United States Patent

[11] 3,554,550

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[54] **BEAN BAG TOSS TARGET GAME**
2 Claims, 5 Drawing Figs.

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **273/95,** 273/106, 273/102
[51] **Int. Cl.** **A63b 63/00**
[50] **Field of Search** ..... 273/102(AB), 102.1(F), 102.1(E), 102.1(C), 127, 100 for known ref., 102

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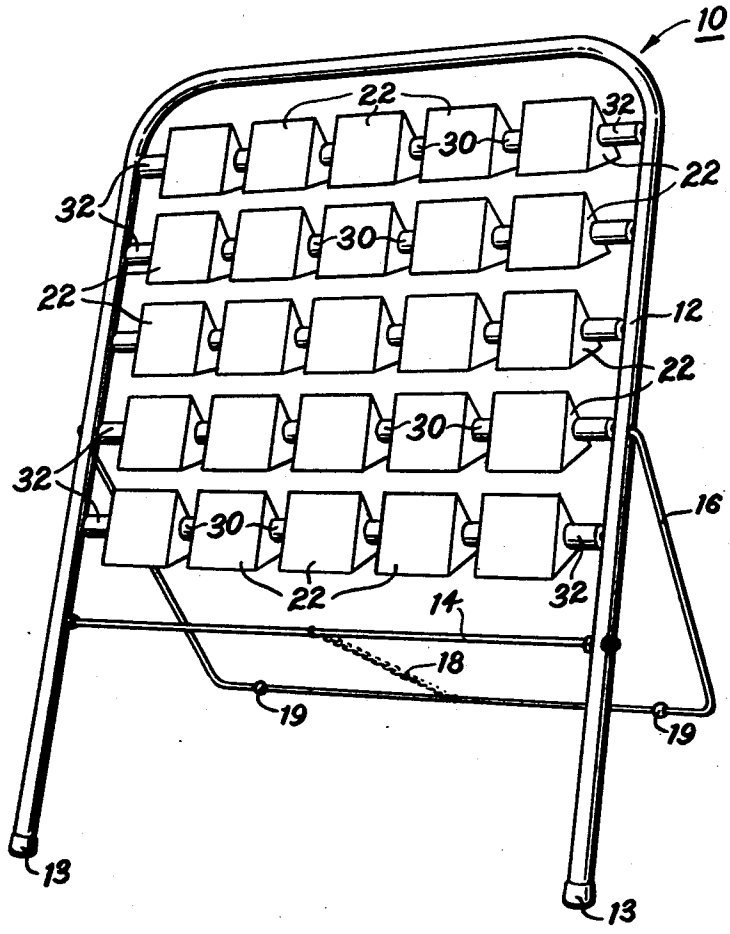
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ABSTRACT: A bean bag toss target game is disclosed comprising, in combination, bean bags, a freestanding frame, and hollow equilateral triangular prism target pieces supported for individual 360° bidirectional rotation on same frame; the frame supports the target pieces in equally spaced parallel rows each having the same number of target pieces therein; the frame and the target pieces are constructed in relation to the bean bags so that the bean bags are capable of passing completely through the frame from one side to the other thereof when tossed at the target pieces and so that no bean bag can pass through the frame without causing rotation of a target piece on the frame; each target piece when struck by a bean bag passing through said frame is rotatable between three target positions to present to view of the user of the game any one of three target faces but only one thereof at any one time, whereby scoring is effected by observing when corresponding target faces first fill any parallel or diagonal row from rotation of target pieces caused by bean bags tossed thereat passing through said frame.



