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R. C. COOK

2,707,009

GOLF BAG

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FIG. 1

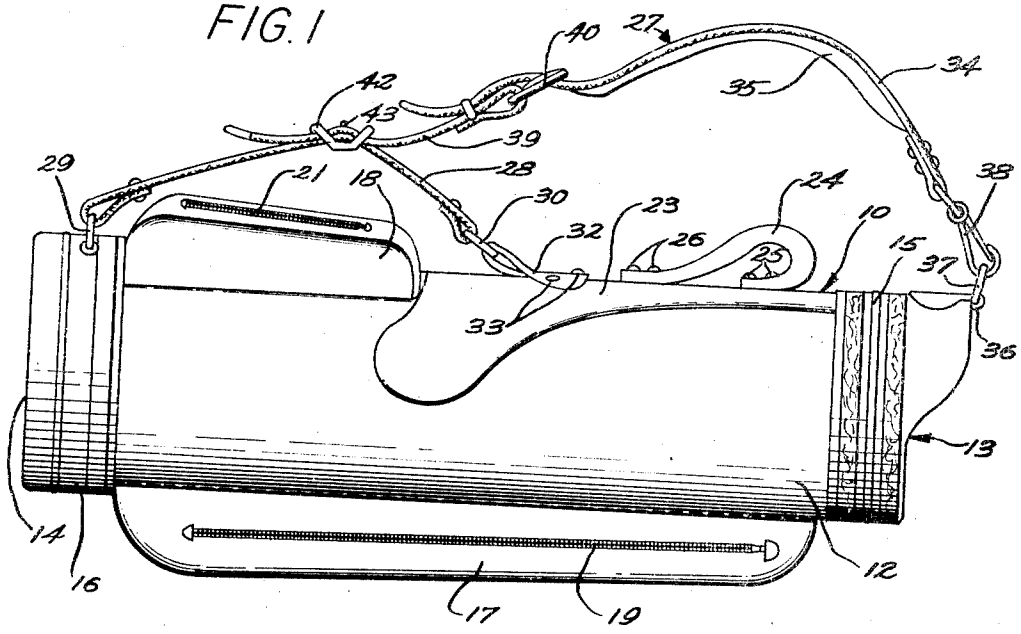


FIG. 2

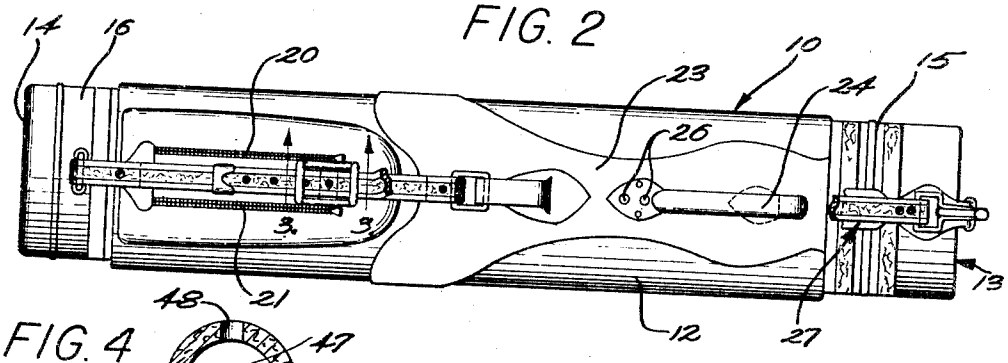


FIG. 4

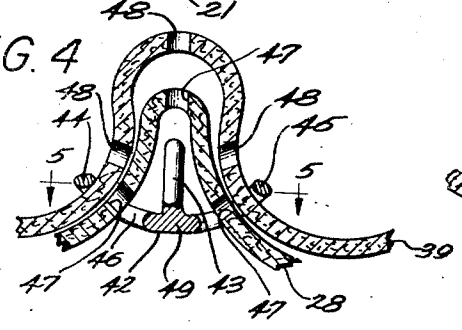


FIG. 3

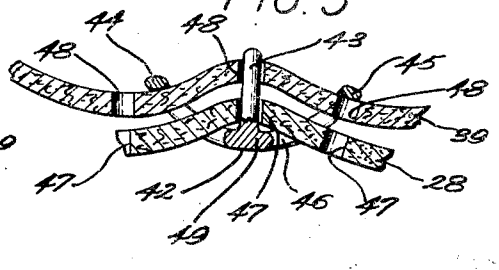
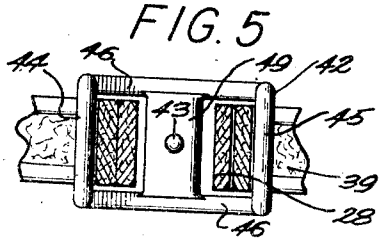


FIG. 5



INVENTOR
RAYMOND C. COOK

BY

G. D. Roall Brewer

ATTORNEY

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GOLF BAG

Raymond C. Cook, Springfield, Tenn., assignor to Wilson Athletic Goods Mfg. Co., Inc., Chicago, Ill., a corporation of Delaware

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5 Claims. (Cl. 150—1.5)

This invention relates to golf bags and the like, and more particularly to such a bag and the sling structure by which it is carried by a user.

