Feb. 19, 1935. L. C. HODSON 1,991,671

GAME APPARATUS

Filed Jan. 22, 1934

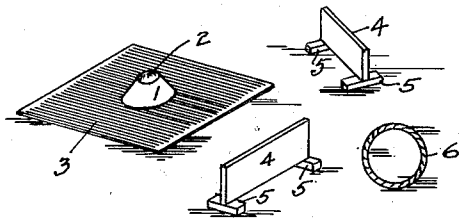
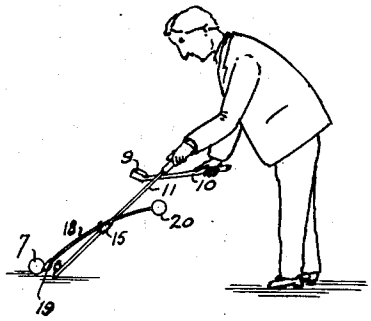


Fig. 1



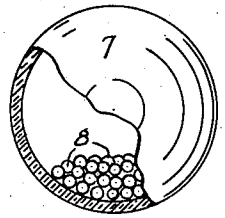


Fig. 2

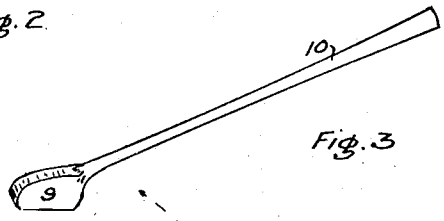


Fig. 3

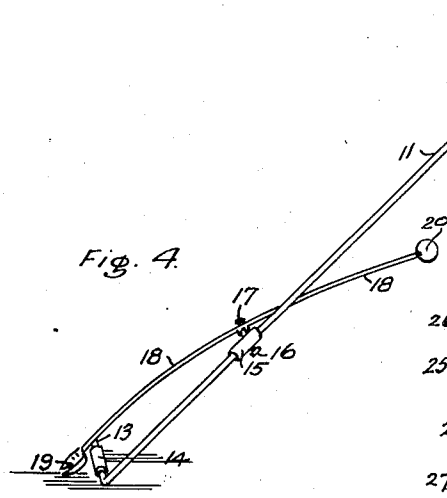


Fig. 4

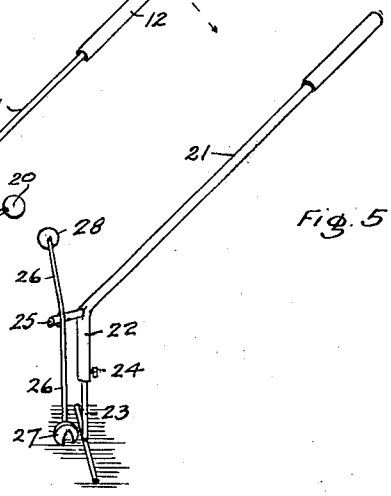


Fig. 5

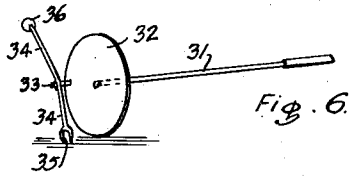


Fig. 6

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1,991,671

GAME APPARATUS

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Application January 22, 1934, Serial No. 707,731

10 Claims. (Cl. 273—107)

My invention relates to games of skill and especially to games played with a ball. The objects of my invention are to provide apparatus which, first, will enable the game to be played in any place without extensive preparation of the ground and whether such place be a rough field, a lawn, a basement, a living room, or even a table; second, simulates in some respects the game of golf; third, in which, without change in the apparatus, the ball may be made to pass along the ground or rise to a considerable height above it by the proper manipulation of the apparatus, thereby requiring skill; fifth, in which any number of players may take part, each having his own ball; sixth, in which the hazards may be arranged in any way and may be of various kinds; and seventh, which is cheap and simple to make, easy to operate, and absorbingly interesting to play.

I attain these and other objects by the devices and arrangements illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the game showing the apparatus in use; Fig. 2 is a view of the special ball used in the apparatus, a part thereof being broken away to reveal the interior thereof; Fig. 3 is a view of the striking club or driver; Fig. 4 is a view of the controlling instrument; Fig. 5 is a variation of the said instrument in which the ball is propelled in a plane at right-angles to the plane of motion of the driver; and Fig. 6 is another variation thereof especially adapted for playing the game on a table.

