water, said side walls, said outer wall and said inner wall being molded integrally with radially spaced apart paddle portions for said device and with valve means so that said device is inflated to form a circular configuration in which the users may stand and walk in order to propel said device forwardly or rearwardly, said inner wall being provided with spaced apart raised portions which form step like foot gripping areas to allow easy and non-slipping walking which will shift the weight of the users in order that said device will rotate for propulsion of the paddle portions used in urging against the water.

2. The combination according to claim **1** wherein said raised portions along the inner periphery of said device are radially spaced apart from the axis of the device and are also moulded integrally with all of said walls of said device.

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