Oct. 30, 1951 G. E. MORGAN 2,573,107

GOLF DRIVING MAT AND TEE

Filed Nov. 13, 1948

FIG. 1

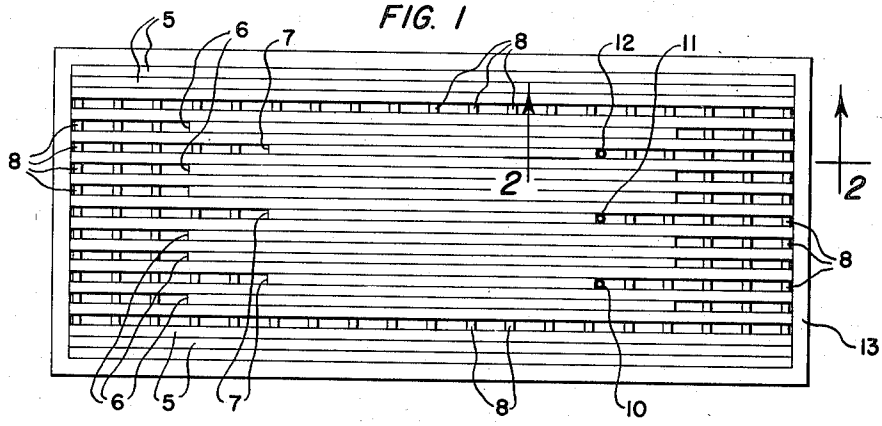


FIG. 2

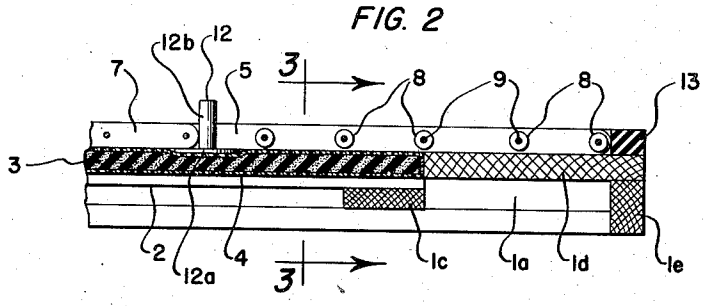
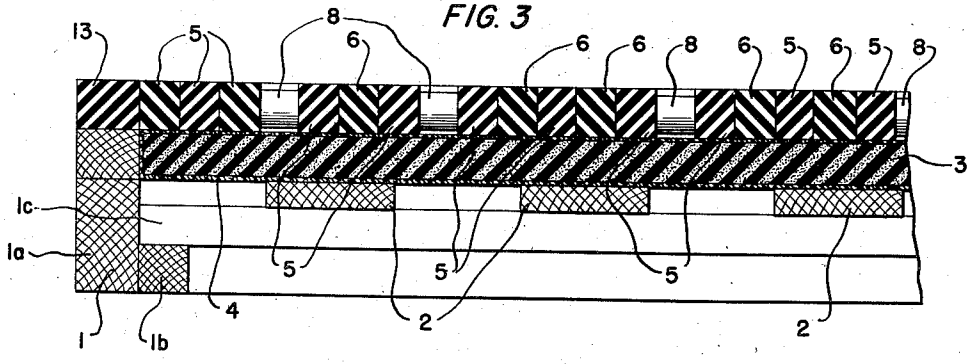


FIG. 3



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GOLF DRIVING MAT AND TEE

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3 Claims. (Cl. 273—35)

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My invention relates to a golf driving mat, more particularly for use by golfers in practicing the driving of golf balls and the objects of my invention are:

First, to provide a mat of this class having resilient character which promotes yieldability of the mat when sliced by a club whereby damage to the mat and to the club is substantially avoided.

Second, to provide a golf driving mat of this class which employes removable tees having their base portions resting on a yieldable resilient cushion permitting deflection of said tees when inadvertently struck by a golfer's club.

Third, to provide a golf driving mat of this class which generally promotes practice and thereby improves the general form and ability of the golfer.

Fourth, to provide a golf driving mat of this class which incorporates certain resilient character in the frame thereof which includes longitudinal slats which support the cushion above which is directly supported by the surface strips of the mat, and

Fifth, to provide a golf driving mat of this class which is very simple and economical of construction, efficient in operation and which will not readily deteriorate or get out of order.

With these and other objects in view as will appear hereinafter, my invention consists of certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts and portions as will be hereinafter described in detail and particularly set forth in the appended claims; reference being had to the accompanying drawings and to the characters of reference thereon forming a part of this application in which: Figure 1 is a top or plan view of the golf driving mat. Figure 2 is a fragmentary sectional view thereof, taken from the line 2—2 of Figure 1, showing the same on enlarged scale, and Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken from the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Similar characters of reference refer to similar parts and portions throughout the several views of the drawings.

The frame 1, slats 2, cushion 3, cushion cover 4, mat strips 5, 6, and 7, strip spacers 8, wires 9, tees 10, 11 and 12, and the edge cushion molding 13 constitute the principal parts and portions of my golf driving mat.