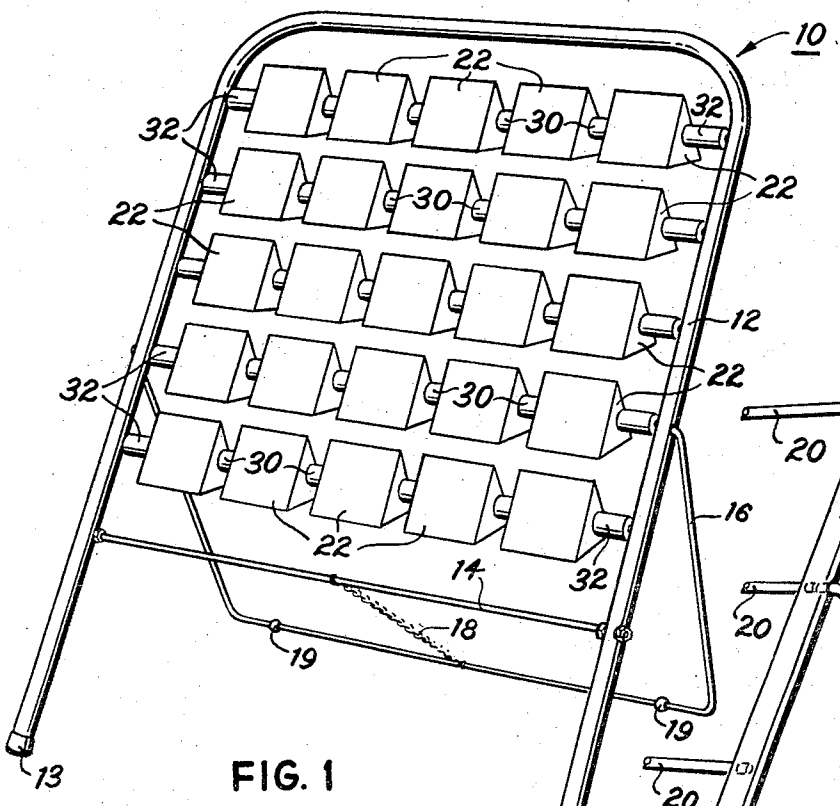


FIG. 1

FIG. 2

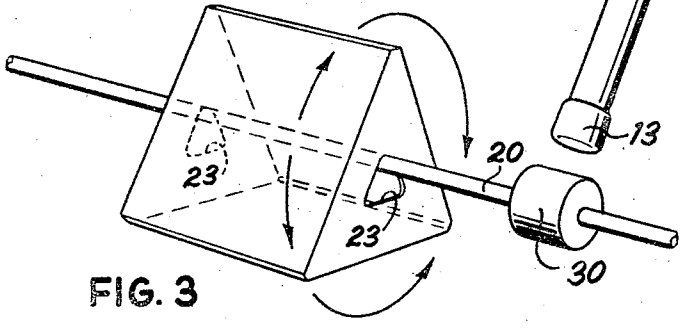


FIG. 3

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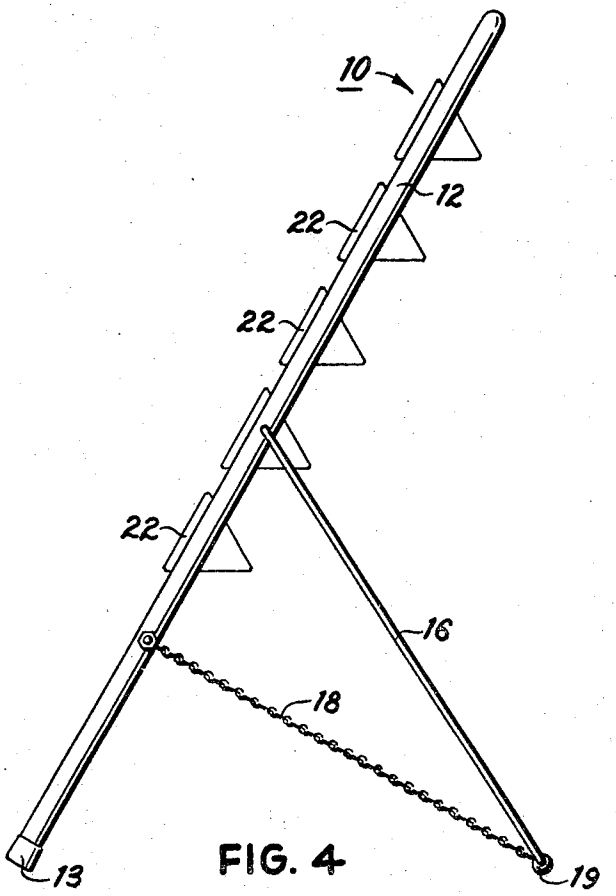


