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Pepkowski et al.

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[45] **Dec. 3, 1974**

[54] **CHESS GAME DEVICE**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **273/136 B,** 35/8 R, 273/136 C, 273/136 D, 273/136 K, 273/148 R

[51] **Int. Cl.** **A63f 3/02,** G09b 1/00

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 273/136, 148 R, 142 J; 35/8 R, 8 B

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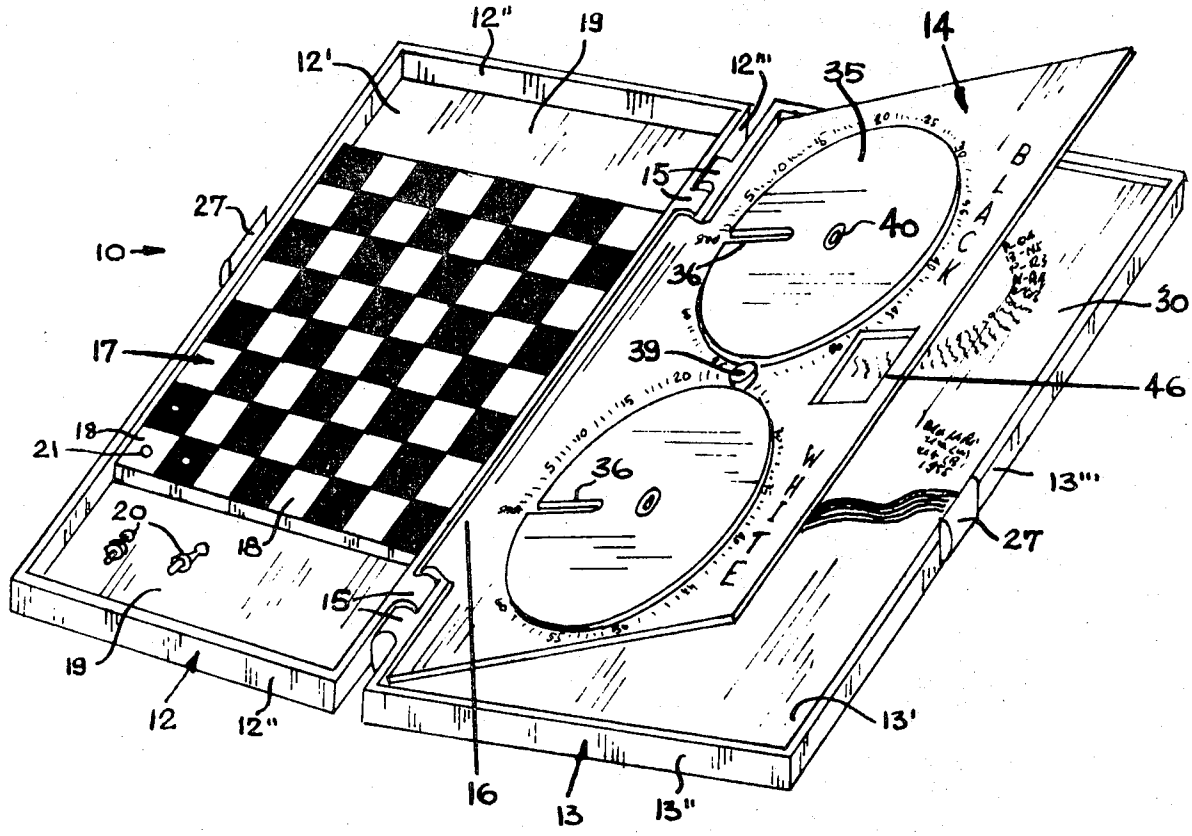
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Primary Examiner—Paul E. Shapiro

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A chess game device comprising a plurality of chessman elements and a checkered chessboard on which the chessmen elements may be positioned. At least one data sheet is provided having a plurality of coded instructions thereon to indicate each move for particular ones of the chessmen elements in a predetermined chess game. An apertured sequential data sheet reading member is associated with the data sheet and is provided with a manually rotatable disc having diametrically opposed slots to permit storage and sequential visual access of individual ones of a plurality coded instructions of two groups of instructions printed on the data sheet. The aperture in the reading member overlies the coded instructions on the data sheet and the disc overlies the aperture.

