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SWIMMING WINGS CONVERTIBLE TO A BEACH BALL

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Fig. 1

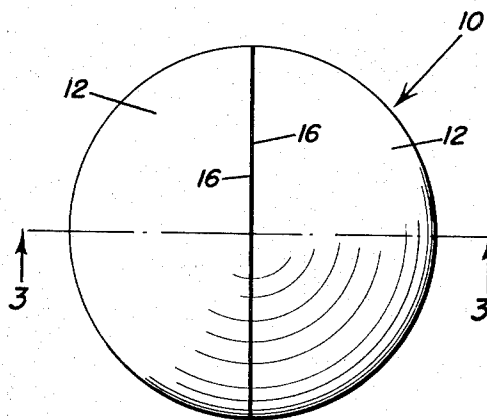
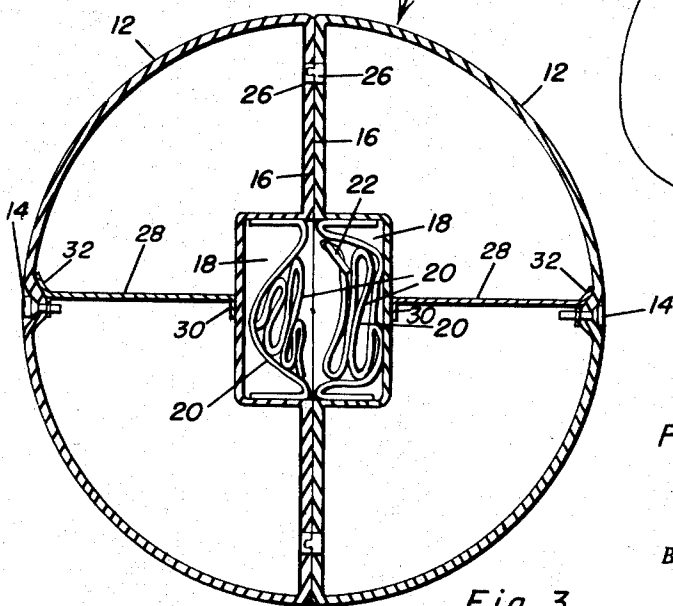
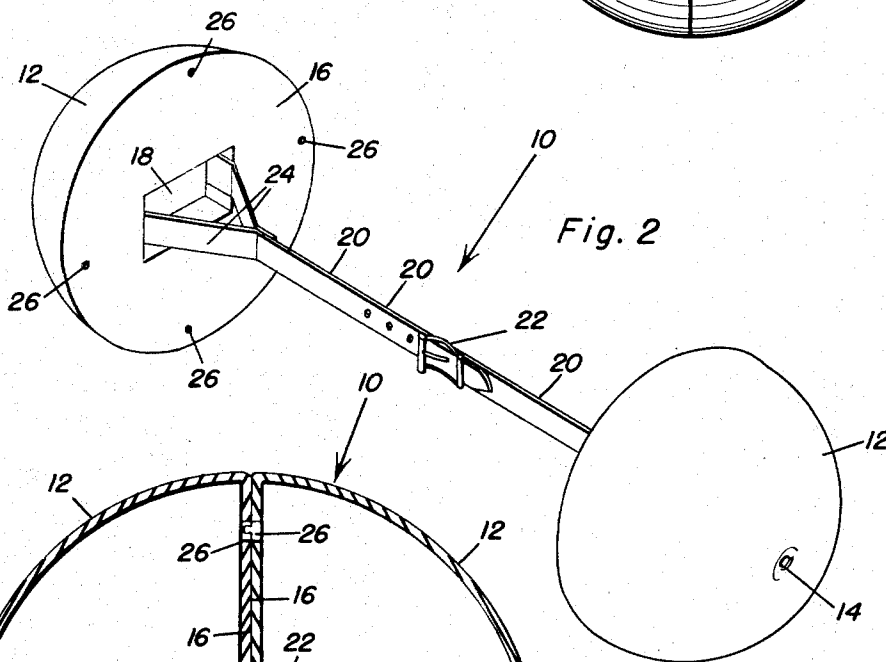


Fig. 2



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SWIMMING WINGS CONVERTIBLE TO A
BEACH BALL

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5 Claims. (Cl. 9-17)

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This invention relates to new and useful improvements and structural refinements in beach equipment, and the principal object of the invention is to provide a device of the character herein described which, in one form, may conveniently function as swimming wings, while in another form it may be readily used as a ball.

Some of the advantages of the invention reside in its simplicity of construction, in its efficient and entertaining operation, and in its adaptability to economical manufacture.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

Figure 1 is an elevational view of the invention in readiness for use as a beach ball;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the invention in readiness for use as swimming wings; and

Figure 3 is a sectional view on an enlarged scale, taken substantially in the plane of the line 3-3 in Figure 1.

Referring now to the accompanying drawings in detail, the invention is designated generally by the reference character 10 and embodies in its construction a pair of buoyant, semi-spherical members 12 which are preferably hollow and are adapted to be inflated through the medium of suitable valves 14, so that they possess buoyant characteristics.

The members 12 have flat opposing faces 16 which are provided with re-entrant complementary pockets or recesses 18, and a flexible connecting member 20 extends between the members 12, as will be presently explained.

The member 20 is preferably in the form of two strap sections 20a which are adjustably connected together by conventional buckle means 22 and are provided at the ends thereof with forked or bifurcated portions 24, rigidly secured in the recesses 18 of the respective members 12.

It will be observed that the flat opposing faces 16 of the members 12 are equipped with coacting snap fastener elements 26. Also, flexible tapes 28 of non-elastic material may be provided in the respective members 12, the inner ends 30 of the tapes being secured to the sockets 18 while the outer ends 32 are secured to the members 12 adjacent the valves 14. The purpose of the tapes 28 is to assist the members 12 in maintaining their correct, semi-spherical shape when inflated.

When the invention is to be used in the nature of swimming wings, the members 12 are sepa-

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rated as shown in Figure 2 while the flexible connection element 20 extends therebetween.

However, when the invention is to be used as a beach ball, the flexible connecting element 20 is simply stored in the recesses or pockets 18 while the members 12 are brought together into abutting relation and the snap fastener elements 26 of the two members are engaged so as to sustain the members together, as illustrated in Figures 1 and 3.

If so desired, the connecting element 20 may be disconnected at the buckle means 22 thereof and each portion 20a of the connecting element may be stored in the recess or pocket 18 of the associated member 12.

From the foregoing, the construction and operation of the device will be readily understood and further explanation is believed to be unnecessary. However, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction shown and described, and accordingly all suitable modifications and equivalents may be restored to, falling within the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. Swimming wings convertible to a beach ball, comprising a pair of buoyant semi-spherical members having flat opposing faces provided with complementary recesses, a flexible connecting element having opposite ends thereof secured in the recesses of the respective members, said element being receivable in said recesses when said members are in abutment to form a ball, and means separably sustaining said members in abutting relation.

2. The device as defined in claim 1, together with means for adjusting the length of said connecting element.

3. The device as defined in claim 1 wherein said means comprise coacting snap fasteners provided on the flat opposing faces of said members.

4. The device as defined in claim 1 together with means for inflating said members.

5. The device as defined in claim 1 together with transversely extending reinforcing tapes provided in the respective members.

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