FIG. 4

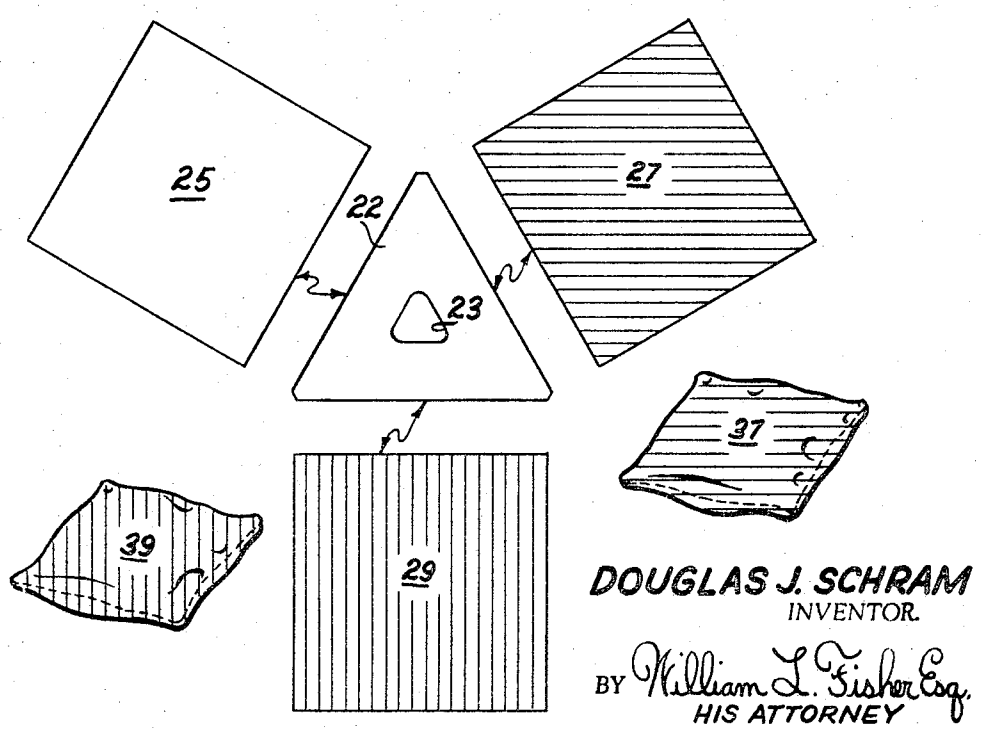


FIG. 5

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BEAN BAG TOSS TARGET GAME

My invention relates to games.

The principal object of my invention is the provision of a fascinating and entertaining bean bag toss target game which is played by two competing persons or groups thereof. The foregoing object of my invention and its advantages will become apparent during the course of the following description, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIGS. 1 and 4 are, respectively, front perspective and side elevational views of a target game embodying my invention;

FIGS. 2 and 3 are fragmentary perspective views of parts of said game; and

FIG. 5 is a combination of several views of parts of said game.

Referring to the drawings in greater detail, **10** generally designates said game which comprises a freestanding frame consisting of an inverted U-shaped tubular frame member **12** and another U-shaped solid rod frame member **16**, the free ends of which project through apertures in the outside walls of the frame member **12** so that the two frame members **12** and **16** are pivotally connected together. The two frame members **12** and **16** have an operative position shown determined by the length of a chain **18** connected to the horizontal run of the frame member **16** and to a horizontal solid rod frame brace member **14** in which they mutually support each other so that the frame member **12** is disposed at a 60° angle to the horizontal when said frame is supported on a horizontal surface. Antislip means are provided for said frame in the form of caps **13** on the free ends of the frame member **12** and spaced bushings **19** on the horizontal run of the frame member **16**. The frame members **12** and **16** also have a stored position (not shown) in which the frame member **16** is disposed in the plane of the frame member **12** with the horizontal run of the frame member **16** adjacent but beyond the caps **13**.