8 Claims, 11 Drawing Figures



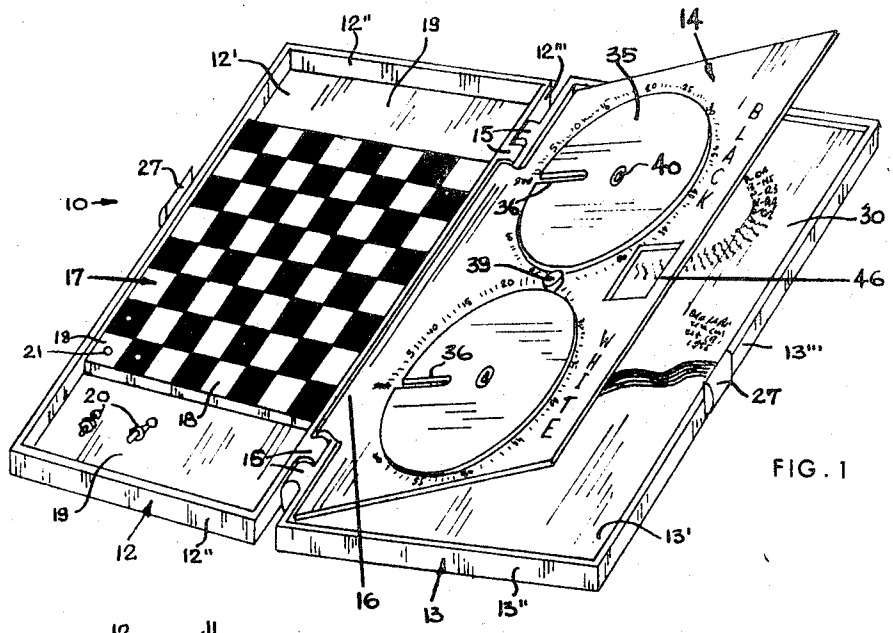


FIG. 1

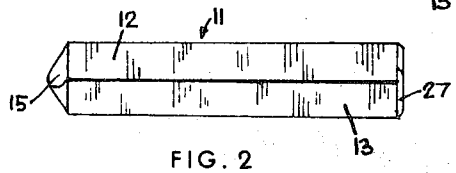


FIG. 2

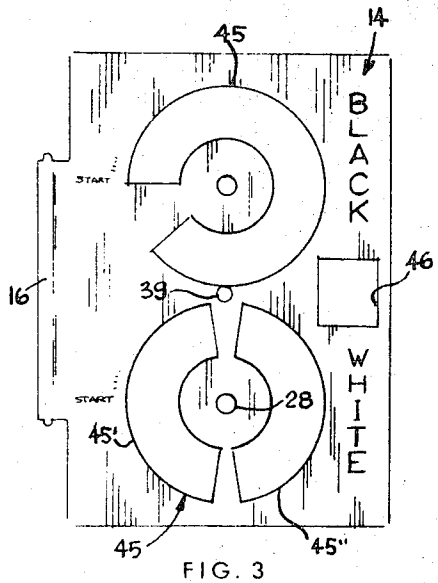


FIG. 3

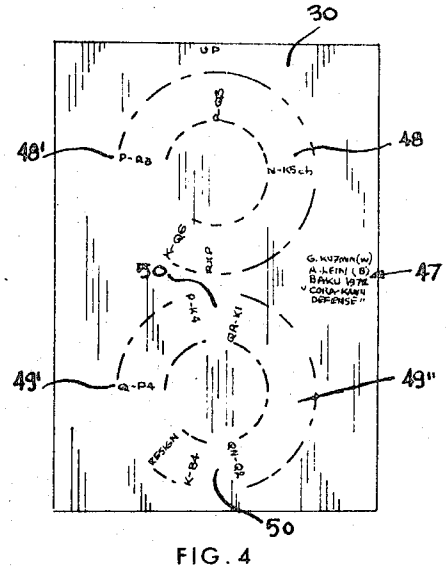


FIG. 4

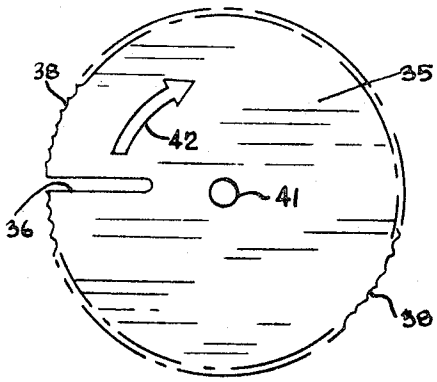


FIG. 5

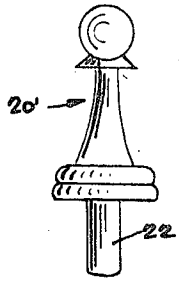


FIG. 7

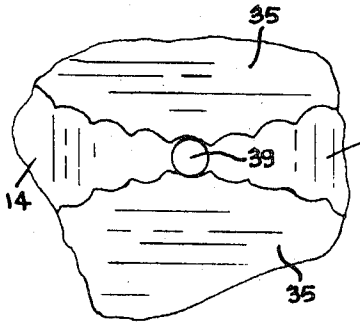


FIG. 6

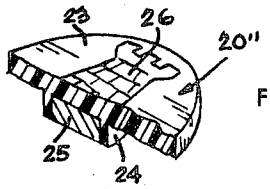


FIG. 8

FIG. 10

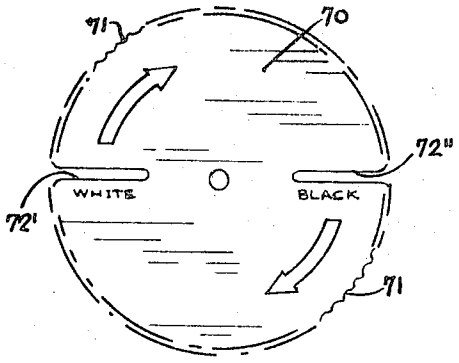
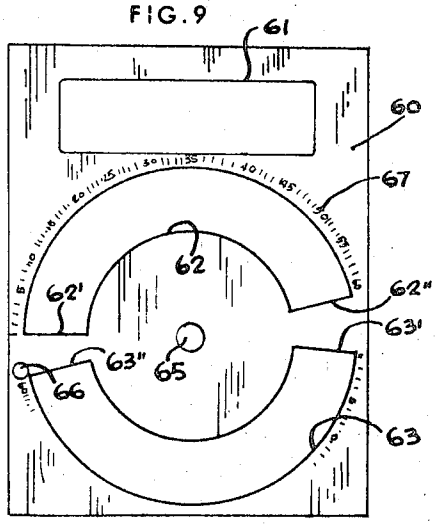


FIG. 9



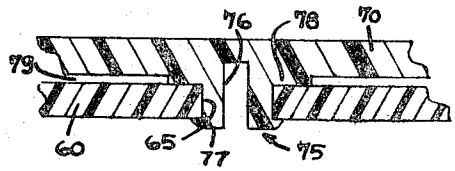


FIG. 11

CHESS GAME DEVICE

BACKGROUND OF INVENTION

a. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a game device and more particularly to a chess game device which can be played by a single person.

b. Description of Prior Art

Chess games heretofore provided consist essentially of a chess board and chessmen and require two persons to play the game in accordance with the person's knowledge of the game. Also, the majority of these games are not easily transportable on a person whereby it can be readily utilized by that person when such person is suddently in a situation where it has spare time to play the game, i.e., traveling on a train, aircraft, etc. Further, the majority of prior art chess devices require that the chess board be held firmly against movement not to disturb the chessmen positioned thereon.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

It is a feature of the present invention to provide a chess game device which can be played by a single person and which can be easily carried on a person.

It is a further feature to provide a chess game device which can be played by a person whilst in transit and subjected to movement.

It is a further feature to provide a chess game device providing a plurality of chess games in accordance with data sheet instructions containing the required moves of the chessmen, certain ones of said moves being stored and available to the player after he has divided the required move based on his own knowledge of the chess game.

A still further feature is to provide an improved portable pocket size solitaire chess game device which is economical to produce.

