Sept. 12, 1961 A. R. DI PIETRO 2,999,692

GAME APPARATUS

Filed Dec. 15, 1959

FIG. 1

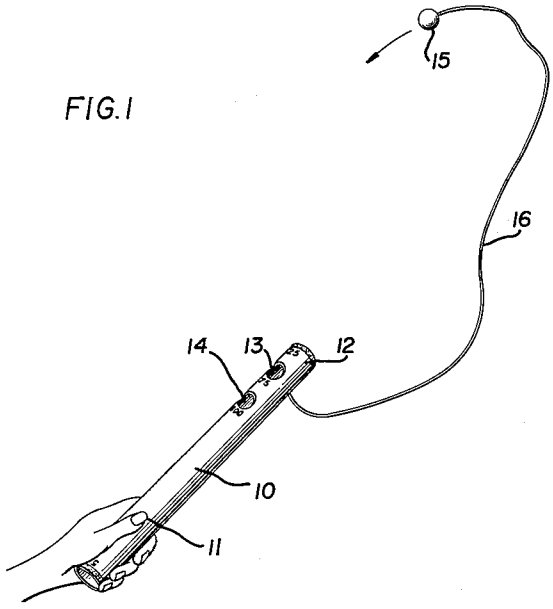


FIG. 2

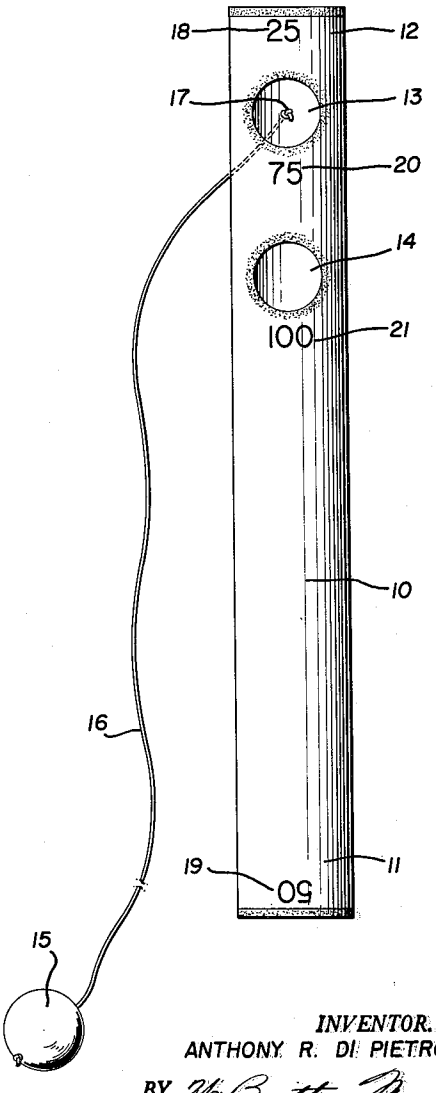
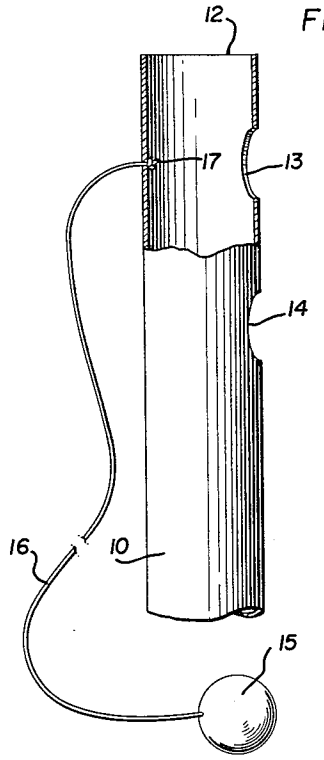


FIG. 3



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GAME APPARATUS

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1 Claim. (Cl. 273—97)

The present invention relates to a game apparatus and it consists in the combinations, constructions and arrangements of parts herein described and claimed.

Generally the invention comprises a simple game device in which there is provided an elongated hollow open-ended cylindrical body provided with a pair of longitudinally spaced circular openings adjacent one end thereof, the other end portion thereof being utilized as a handle. A ball of slightly greater diameter than the openings is interconnected with the body adjacent that end portion thereof having the aforesaid openings. The body is provided with indicia adjacent each of its open ends and adjacent each of the openings. The device requires exceptional skill in maneuvering the ball into the various openings and the indicia indicate scores in accordance with the relative skill required to catch the ball therein. In addition to the skill and concentration required to operate the device successfully, it at the same time provides amusement to the user and to those who may be watching the user in his attempts to successfully manipulate the same.

It is accordingly an object of the invention to provide a novel game apparatus requiring great skill in its manipulation.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of the character set forth which is simple in construction, inexpensive to manufacture, and yet effective and efficient in use.

A still further object of the invention is to provide, in a device of the character set forth, a novel body construction forming a part of the invention.

Other and further objects of the invention will become apparent from a reading of the following specification taken in conjunction with the drawing, in which

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of an embodiment of the invention, showing the same in use,

FIGURE 2 is an enlarged front elevational view thereof, and

FIGURE 3 is a fragmentary side elevational view, partly broken away, of the device illustrated in FIGURE 2.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, there is shown therein a game apparatus having an open-ended elongated cylindrical body **10** which may be formed of any suitable material but is preferably constructed of either cardboard or of a plastic material.

One end of the body may be termed the "inner end" or handle portion, as indicated at **11**, while the other end may be termed the "outer end," as indicated at **12**.

Inwardly of the outer end **12** there is provided a circular opening **13** and, spaced longitudinally inwardly from the opening **13**, an opening **14**.

A ball **15** is interconnected by a cord or string **16** to the outer end portion of the body **10** by any suitable

means but preferably and as shown, by forming a knot **17** at the end of the cord **16** and on the inner side of the body **10** after passing the cord **16** through a minute opening in the body. The cord **16** is attached to the body **10** at a point diametrically opposite the opening **13**.

In using the game apparatus, the player grasps the inner end or handle portion **11**, extending the body **10** horizontally outwardly with the ball **15** and cord **16** extending downwardly therefrom by gravity. If desired, the ball may rest upon the floor or ground during this stage. By a quick upward movement imparted to the body **10** by the player's arm, the ball will be propelled into the air whereupon it is the desideratum of the game to catch the ball in one of the openings **13** or **14** or, alternatively, in either the outer or inner end of the body **10**. Indicia **18**, **19**, **20** and **21** are printed or otherwise placed upon the body **10** adjacent the openings **13**, **14** and the outer and inner ends of the body **10**, respectively, and these indicia indicate progressively relatively greater scores which may be accredited to the player who succeeds in catching the ball **15** in any one of the openings. The ball is adapted to easily pass into the body **10** through either of its open ends. However, the openings **13** and **14** are of a diameter only slightly less than that of the ball **15**. Hence, it is exceedingly difficult to receive and balance the ball in either of the openings **13** and **14**, thus adding an element which calls for exceptional skill in placing the ball in these particular openings.

While but one form of the invention has been shown and described herein, it will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art that many minor modifications may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the appended claim.

What is claimed is:

A device of the character described comprising an open-ended cylindrical body having additional openings in the side thereof, a ball receivable in either end of said body, said additional openings being of slightly less diameter than the diameter of said ball and being longitudinally spaced and positioned adjacent one end of said body, and a cord interconnecting said ball and said body, the juncture between said cord and said body being diametrically opposite the outermost of said additional openings, the outermost of said additional openings being the opening adjacent said one end of said body, and said body having indicia thereon adjacent each of the openings and adjacent each open end thereof.

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