Similar numerals of reference refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the drawing, each piece of the apparatus will be described: The goal hole comprises a hollow truncated cone 1 having a comparatively small opening 2 at its top and adapted to lie on a mat 3, preferably of rubber, representing the green. The object of the game is to project the ball into the cone, through the opening 2, with the fewest strokes. Bunkers may be provided and placed at any desired position reltively to the green 3, and comprise a board 4 held in vertical position by means of feet 5 secured to its lower edge and extending laterally therefrom. Also rope rings 6 may be bent into any desired shape and laid on the floor or ground in any desired position.

The ball 7 closely simulates a hollow golf ball but is preferably partially filled or loaded with loose spherical lead shot 8, which effectively kills any tendency for the ball 7 to bounce or rebound, or to roll far on the ground.

The striking club or driver comprises a wooden instrument having a head 9 of suitable shape and a short handle 10. Normally this club is held in the right hand of the player.

The controlling instrument, shown in Fig. 4, comprises a hand rod 11, having a handle 12, said rod 11 having its lower end 13 turned to the right at right angles. Said end 13 is adapted to rest on the ground and may be provided with a rubber sleeve 14 especially for use when the apparatus is being used indoors. The rod 11 is provided with a sliding sleeve 15 which is clamped in any position thereon by means of the set screw 16. This sleeve 15 carries a pivot pin 17 extending therefrom at right-angles to the rod 11. This pivot pin 17 carries a throwing rod 18 thereon, said rod being adapted to turn freely or rotate about the axis of the pin 17. A spoon 19 is rigidly secured to the lower end of the rod 18 and a rubber ball 20 is similarly secured to the other end of said rod 18. The said spoon 19 is adapted to engage the ball 7 and to propel it when the ball 20 is hit a blow by the head 9 of the driver. The ball 20 acts as a cushion between the head 9 and the rod 18. The rod 11 is placed to the rear of the ball 7 with its end 13 on the ground; and is moved to bring the spoon 19 close behind the ball 7, with the rod 11 raised into such position as to give the spoon the desired vertical direction of motion to project the ball on a low or a high arc as desired. The ball 20 on the rod 18 is then struck downward by the head 9 of the driver, thereby causing the spoon 19 to engage and throw the ball 7 on the desired trajectory and for the desired distance, in accordance with the force of the blow of the driver and the vertical position in which the handle end of the rod 11 is held. The trajectory of the ball may be controlled to make it higher or lower while lowering or raising the handle.

In the variation of the controlling instrument shown in Fig. 5, the lower end of the handle rod 21 is bent into vertical position to form a socket 22 in which the foot-piece 23 is held in adjusted position by the set screw 24. A pivot pin 25 extends horizontally from the upper end of the vertical socket 22 and carries the throwing rod 26, said rod 26 freely swinging thereon in a plane at right-angles to the line of the handle rod 21. This throwing rod 26 carries a spoon 27 at one end and a ball 28 at the other end. In this form the position of the player corresponds more closely with that assumed in the game of golf, the ball moving towards the player's left.

In the form of controlling instrument illus-

trated in Fig. 6, which is particularly adapted for playing on a table, the handle rod 31 is connected to a circular disk 32 adapted to rest on the table. The disk 32 has a pivot pin 33 extending therefrom at a point other than the center. The pin 33 carries the throwing rod 34 with spoon 35 and ball 36. By rotating the handle 31 so that a different portion of the periphery of the disk 32 engages the table, the height of the pin 33 is controlled and therefore the form of the arc of travel of the ball is controlled.

It is apparent that the adjustment of the height of the pivot pin 17 by lifting or lowering the end of the rod 11 and/or by adjustment of the sleeve 15, will control the angle of the initial motion of the spoon 19 and will therefore determine the angle of the trajectory of the ball, whether the ball will be thrust horizontally forward or will be lifted and thrown. Similarly the adjustment of the pin 25 will control the motion of the ball when the form illustrated in Fig. 5 is used.