According to these aims, from a broad aspect, the present invention provides a chess game device comprising a plurality of chessmen elements and a checkered chess board on which the chessmen elements may be positioned. At least one data sheet is provided having a plurality of coded instructions thereon to indicate each move for particular ones of the chessmen elements in a predetermined chess game. A sequential data sheet reading member is associated with the data sheet and is provided with manual operable means to permit storage and sequential visual access of individual ones of a plurality of coded instructions of two groups of instructions printed on the data sheet.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

A preferred embodiment of the present invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a chess game device constructed in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 2 is an end view of the chess game device in its folded form;

FIG. 3 is a plan view of the instruction flap;

FIG. 4 is a plan view of a data sheet;

FIG. 5 is a plan view of a disc associated with the instruction flap of FIG. 3;

FIG. 6 is a fragmented view of the instruction flap;

FIG. 7 is a perspective view of a chessman;

FIG. 8 is a perspective fragmented view of a further embodiment of a chessman;

FIG. 9 is a plan view of a modified instruction flap;

FIG. 10 is a plan view of a modified disc associated with the instruction flap of FIG. 9; and

FIG. 11 is a fragmented sectional view illustrating the connection between the disc and its associated instruction flap.

DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Referring now to the drawings and more particularly to FIGS. 1 to 8, there is shown generally at 10 a chess game device constructed in accordance with the present invention. The game device in a preferred embodiment is constructed as a foldable case 11 formed essentially of a cover element 12, a base element 13 and an instruction flap 14. As shown, the case 11 is of substantially rectangular configuration although various other shapes may be provided. The base and cover elements 12 and 13 have a respective bottom wall 12′ and 13′, end walls 12″ and 13″, and side walls 12‴ and 13‴. A pair of hinge connectors 15 are formed in a respective side wall 12‴ and 13‴ to connect the cover element 12 to the base element 13. The flap 14 is a flat rectangular sheet member having a hinge connector 16 projecting from a longitudinal edge thereto for connection between spaced apart hinge connectors 15. Projection tabs 27 may be secured to the side walls 12″ and 13″ to hold the cover and base 12 and 13 in a closed position as shown in FIG. 2.

A rectangular chess board 17 having standard checkered squares 18 is secured in the cover portion 12 and located substantially central therein to define chessmen compartments 19 on opposed sides of the board 17 to store the black and white chessmen elements 20 therein. Each square 18 on the board 17 may have a hole 21 therein to retain the chessmen 20′ as shown in FIG. 7. Hereinshown, the chessmen 20′ is molded of suitable material, preferably plastic, and provided with an integral post 22 depending from the bottom thereof for engagement in a hole 21 on the chess board 17. In a further embodiment the chess board can be formed of metal and the chessmen provided with a magnet piece to provide positive engagement with the board 17. As shown in FIG. 8, the chessmen 20″ is formed as a plastic disc 23 and having a central circular flange 24 to retain a magnet piece 25 therein. The upper surface of the disc has a decal 26 to identify the particular chessmen. The chess board can be frictionally retained in the cover 12 or glued thereto.

As shown in FIG. 1, a plurality of data sheets 30 are located in the base portion 13, and these will be described later. The flap 14 is located between the base and cover portion and is movable therebetween whereby to permit the data sheets 30 to be inserted in the base element 13. The flap 14 is of such a dimension as to fit closely about the inner side walls of the base element 13 whereby it can be frictionally retained over the instruction sheets 30 to constitute an instruction reading position. Alternatively, the flap 14 may be provided with tabs (not shown) along an edge thereof to frictionally engage with the inside wall of the base element 13 to retain the flap over the data sheets 30.

As shown in FIGS. 1, 5 and 6, the instruction flap 14, constituting the sequential data sheet reading member, is provided with two discs 35 which are pivotally se-

cured, at the center thereof, to the flap **14**. Each disc **35** is manually operable. Each disc **35** has a data reading slot **36** formed diametrically from the peripheral edge **37** of the disc. The edge **37** is provided with a plurality of serrations **38** for frictional engagement with a post **39** secured and extending above the flap **14**. If the disc **35** is to be secured by a ferrule **40**, as shown in FIG. **1**, then a hole **41** is formed at the center of the disc. A direction indicator **42** is embossed on the disc, or alternatively may be formed on the flap **14**, to indicate the direction of rotation of the discs **35**.