Said game also comprises a plurality of multifaced targets **22** which are multipositionable in respect to a supporting axle **20** by virtue of a multisided axial through aperture means which is oversize in respect to the diameter of said axle **20** so that said targets **22** are bidirectionally 360° rotatably and slidably supported on said axle **20**. In the instance there are five vertically spaced horizontal axles **20** supported between the sides of the frame **12** by projecting through apertures in the inside walls thereof. Each axle **20** rotatably and slidably supports five targets **22** which are horizontally spaced from each other by spools **30** and from the frame slides by longer spools **32**. The spools **30** and **32** are rotatably supported on said axle **20**. The targets **22** and the spools **30** and **32** and the axles **20** are assembled on the frame **12** prior to fastening of the brace frame member **14** thereto. The five horizontal and vertical rows of targets **22** define the target area of the game **10** at which two differently colored pillow type bean bags are tossed as shown and indicated at **37** and **39** in FIG. **5**. In the instance each target **22** is a hollow pentahedron or equilateral triangular prism having a pair of equilaterally triangular parallel and walls and three 60° angularly disposed square front walls. The three front walls are differently colored as shown and indicated at **25**, **27** and **29** in FIG. **5** for reasons which will appear. The axial through aperture means with which each target **22** is provided comprises, in the instance, a pair of equilaterally triangular apertures formed one in each of said triangular end walls. Each such triangular aperture **23** has straight sides of length of about three times the diameter of the axle **20** and has semicircular apexes of the same radius as the axle **20** so that, as mentioned, the target **22** is capable of both rotating and sliding in either direction in respect to the corresponding axle **20** to one of three rest positions in which the target **22** settles by gravity on the axle **20**. One of the three square front walls is horizontal and the other two are at 60° to the horizontal in each of said three rest positions of each target **22**.

Said game **10** is played by two competing persons or groups thereof who alternately throw their own set of colored bean bags at the target area to position the targets **22** so as to score a "bingo." The bean bags **37** are of the same color as the front wall **27** of each target and the bean bags **39** are of the same color as the front wall **29**. The game **10** is commenced by first positioning all of the targets **22** so that the neutral colored front walls (**25** in FIG. **5**) face forwardly, i.e. toward the players. The color of the bean bags which a player tosses determines the color of the front walls of the targets **22** which he endeavors to face forward. For example, the player tossing bean bags of the color indicated in FIG. **5** for the bean bag **37** would endeavor to face forward target front walls of the same color to wit: That indicated in FIG. **5** for the front wall **27**. Conversely the player tossing bean bags of the color indicated in FIG. **5** for the bean bag **39** would endeavor to face forward target front walls of that color, to wit: that indicated in FIG. **5** for the front wall **29**. A bingo is scored by the winner who is first to position the targets so that all of the targets in a horizontal, vertical or diagonal row have the same color front walls facing forward, i.e. the color of his bean bags. As the different bean bags strike one or more targets **22** they cause said targets **22** to rotate and slide in respect to the corresponding axle **20** through one or more of said rest positions causing the front walls of the targets to continually change color. A faster game likened to tic-tac-toe can be played by utilizing nine in lieu of 25 targets. The target area can be reduced to the center nine targets by employing a shield (not shown) which can be suspended from the frame **12** and masks off the remaining targets.

It will thus be seen that there has been provided by my invention a target game in which the object hereinabove set forth together with many other thoroughly practical advantages has been successfully achieved. While preferred embodiments of my invention have been shown and described it is to be understood that variations and changes may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention as defined by the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A bean bag toss target game comprising, in combination, a plurality of bean bags, freestanding frame means, and a plurality of hollow target pieces supported for individual 360° bidirectional rotation on said frame means, each target piece being an equilateral triangular prism having two equilateral triangular end walls and three square front walls defining three target faces, said frame means supporting said target pieces in equally spaced parallel rows each having the same number of target pieces therein, said frame means having axle means, each target piece having axially aligned triangular apertures centrally formed in its respective end walls, said target pieces rotatably supported on said axle means via their respective triangular apertures, said frame means and said target pieces constructed in relation to said bean bags so that said bean bags are capable of passing completely through said frame means from one side to the other thereof when tossed at said target pieces and so that no bean bag can pass through said frame means without causing rotation of a target piece on said axle means, each target piece when struck by a bean bag passing through said frame means rotatable on said axle means between three target positions to present to view of the user of the game any one of said three target faces but only one thereof at any one time, each target piece in each of its respective three target positions being suspended on said axle means via apexes of its respective triangular apertures, each target piece both rotatable and slidable on its respective axle means and settling by gravity into one of its respective three target positions after being struck by a bean bag passing through said frame means, whereby scoring is effected by observing when corresponding target faces first fill any parallel or diagonal row from rotation of target pieces caused by bean bags tossed thereat passing through said frame means.

2. A beam bag toss target game as claimed in claim 1 in which said frame means has a portion thereof disposed at an inclined plane when said frame means is resting on a horizontal surface, said portion encompassing said target pieces.