As a general object, my invention comprehends the provision of a golf bag having a shoulder sling which embodies an effective adjustment for varying the longitudinal balance of the bag and its contents and the normal angle assumed by the bag while being carried by a user.

The number of golf clubs carried, the lengths of the various clubs and the additional equipment carried in the pockets of the bag all influence the longitudinal balance of a loaded golf bag and the normal angle which it assumes while being carried from the shoulder sling by a user. Since effort and energy are required to hold a golf bag in an off-balance position while it is being carried, in order to have it assume a comfortable effective and convenient carrying angle, it may be readily understood that ease and comfort in use are materially promoted by utilizing a bag which normally assumes a proper, effective and comfortable carrying angle when loaded to suit the users requirements.

My invention has for another object the provision of a golf bag and sling arrangement which affords effective and independent adjustments of the sling length and the longitudinal balance of the assembly and its contents.

It is a further object of this invention to provide a golf bag and sling assembly of the type referred to in which the adjustments may be quickly and readily made.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description and the accompanying drawings in which similar characters of reference indicate similar parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the single sheet of drawings,

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of a golf bag equipped with a preferred embodiment of my balancing sling strap assembly;

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the bag and sling strap assembly shown in Fig. 1, with a portion of one of the straps cut away to show details of structure;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary side sectional view drawn to a larger scale than Figs. 1 and 2, and where the section is taken substantially on a line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3, but wherein the straps are depicted as being loosened, as for the purpose of making an adjustment; and

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary top sectional view wherein the section is taken substantially as indicated by a line 5—5 in Fig. 4, and in the direction of accompanying arrows.

Having reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein an exemplary embodiment of my invention is shown for illustrative purposes, a golf bag **10** has an elongated shell-type side wall **12** which is supported by suitable frame work (not shown) and which may be made of materials such as canvas or leather or combinations thereof. As is usual in such structures, the disclosed bag has an open top **13** and a bottom **14** which is closed. The disclosed golf bag has a top reinforcing collar **15** and a bottom reinforcing collar **16** at the opposite end margins of the side wall **12**. As is usual in golf bags of the type disclosed, the one herein illustrated has a relatively long external pocket **17** secured to the exterior of the side wall **12** and a smaller external pocket **18** secured to another external portion of the side wall **12**; both of which pockets may be utilized for carrying extra equipment suited to the use of the golfer. Access to the interior of the pocket **17** is provided through an opening at one side of the pocket, which opening is closed

by a slide fastener **19**, while access to the interior of the pocket **18** is provided, in the present instance, by openings which are closed by slide fasteners **20** and **21**.

To provide reinforcement for the portion of the side wall of the disclosed bag from which it is carried, a yoke **23** of relatively heavy material, such as leather, extends longitudinally of the side wall **12** from the top reinforcing collar **15** to a position somewhat below the middle of the bag. For carrying the bag by hand, a handle **24** is secured to the upper portion of the yoke and to the side wall **12** by fastening means such as rivets **25** and **26**. As another means for carrying the bag during general use, a shoulder sling **27** is provided. The general shoulder sling structure which is illustrated in its application to the disclosed golf bag embodies structural parts and arrangement of parts which are different from any known to have been previously provided and which affords provisions for effecting longitudinal balance of the bag for ease of carriage regardless of the number of clubs carried, the lengths of the clubs and the other equipment which may be carried in the bag or its pockets. For ease and convenience of carriage by the shoulder sling, the bag should slope upwardly somewhat toward the open top, so that there is no tendency for the club shafts to slide outwardly of the bag, and this position should be assumed readily as a result of the balance, as effected through the sling, so that the bag does not have to be held in a position during use which is different from that which it normally tends to assume when suspended from the sling.

In the disclosed structure, and for the purposes herein disclosed, I have provided a lower sling strap **28** having one end secured to a metal anchor ring **29** at the bottom of the side wall **12** and securely anchored to that side wall through the bottom reinforcing collar **16**. The other end of the lower sling strap **28** is secured through a D-ring **30** to an anchoring yoke **32** at the mid-portion of the side wall **12** and in longitudinal alignment with the metal anchor ring **29**; the anchor yoke **32** being secured to the side wall **12** through the yoke **23** by fastening means such as rivets **33**. The length of the lower sling strap **28** is such that it bows outwardly from the side wall **12** and extends over the external pocket **18** in spaced relationship thereto.