Referring now to FIG. **3**, there is shown the construction of the flap **14**. As shown, the flap **14** is provided with arcuate apertures **45** and positioned whereby the slot **36** of the discs **35** will move thereabout as the discs **35** are turned to view instructions on the top data sheet **30** positioned under the flap. The arcuate apertures **45** for both discs **35** are normally identical although there is herein shown two embodiments of such apertures **45**. The upper aperture **45** is shown as a continuous aperture whilst the lower aperture **45** is formed of two sections **45'** and **45''**. A further aperture **46** is provided in the flap **14**, at a convenient location, to view instructions on the top data sheet **30** positioned under the flap **14**. Markings **47** are provided on the flap **14** about the apertures **45, 45'** and **45''** to indicate the particular position of the slot **36** provided on the disc **35**. Holes **28** are provided for securing the discs **35** to the flap **14**.

FIG. **4** shows the data sheet **16** on which there is illustrated two embodiments of data instruction layouts to conform with the two embodiments of the arcuate apertures **45** shown in FIG. **3**. The instructions at **47** align with further aperture **46** in the flap and identifies the particular chess game on the data sheet indicating the name and color of the players, the winning player, the location where the game was played, the year and the type of chess game (i.e., Russian defence, etc.) The coded instructions along the continuous arc **48** indicates each move of the black chessman, each coded instruction line **48'** corresponding to one displacement or one serration **38** of the disc **35** as it is rotated. The coded instructions in the lower embodiment are shown in two arcuate sections **49'** and **49''** leaving a space **50** adjacent opposed ends of the printed coded instruction sections. The purpose for the space **50** is to provide for a change in the direction of the printing of the coded instruction lines to facilitate reading the coded instructions without displacing the position of the game device **10**. It can be seen that, with either of the instruction layouts shown by the two embodiments, the printing for the black chessmen always starts one position behind printing for the white chessmen instructions (those shown in the lower part of the sheet).

Referring now to FIGS. **9** to **11**, there is shown a further embodiment of the present invention. Hereinshown, the instruction flap or card-like member **60** is provided with an aperture **61** whereby to read the game identifying instructions printed on the data sheet (not shown). Two arcuate apertures **62** and **63** are positioned along a portion of a circular axis formed about the hole **65** and each being in registry with printed coded instructions for the moves of the white and black chessmen, respectively, on a data sheet, normally positioned therebehind. The hole **65** is provided for securing the disc **70** on the flap **60**. The arcuate aperture **62** extends from a front end **62'** positioned along the horizontal axis **64**, passing through the center of hole **65**, to a remote end **62''** above the axis **64**. The front end **63'** of the arcuate aperture **63** starts one coded instruction line below the horizontal axis **64** and terminates at its other end **63''** below the axis **64**. A post **66** extends from the upper surface of the flap **60** to engage with the serrations **71** in the outer periphery of disc **70**, as shown in FIG. **10**. The disc **70** is provided with data reading slots **72** along the edge of the disc and positioned along a diameter of the disc. One data reading slot **72'** corresponds to the white chessmen whilst the other slot **72''** corresponds to the black chessmen. In the start position, the aperture **72'** will be adjacent the first position marking (scale **67** indicating all positions for the moves) whilst the aperture **72''** is positioned over a blank area. When the slot **72'** is moved to the second instruction position, the slot **72''** will indicate the first move or first coded instruction line of the black chessmen. The instruction flap **60** may be constructed in the form of a large card if it is to be used with a chess game packaged in a box rather than a pocket size foldable case **11**, as shown in FIGS. **1** and **2**. If packaged in a box the cover of the box would constitute the cover element **12** and the base of the box would constitute the base element **13**. The instruction sheets **30** would be of larger size and the instruction flap or card would be positioned in the base of the box with the sheets **30** conveniently located thereunder. There would, of course, be no hinge, and a separate checkered chess board may be provided.

FIG. **11** indicates a further manner of securing the discs **70** or **35** to the flaps **60** or **14**. Hereinshown, the disc **70** is molded with a slotted post **75** having a transverse slot **76** therethrough to permit the arms **77** to flex toward each other as the post **75** is pressed through the hole **65**. A shoulder portion **78** is also formed integral with the disc and post to provide a clearance **79** between the disc **70** and flap **60**.