It is, of course, understood that many changes in the details of the above-described apparatus may be made without departing from the spirit of my invention as outlined in the appended claims:

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

1. A game apparatus comprising a controlling instrument comprising a handle rod carrying a pivot pin, means for adjusting the height of said pivot pin, a throwing rod pivotally mounted on said pivot pin and extending in each direction therefrom, a spoon on one end of said throwing rod and adapted to engage and throw a ball, and a cushion on the other end of said pivoted throwing rod; and a striking club adapted to strike said cushion and thereby to rotate the throwing rod and to propel the ball.

2. A game apparatus comprising a controlling instrument including a handle rod to rest at one end on a support and to be held in the hand of a player at the other end so that this end may be raised and lowered about the lower end as a pivot, and a throwing rod pivoted intermediate its ends to the first rod having means on one end to engage and throw a ball, the latter rod on the opposite side of the pivot including a portion whereby the rod may be struck to propel the ball.

3. A game apparatus comprising a controlling instrument including a handle rod, a throwing rod pivoted to the handle rod, said handle rod adapted to be supported at one end on the ground and held in a hand of a player at its other end so that this end may be positioned to determine the position of the throwing arm and held there by the player, said throwing arm having means at its lower end to engage the ball, and means to turn the throwing arm on its pivot to throw the ball and arranged to be struck a blow for operating the arm.

4. A game apparatus comprising a controlling instrument comprising a handle rod having a grip at one end to hold in one hand of a player and adapted at its other end to rest on a support, a throwing rod pivoted intermediate its ends to the first rod, means on the throwing rod to engage a ball while it is on said support, and a driver to be held in the other hand of the player for striking the rod to cause it to turn on its pivot to throw the ball.

5. A game apparatus comprising a controlling instrument including a handle rod adapted to rest at one end on the ground and held in a hand of a player at its other end so that this end may be raised or lowered about said first end as a pivot, a lateral arm on said first end to rest on the ground to prevent the rod twisting about its axis, a throwing arm pivoted intermediate its ends on the first rod laterally at one side thereof on a pivot extending transversely of the first rod, means at the lower end of the throwing arm to engage and throw a ball, and means on the throwing arm on the opposite side of the pivot to turn the arm and throw the ball and spaced from the pivot in a position to be struck a blow for operating the arm.

6. A game apparatus comprising a ball, a controlling instrument comprising a rod having a lateral extension at one end to rest on a support, a grip on the other end of the rod to rest in a hand of a player to support this end of the rod and control its inclination with respect to the support, a throwing arm pivoted intermediate its ends to the rod on a pivot extending laterally therefrom, means on the lower end of the arm to engage a ball on the support, and a driver to be held in the other hand of the player to strike the throwing arm on the opposite side of the pivot from the ball engaging means to swing the arm to throw the ball.

7. A game apparatus comprising a receiving goal comprising a hollow truncated cone having an opening in its top of greater diameter than the ball, a controlling instrument including a handle rod to rest at one end on a support and held at the other end in a hand of a player, a throwing arm pivoted to the rod, means on the lower end of the throwing arm to engage a ball to throw it toward the goal, and means on the arm to turn the arm on its pivot to throw the ball and in position to be struck to operate the arm.

8. A game apparatus comprising a handle rod having a means at one end to rest on a support and a handle at its other end to be held in a hand of a player, a throwing arm pivoted to the rod above said lower end, means on the lower end of the throwing arm to engage a ball, said arm having a portion on the opposite side of the pivot to be struck for operating the arm to throw the ball, and means whereby the height of the pivot above the support may be varied.

9. A game apparatus comprising a controlling instrument comprising a handle rod carrying a pivot pin, a throwing rod pivotally mounted on said pivot pin and extending in each direction therefrom, a spoon on one end of said throwing rod and adapted to engage and throw a ball, and a cushion on the other end of said pivoted rod; and a striking club adapted to strike said cushion and thereby to rotate the throwing rod and to propel the ball.

10. A game apparatus comprising a manually controlled rod; a base for said rod, adapted to be placed on the ground and adapted to prevent said rod from twisting when the apparatus is operated; a pivot pin extending laterally from said rod; a throwing rod mounted on said pivot pin intermediate its ends; a spoon on one end of said throwing rod and passing downward to a point adjacent said base and adapted to engage and throw a ball; a striking cushion on the other end of said throwing rod; and a manually operated striking club adapted to strike said cushion and thereby to rotate the throwing rod and to propel the ball.

LEO. C. HODSON.