The frame 1 as shown in Figs. 1 and 3 of the drawings is substantially rectangular and is preferably made of susbtantially rigid material such as wood or the like. The frame 1 is provided

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with surrounding member 1*a* inwardly of which are base strips 1*b* having cross bars 1*c* positioned thereon at their opposite ends. Positioned over the cross bars 1*c* are the slats 2 which extend longitudinally of the mat as shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings. At each end of the mat is provided a plate 1*d* supported on end cross members 1*e* shown best in Fig. 2 of the drawings. Supported on the slats 2 is the cushion 3 covered by a fabric cover 4. This cushion 3 is preferably made of soft sponge rubber or any other suitable material of resilient character. Positioned over the cushion 3 and extending therebeyond over the plates 1*d* are the mat strips 5, 6, and 7. The mat strips 5 extend the full length of the frame 1 inwardly of the edge cushion molding 13 which is preferably made of soft, resilient material such as sponge rubber or the like. The mat strips 6 are considerably shorter than the mat strips 5 and are interposed therebetween. The mat strips 7 align with the tees 10, 11 and 12 and terminate at the position occupied by said tees 10, 11 and 12 as shown best in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings. It will be noted that the tees 10, 11 and 12 are each provided with a flat disc shaped base similar to the base 12*a* of the tees 12 and are each provided with a centrally disposed vertical tee post similar to the post 12*b* of the tee 12 shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings. The post of the tees 10, 11 and 12 extend vertically to a position above the plane of the mat strips 5, 6 and 7 and are interposed between mat strips 5 which extend the full length of the frame intermediate opposite ends of the edge cushion molding 13. The mat strips 5 and 6 extending beyond the mat strips 7 are maintained in parallel spaced relationship to each other by means of the spacers 8 which surround the wires 9 extending laterally through the mat strips 5, 6 and 7 shown best in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings.

The operation of my golf driving mat is substantially as follows:

A golf ball may be placed on each of the tees 10, 11 and 12 or any one of them as desired. A golfer standing on the mat within the area covered by the mat strips 7 forming the solid portion of the mat may drive the ball from one of the tees 10, 11 or 12, as desired. The footing provided by the substantially yieldable slats 2, cushion 3 and the flexible mat strips 5, 6, and 7 simulates the footing a golfer may have on the surface of a conventional golf course. As the golfer strikes the ball, on one of the tees 10, 11 or 12, the tee yields slightly due to its resilient support on the cushion 3 at its base portion. In

the event the golfer slices the mat, the cushion 3 provides a yieldable means which permits movement of the mat strips 5, 6 and 7 and also deflection of the tee 12 whereby damage to the golf club and to the mat is effectively avoided. The plurality of tees 10, 11 and 12 provide for the positions various golfers may take on the mat whereby substantially all formal driving positions are accommodated. It will be noted that the edge cushion molding 13 provides longitudinal resilient support for the mat composed of the mat strips 5, 6 and 7 and also provides a resilient edge molding surrounding the mat which withstands wear and which retains its original shape. The wires 9 extending transversely through the mat strips 5, 6 and 7 are resilient members and provide for lateral flexibility of the mat intermediate the mat strips 5, 6 and 7.

Though I have shown and described a particular construction, combination and arrangement of parts and portions, I do not wish to be limited to this particular construction, combination and arrangement, but desire to include in the scope of my invention, the construction, combination and arrangement substantially as set forth in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a golf driving mat of the class described, a frame having a base, a flexible resilient cushion on said frame elevated above said base and a mat over said cushion composed of individual parallel, flexible strips, tees extending upwardly through said mat intermediate said strips and supported at their lower ends on said cushion, said frame having slats supporting the lower side of said cushion, said tees having disc shaped base portions and circular in cross-section reduced stems extending upwardly therefrom, said strips having spacers therebetween substantially equal in length to the diameter of the vertical stems of said tees extending upwardly between the strips.

2. In a golf driving mat of the class described, a frame having a base, a flexible resilient cushion on said frame elevated above said base and a mat over said cushion composed of individual parallel, flexible strips, tees extending upwardly through said mat intermediate said strips and supported at their lower ends on said cushion, said frame having slats supporting the lower side of said cushion, said tees having disc shaped base portions and circular in cross-section reduced stems extending upwardly therefrom, said strips having spacers therebetween substantially equal in length to the diameter of the vertical stems of said tees extending upwardly between the strips, said frame provided with an edge cushion molding of soft, resilient character surrounding the mat formed by said strips.

3. In a golf driving mat of the class described, a frame having a base, a flexible resilient cushion on said frame elevated above said base and a mat over said cushion composed of individual parallel, flexible strips, tees extending upwardly through said mat intermediate said strips and supported at their lower ends on said cushion, said frame having slats supporting the lower side of said cushion, said tees having disc shaped base portions and circular in cross-section reduced stems extending upwardly therefrom, said strips having spacers therebetween substantially equal in length to the diameter of the vertical stems of said tees extending upwardly between the strips, said frame provided with an edge cushion molding of soft, resilient character surrounding the mat formed by said strips, said frame having rigid plate support at opposite ends and provided with a shelf on which one end of said mat is rigidly supported beyond the end of said cushion.

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