An upper shoulder sling **34** which desirably has padding material such as **35** secured to its internal surface has its upper end removably connected to an anchor piece **36** at the rim of the open end of the bag through a D-ring **37** secured to the anchor piece **36** and a spring clip **38** which is secured to the end of the shoulder sling and engaged with the D-ring **37**. To provide for varying the length of the shoulder sling **34** to suit different users, a shoulder sling extension **39** is connected to the lower end portion of the shoulder sling through a fastening means such as a buckle **40**, and the lower end of the shoulder sling is punched for engagement with the buckle at different longitudinal positions, so that the effective length of the shoulder sling and its extension may be readily varied by the user by change of the position at which the shoulder sling is held by the buckle **40** secured to the upper end of the sling extension **39**.

For effecting a desired longitudinal balance of the golf bag and its contents when carried by the shoulder sling, a buckle **42** is provided on the lower sling strap **28**, which buckle is movable to various positions longitudinally of the lower sling strap **28** and serves as an anchor for the lower end portion of the sling extension **39**. As shown in Figs. 3, 4 and 5, the buckle **42** has a fixed projecting tongue **43** at its mid-portion and end bars **44** and **45** spaced from the tongue and rigidly connected thereto through side bars **46**. The lower sling strap **28**, in the disclosed structure, has therein a series of punched openings **47** which are spaced longitudinally of the sling strap and which are selectively engageable with the fixed projecting tongue **43** of the buckle **42** to vary the position of the buckle longitudinally of the lower sling strap. Also, the shoulder sling extension **39** has one or more punched openings **48** therein which are selectively engageable with the tongue **43** of the buckle **42** for anchoring the end of the shoulder sling to the lower sling strap at a position which provides the desired balance

longitudinally of the bag. As depicted in Figs. 3, 4 and 5, the lower sling strap **28** and the end portion of the shoulder sling extension pass under the end bars **44** and **45** of the buckle **42** and over a central cross-bar **49** which carries the tongue **43**. Thus, when engaged with the tongue, the lower sling strap **28** and the shoulder sling extension **39** assumes positions such as those depicted in Figs. 1 and 3. When loosened for effecting an adjustment of the anchor position of the lower end of the shoulder sling, the straps are looped upwardly and disengaged from the tongue **43** as shown in Fig. 4.

From the foregoing description and references to the accompanying drawings it may be readily understood that I have provided a golf bag equipped with a shoulder sling structure which provides separate adjustments for both the length of the shoulder sling and for the selection of a desired longitudinal balance for the golf bag and its contents when carried by the shoulder sling. In the form illustrated, the means provided for effecting the longitudinal balance of the bag and its contents not only provide for a relatively wide range of variation, but is readily adjusted and is accomplished through the use of elements which do not add materially to the weight of the bag or complicate its construction or use.

It is understood that the foregoing description is merely illustrative of a preferred embodiment of the invention, and that the scope of the invention therefore is not to be limited thereto, but is to be determined by the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In a golf bag having an open top, a closed bottom and an elongated side wall structure equipped with top and bottom support attaching elements in aligned relationship longitudinally of the side wall structure, the combination comprising a middle support attaching element secured to the mid-portion of the side wall structure of the bag in substantially aligned relationship to the top and bottom support attaching elements, a lower sling having its ends secured to the bottom and middle support attaching elements and having a length such that it normally is free to bow outwardly away from the side wall structure of the bag, an upper shoulder sling having one end connected to the top support attaching element, and means for movably connecting the other end of the upper shoulder sling to the mid-portion of the lower sling so that the position of attachment of the upper shoulder sling to the lower sling can be varied longitudinally of the lower sling to effect a selection of the longitudinal balance of the bag when carried by the upper shoulder sling.

2. In a golf bag as defined in claim 1, the combination being further characterized by means separate from the means for movably connecting the other end of the upper shoulder sling to the lower sling for varying the effective length of the upper shoulder sling.

3. In a golf bag as defined in claim 1, said means for movably connecting the other end of the upper shoulder sling to the mid-portion of the lower sling comprising a buckle having a prong engageable in any one of a plurality of aligned apertures along the mid-portion of the lower sling and also engageable with an aperture in the lower end portion of the upper shoulder sling.

4. In a golf bag as defined in claim 1, said lower sling being of fixed length and permanently secured to the middle and bottom support attaching elements.

5. In a golf bag as defined in claim 1, said lower sling being of fixed length, and said upper shoulder sling being variable in length and having its said one end releasably attached to the top support attaching element.

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