PROTECTIVE TARGET DEVICE

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Filed: Oct. 25, 1974

Appl. No.: 518,047

U.S. Cl. ...................................................... 2/20
Int. Cl.².............................................. A41B 13/00
Field of Search ................. 2/20, 18, 16, 161 A

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ABSTRACT

An energy absorbing device for use with a person's hand to protect the hand during training and contests in various sports such as karate, boxing, etc. The device is constructed of resilient foam means covered with a tough, pliable surface coating. The device generally comprises a pair of spaced, parallel, resilient members suitably secured together with a space therebetween. The device is adapted to permit insertion of the hand into the space between the two resilient members.

10 Claims, 3 Drawing Figures
PROTECTIVE TARGET DEVICE

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to a novel, protective device for the hand capable of absorbing energy and adapted to be worn on a person's hand while engaging in training in various sports such as karate and related sports, boxing, etc.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of this invention to provide a novel protective device for a person's hand useful in various sports and adapted to be worn on the hand and which can easily be put on or taken off.

It is another object of this invention to provide a novel protective device for the hand to be used in various sports having a simplified construction made from a resilient material which has a tough, outer casing.

An additional object of this invention is to provide a novel protective device for the hand comprising a pair of parallel, preferably circular, protective members suitably secured together with a space between them into which a person's hand can be inserted.

Another object of the invention is to provide a protective device to be worn on a person's hand which can be used in various sports as a target device, weapon, etc.

Generally, the protective device for a person's hand is adapted to protect the hand including the fingers, palm and back of the hand while engaging in various sports such as karate, etc. The device comprises a resilient material such as a plastic foam which is capable of absorbing energy and which has a tough, outer coating or casing, preferably of plastic, which is shaped, designed and adapted to be used in various sports, when worn on the hand, as a weapon, as a target, and in fending blows from an opponent.

Other features and advantages of the protective device of the invention will become apparent from the following description of a specific embodiment thereof taken in conjunction with the drawing.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a top plan view of the protective device of the invention;
FIG. 2 is a view taken along line 2—2 of FIG. 1; and
FIG. 3 is a side elevational view of the protective device showing the hand of a person inserted therein.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The specific embodiment of the invention illustrated in the drawing comprises a protective device for a person's hand and is generally indicated by the numeral 10. The device comprises a pair of preferably unitary, pad circular members 12 and 14. Each member 12 and 14 is molded or constructed from a suitable resilient material 16 capable of absorbing energy, such as a plastic polystyrene or polyurethane foam, or a rubber foam, and the like. A suitable surface coating or casing 18, preferably smooth, covers the resilient material, and which is a tough, pliable, tear resistant material, preferably of a suitable plastic material, or the like. The coating 18 can be formed during heating and molding of a resilient plastic foam material to produce a fused coating thereon. Alternatively, the surface coating 18 can be applied on the resilient material by dipping or by applying and securing a coating of a suitable plastic material or the like. Materials of plastic are preferred for the coating since there are available on the market many tough, rugged, pliable materials such as polyvinylchloride, etc. However, it is also contemplated within the concept of the invention that suitable rugged leather or fabric materials, and the like, can be used to cover the resilient material. The coating or casing used should provide a flexible, tough covering which is resistant to tearing and abrasion.

The parallel members 12 and 14 are shown having a circular shape. However, it is contemplated within this invention that the parallel members can be of any suitable configuration such as oval, polygonal such as square, rectangular, etc. Each member 12 and 14 has a thickness of about 1 to 2 inches. The members are connected together in parallel relationship by a pair of connecting strip means 20 and 22, which are a tough, semi-rigid plastic strip. The strip means 20 and 22 are secured by suitable means on the side walls 24 and 26 of the parallel members 12 and 14 on opposite sides.

The strip means are secured as by an adhesive, in such a manner as to maintain members 12 and 14 in a separated, parallel relationship providing a space 28 between them. Space 28 extends through the device 10 and is open at either side 27 and 29. Space 28 is wide enough to permit insertion of a person's hand therein as shown in FIG. 3. Members 12 and 14 are also designed in such a manner that the space 28 is long and wide enough to accommodate a person's hand including the fingers, palm, and thumb. Generally, the wrist of the person will barely enter space 28 thereby giving the person wearing the device the ability to move the device to various positions by wrist action. As noted in FIG. 3, the tips of the fingers can protrude through space 28 to enable the person to better control the device in its movements and to secure it on the hand.

The device 10 can be used in various athletic sports and contests either as a training device or in actual play. Thus, the device can be worn by one person on his hand and held outward in a vertical position thereby presenting a target as shown in FIG. 3. Another person can punch with his fist at surface 30 thereby improving his skill in throwing punches. The hand of the person wearing the device is protected from the blow by the resilient member 12. The movement of the device 10 in its movement by the wearer of the device to present a moving target thereby developing skill in the use of the fist or hand throwing punches or chops in the various sports such as boxing, karate, etc. The device can also be used by two persons, each wearing the device, whereby a contest or training in punching, slapping, chopping, etc. against each device is performed. Furthermore, in the event a blow with the device is misdirected and lands on an opponent's body or head, there is little likelihood of injury to the person.

From the foregoing description, one skilled in the art can easily ascertain the essential characteristics of this invention, and without departing from the spirit and scope thereof, can make various changes and modifications of the invention to adapt it to various usages and conditions.

What is claimed is:

1. A protective device adapted to be worn on and protect the hand of a person for use in developing skills in athletic contents comprising a pair of pad members secured together in spaced parallel relationship thereby providing an open space between said pads, openings
on opposite sides of said pad members whereby said hand can be inserted into said open space, each of said pad members comprising pliable, tearresistant casing means having resilient energy-absorbing means disposed therein.

2. The protective device of claim 1 wherein said pad members are secured together by semi-rigid strip means.

3. The protective device of claim 1 wherein said pad members are round.

4. The protective device of claim 1 wherein said pad members are polyganol.

5. The protective device of claim 1 wherein said pad members have a thickness of between about 1 and 2 inches.

6. The protective device of claim 1 wherein said resilient means are plastic foam means.

7. The protective device of claim 1 wherein said casing means is a plastic material.

8. The protective device of claim 1 wherein said casing means is a fabric material.

9. The protective device of claim 1 wherein said pad members are secured together by semi-rigid plastic strip means.

10. The protective device of claim 1 wherein said casing means are integral with said resilient means.

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