The operation of the embodiment shown in FIGS. **1** to **8** is as follows. The desired chess game data sheet is placed on top of the package of sheets **30** positioned in the base element **13** and the flap **14** is positioned thereover with both discs **35** positioned with their slots **36** located adjacent a "START" designation on the flap. The player always plays the winning side and this is indicated to him by the printed instructions appearing in the aperture **46**. The type of game strategy (i.e., Russian defence) is also given whereby the player may anticipate the various moves of the winner, thus gaining knowledge of the various game strategies. In the case where the winner is black, the slot **36** in the disc **35** corresponding to the white chessmen will be adjacent a coded data instruction line (which is printed on the top data sheet **30**) designating the first move. The player will then guess the first move of the black chessmen before turning the disc **35** for the black chessmen to the first move position where the correct move will be given. The discs **35** are moved sequentially until the instructions appearing in one of the slots **36**, in this particular example the disc for the white chessmen, indicates that the particular game is over, i.e., one of the players has resigned. To play a different game, the player merely places a different data sheet **30** on top of the stack of sheets located in the base portion **13**.

The operation of the embodiment shown in FIG. **9** is slightly different in that there is only one disc **70** with two data reading slots **72'** and **72''** to indicate the moves of both the white and black chessmen. Again,

taking the example that the black chessmen is the winner, the reading slot of the white disc 72' is positioned adjacent the coded instruction line for the first move. There will be no coded instruction line under the slot 72'' relating to the black chessmen. The first move having been made, the player will guess or anticipate the first move of the black chessmen and then turn the disc 70 one further position to view the correct first move of the black chessmen through slot 72''. In this position, the slot 72', for the white chessmen is moved adjacent the second move for the white chessmen and the steps are repeated until the instruction appearing in one of the slots 72' or 72'' indicates that the game is terminated.

It is within the ambit of the present invention to provide a chess game which is not specifically constructed as a foldable case, as illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 2. Thus, there may be provided a card having one or two discs and instruction sheets suitably retained or positioned behind the card whereby coded instructions will be read sequentially as discussed herein. Further, the game can be made of any suitable material.

I claim:

1. A chess game device comprising a plurality of chessmen elements, a checkered chess board on which said chessmen elements may be positioned, at least one data sheet having two complete groups of coded instructions printed thereon to indicate each move in a plurality of moves for particular ones of said chessmen elements of two complete sets of elements in a predetermined chess game, said coded instructions of each group being printed adjacent one another along an arcuate plane on an arc of a circle, a sequential data sheet reading member associated with said at least one data sheet, said reading member being a flat card-like member having a disc secured thereto, said disc having two diametrically opposed data reading slots adjacent the peripheral edge thereof, at least one arcuate aperture in said card-like member and located under said disc adjacent the periphery thereof, said disc being rotatable about its center to said card-like member to permit said data reading slots to travel through a plurality of positions along said at least one arcuate aperture for sequential visual access of said individual ones of said plurality of coded instructions of a respective group of said two groups of coded instructions on said associated data sheet.

2. A chess game device as claimed in claim 1 wherein there is further provided a cover element and a base element, said at least one data sheet being retained by one of said cover or base elements with said reading member positioned thereover, said chess board being retained by said other one of said cover or base elements.

3. A chess game device as claimed in claim 2 wherein said cover and base elements are hinged together along an edge thereof, said reading member being a flap hinged between said cover and base elements.

4. A chess game as claimed in claim 3 wherein said cover and base elements each have a bottom wall, opposed end walls and opposed side walls, said card-like member being releasably engageable between said end walls and side walls of one of said cover or base elements, said at least one data sheet being positioned between said card-like member and said bottom wall of said one of said cover or base elements to which said card-like member is releasably engaged.

5. A chess game as claimed in claim 1 wherein said disc has a plurality of serrations along its outer periphery, each of said serrations corresponding to the displacement between each of said individual ones of said plurality of coded instructions, a post on said card-like member positioned along the periphery of said disc to engage with said serrations as the disc is rotated on said card-like member.

6. A chess game as claimed in claim 1 wherein said card-like member is provided with a plurality of spaced apart markings thereon adjacent the periphery of said disc to indicate the position of said data reading slots.

7. A chess game as claimed in claim 6 wherein said card-like member is provided with a further aperture to permit visual access to game identifying instructions on said at least one data sheet.

8. A chess game as claimed in claim 1 wherein there are two arcuate apertures in said flat card-like member, each said groups of coded instructions being disposed for registry with a respective one of said two arcuate apertures.

* * * * *