July 29, 1924. 1,503,283

G. S. PAGE

GAME APPARATUS

Filed Sept. 20, 1922 2 Sheets-Sheet 1



Fig. 1.

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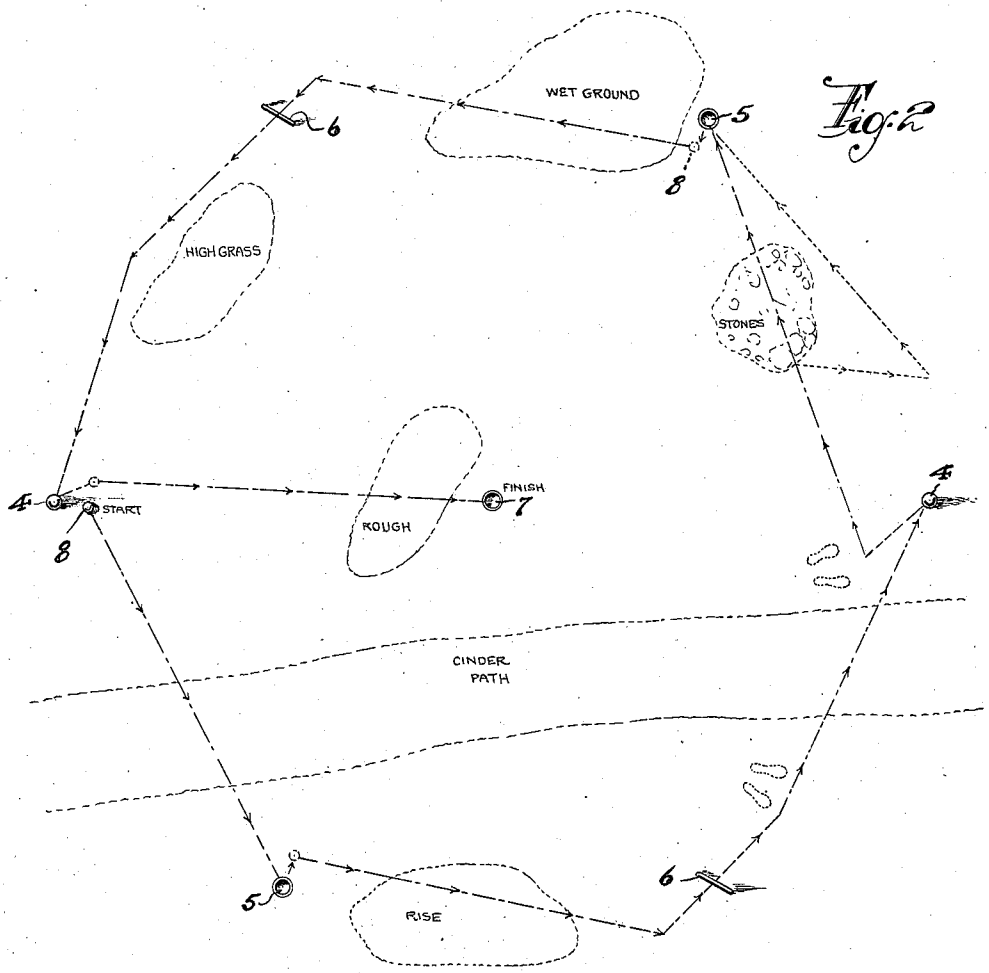


Fig. 2

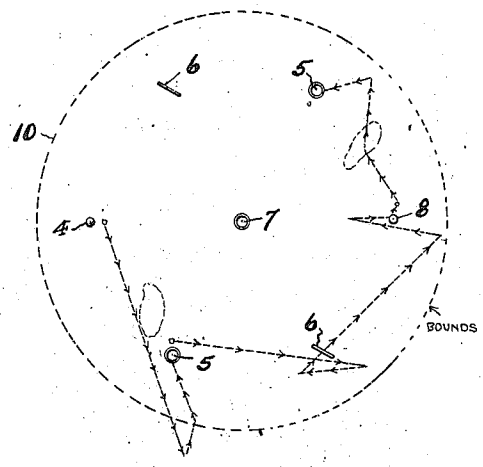


Fig. 3

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE S. PAGE, OF CHATHAM, NEW JERSEY.

GAME APPARATUS.

Application filed September 20, 1922. Serial No. 589,305.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE S. PAGE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chatham, in the county of Morris and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game Apparatus; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to characters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention has for its principal object to provide a novel construction and arrangement of game apparatus with which may be played a novel and interesting game in the nature of golf.

The novel game apparatus has been devised and constructed for use on lawns and similar comparatively restricted spaces, and is designed to be played with an ordinary golf ball and a golf club preferably of the putting iron type; the game is arranged to provide a circuitous route around which the ball is to be driven, combined with which route, at suitably spaced intervals, are a series of stations providing different characters of marks or hazards with which the ball must be compelled to cooperate; and the object of the game consists in endeavoring to drive the ball through the different stations by the least number of strokes with the club. The game thus provided is adapted to not only furnish an interesting pastime or amusement, but also to provide opportunity for interesting practice in the art of putting, tending to increase the player's skill in that particular form of stroke as related to the ordinary game of golf.

To the above ends the novel game apparatus includes, in addition to the golf ball and golf club, a series of spaced stations at which are positioned in successive or alternated relation, marks or hazards comprising upright stakes, countersunk cups and narrow wickets.

Other objects of this invention, not at this time more particularly enumerated, will be clearly understood from the following detailed description of the same.

With the objects of this invention in view, the same consists, primarily, in the novel game apparatus hereinafter set forth; and the invention consists, furthermore, in the novel arrangements and combinations of the various elements and parts thereof, as well as in the details of the construction of the same, all of which will be more fully described in the following specification, and then finally embodied in the claims appended thereto.

The invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the preferred lay-out of the novel game apparatus, showing the relation of the various station elements one to another, and also illustrating the method of play.

Figure 2 is a diagrammatic plan view of the preferred lay-out of the novel game apparatus also illustrating the course of the ball during play; and Figure 3 is a similar diagrammatic plan view of the lay-out of the station elements within a "bounds" line.

Similar characters of reference are employed in the above described views, to indicate corresponding parts.

Referring to said drawings, it will be seen that the station elements are set out on a lawn or other open space of ground in a symmetrical group, providing a roughly or substantially circular series of stations and a centrally disposed finish point or station. At the starting point or station is positioned an upright stake 4, which is supported by being suitably driven into the ground so as to be firmly fixed therein. At the next station is positioned, preferably, a cup 5 into which the ball must be caused to fall so as to be "holed" therein. This cup 5 is countersunk in the ground, with its rim level with the ground surface. At the next station is positioned, preferably, a wicket 6, the legs of which are thrust into the ground to firmly support the wicket in upright position. This wicket is preferably of width approximately equal to twice the diameter of the ball played with. The succeeding stations are respectively provided with similar station elements, to wit, a stake 4, cup 5 and wicket 6. Centrally positioned within the circularly grouped station elements thus provided, is a finish element or mark consisting of a countersunk finish cup 7, into which

the ball must be finally holed. It will be understood that although I prefer the alternated or successive arrangement of station elements as above described, to wit, first a stake 4, then a cup 5, and then a wicket 6, such arrangement may be altered to change the relative positions of such elements around the circuit, if so desired. The distance by which the stations are separated about the circuit may depend, more or less, upon the area of ground space at the disposal of the user of the game. Ordinarily I would prefer such distance to be from fifteen to thirty feet. The distance thus separating the stations will also determine the "par" for the stations, and the total "par" for the complete circuit. If the stations are separated by a distance of fifteen to twenty feet, the "par" for each station would be two strokes, that is, the skillful player should play the ball to the approached station in two strokes with the club. When, as shown in the drawings, there are seven stations, the total "par" for the circuit would be fourteen strokes. It will be understood, however, that the "par" thus determined is subject to variation. It will also be understood that I may increase or decrease the number of stations and their corresponding station elements if it is advisable, without departing from the scope of the invention.

In playing the game the player uses an ordinary golf ball 8, and drives the same over the ground from station to station by means of a suitable golf-club 9, preferably of the putting iron type. In starting the game, the player places the ball adjacent to a stake 4 (as shown in Figure 2) and then drives toward the next station at which is located a cup 5, endeavoring to "hole" or drop the ball therein by the least possible number of strokes, keeping score as to the number of strokes thus played. After the ball is holed it is removed from the cup, and again deposited on the ground adjacent thereto, whereupon the player proceeds to drive for the next station, at which is located a wicket 6, endeavoring to pass the ball through the latter by the least number of strokes with the golf club. After passing through the wicket 6 the ball must be left where it rolls, whereupon the player proceeds to drive to the next station, at which is located a stake 4, endeavoring to strike or hit the stake with the ball. After hitting the stake with the ball, the latter must be left in the position wherein it comes to rest after rebounding from the stake, whereupon the player then drives to the next cup 5, thence through the succeeding stations to the stake 4 from which the start was made. This latter stake 4 must be hit by the ball, the ball left at the point of rest after rebounding therefrom, and then, finally, the player drives for the central finish cup 7, thus ending the game by "holing" or dropping the ball therein.

To add interest to the game and increase the difficulties encountered to the end that additional skill may be developed, the ground upon which the stations are laid out, may be provided with surface hazards in various forms, such, for example, as indicated in Figure 2 of the drawings.

To add further interest to the game, the circuit of stations may be surrounded by a "bounds" line 10 (as shown in Figure 3, which may be suitably marked out with lime or similar marking material. In playing the game with the "bounds" line element added, the player must, in driving the ball around the circuit and through the series of stations, keep the same within "bounds". If the ball is driven beyond such "bounds", the player must retrieve and carry it back to the point at which the "bounds" line 10 was crossed thereby, and then proceed to drive for the approached station from such point, the penalty for so crossing the "bounds" being a stroke which is added to the player's score.

From the above description it will be apparent that the novel game apparatus and arrangement hereinabove described, not only affords a very interesting amusement and recreation, but also is calculated to give excellent training to the eye, as well as development of control in handling the golf-club, being particularly adapted to increase the player's skill in "putting" which will be found very beneficial to players of the ordinary game of golf.

I am aware that some changes may be made in the various arrangements and combinations of devices and parts making up the game apparatus, as well as in the details of the construction and lay-out of the same, without departing from the scope of this invention as set forth in the foregoing specification and as defined in the appended claims. Hence, I do not limit my invention to the exact arrangements and combinations of said devices and parts or the lay-out thereof as described in said specification, nor do I confine myself to the exact details of the parts as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

I claim:—

1. The combination, in a lawn game to be played with a golf ball and club, of a series of successive marks spaced apart in a substantially circular group and a central finish mark, said marks variously consisting of upright stakes, countersunk cups, and fixed wickets, said wickets being of a width approximately equaling twice the diameter of the ball.

2. The combination, in a lawn game to be played with a golf ball and club, of a

series of successive marks spaced apart in a substantially circular group and a central finish mark, said circular group of marks consisting respectively of a stake, a countersunk cup, a fixed wicket, a second stake, a second countersunk cup, and a second fixed wicket, and said central finish mark consisting of a third countersunk cup.

In testimony that I claim the invention set forth above I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of September, 1922.

GEORGE S. PAGE.

Witnesses:
ROBERT S. POLLARD,
ELINOR EMERY POLLARD.