Aug. 25, 1925.

1,551,207

T. M. NIAL ET AL

GOLF TEE

Filed Feb. 16, 1925

FIG. 1.

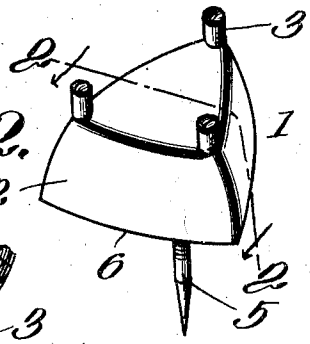


FIG. 2.

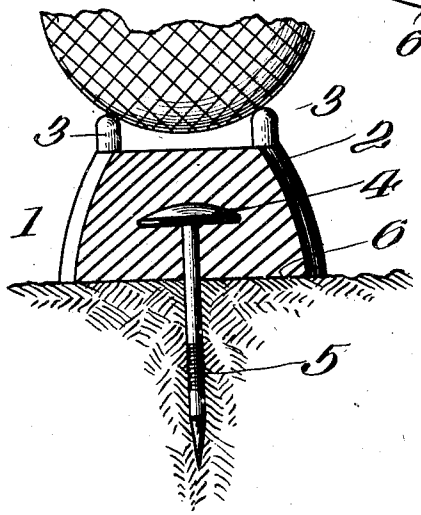


FIG. 3.

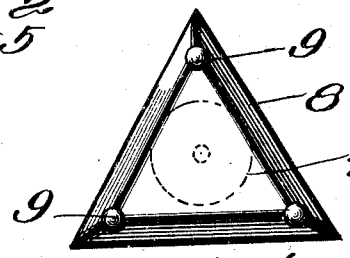


FIG. 4.

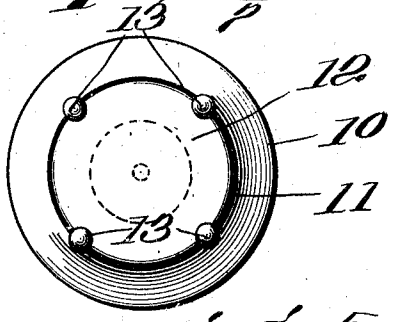


FIG. 5.

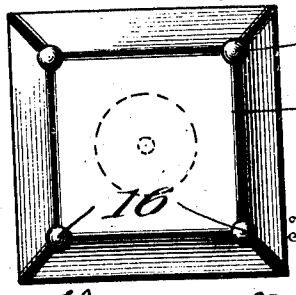
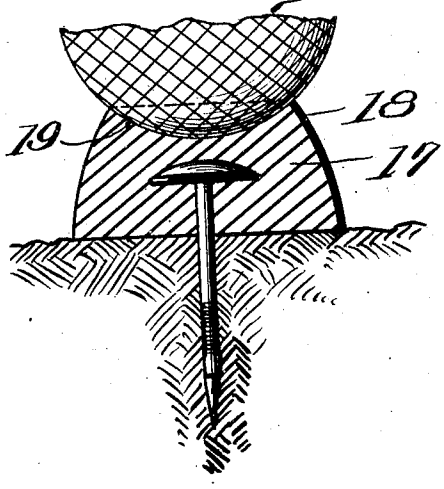


FIG. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS M. NIAL, OF NEW YORK, AND RICHARD DUDENSING, OF BRONXVILLE, NEW YORK.

GOLF TEE.

Application filed February 16, 1925. Serial No. 9,662.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, THOMAS M. NIAL and RICHARD DUDENSING, citizens of the United States, residing, respectively, at New York city, New York, and Bronxville, county of Westchester, State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Golf Tees, of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the figures of reference marked thereon.

Our invention relates to improvements in golf tees.

The object of our invention is to provide a golf tee made of soft or flexible non-breakable material and having the projecting prong adapted to be forced into the ground, whereby the golf club will not be injured by coming into contact with the tee, and also to provide means for supporting the ball whereby there is less friction between the tee and the golf ball.

Another object of our invention is to provide a tee made of non-breakable flexible material, so that the striking thereof by the club will not break the tee, and thus the same can be used a number of times.

A further object of our invention is to provide a tee having a flat lower face whereby when the projecting prong is forced into the ground the lower face of the tee will engage the ground and the tee will assume a horizontal position and the ball is not likely to roll off of the tee.

A still further object of our invention is to provide a simple, cheap and effective tee adapted to accomplish the above results and having certain details of structure and combination of parts hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a triangular tee having curved side walls, embodying our invention.

Figure 2 is a vertical sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1, and showing a golf ball supported thereby.

Figure 3 is a top plan view of a triangular tee having straight outer faces.

Figure 4 is a top plan view of a circular tee having four supporting projections.

Figure 5 is a top plan view of a square tee having the four supporting projections.

Figure 6 is a vertical transverse sectional view showing the head having a concave recess and supporting a golf ball.

Referring now to the drawings, 1 represents a triangular tee having curved outer walls 2, curved inwardly towards its upper end, and each corner provided with an upwardly extending projection 3, adapted to support the golf ball. This head or body portion of the tee is preferably made of rubber, felt or any other comparatively soft flexible plastic material adapted to be moulded, and thus the same will not injure the golf club should the user strike the tee with the club instead of the ball. In the manufacture of this tee the head or body portion of the tee is moulded around the head 4 of a small nail 5, which forms the means for holding the tee in a horizontal position on the ground. The lower face of the head or body portion is perfectly flat as indicated at 6, whereby when the nail is forced into the ground this flat face will rest upon the ground, whereby the tee is more readily placed in the ground in a horizontal position so that the ball will not roll off of the tee.

In the modification shown in Figure 3, the triangular body portion 7 has tapering straight walls 8 and three projections 9 carried by the three corners, at the upper end of the tapering straight side walls.

In Figure 4 we have shown a circular tee 10 having the tapering side wall 11, the upper flat face 12 provided with four projections 13, although any number of projections can be used.

In Figure 5 we have shown a square tee 14 having tapering walls, the upper flat end 15 provided at the four corners with projections 16.

In the modification shown in Figure 6, the tee 17 is preferably made round having the inwardly curved wall 18, and provided at its upper end with a concave recess 19 adapted to receive the ball, as fully shown in the drawings.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that we have produced a golf tee in which a flat lower face is provided to insure the placing of the tee on the ground in a horizontal position so that the ball will not roll off, and also to provide a tee made of

flexible material adapted to be moulded or pressed into the shape and which will not break by engagement of the club therewith, and which will not injure the golf club. By this structure it will be seen that tees can be used over and over again wherein tees of this character, now used, are usually broken and are capable of being used only once. These tees are preferably painted some bright color so that they can be readily seen and if they are forced from the ground during the driving of the ball they can be seen and picked up for further use.

Having thus fully described our invention what we claim is:—

A golf tee comprising a solid non-metallic portion of substantially the height it is desired to tee the ball from the ground, said base portion having a broad flat lower face, a retaining spike rigidly imbedded in the base and extending from the center of the lower flat face, said base portion tapering toward its upper end and having relatively short projections formed integral with the base on the upper face thereof and spaced from each other for supporting the ball, whereby a relatively large supporting face is obtained at the lower end and adapted to rest on the ground, and a relatively small upper end formed for retaining the ball thereon.

In testimony whereof, we affix our signatures.

THOMAS M. NIAL.
RICHARD DUDENSING.