Dec. 5, 1961 H. E. EINHORN 3,011,648

STAND AND DIVIDER FOR BOWLING BALL AND ACCESSORIES

Filed Oct. 14, 1960 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

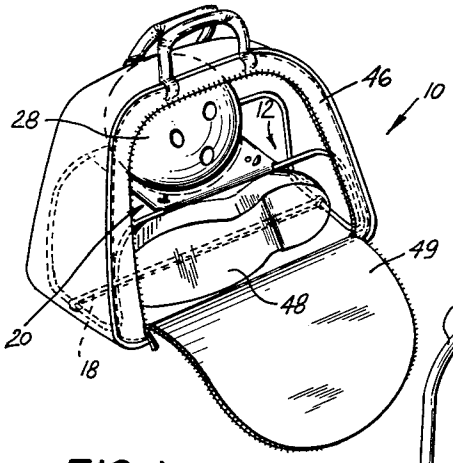


FIG. 1

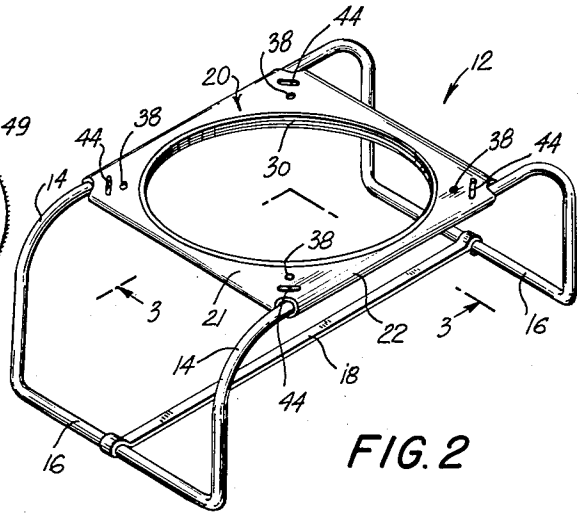


FIG. 2

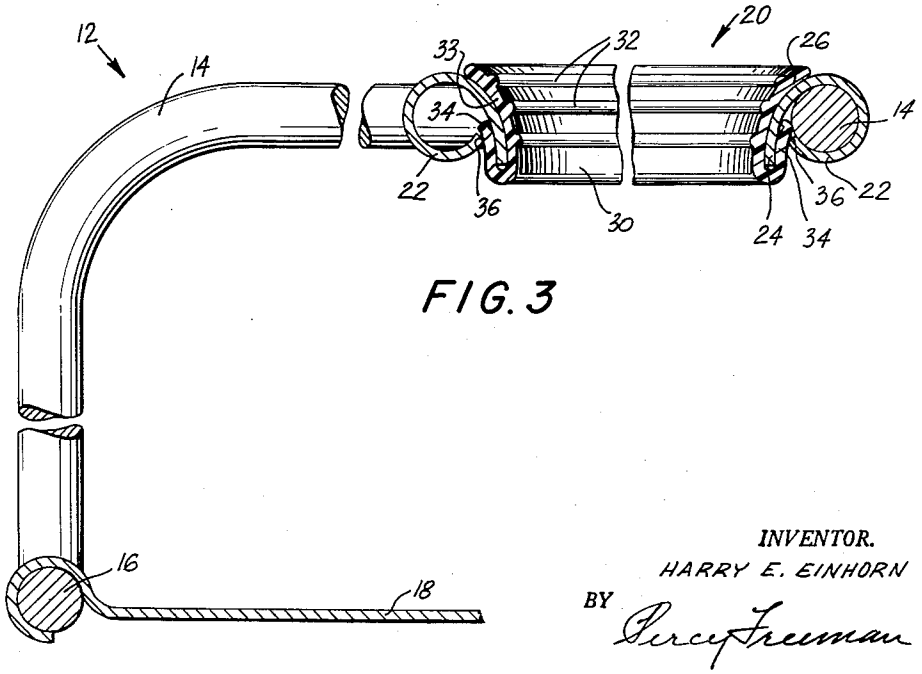


FIG. 3

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FIG. 4

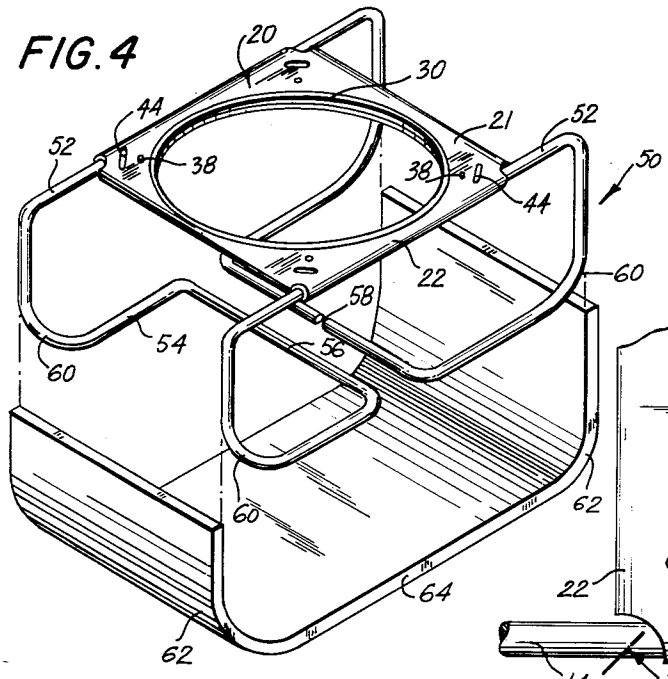


FIG. 6

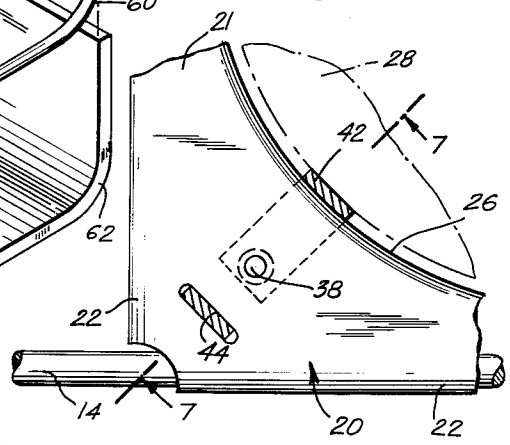
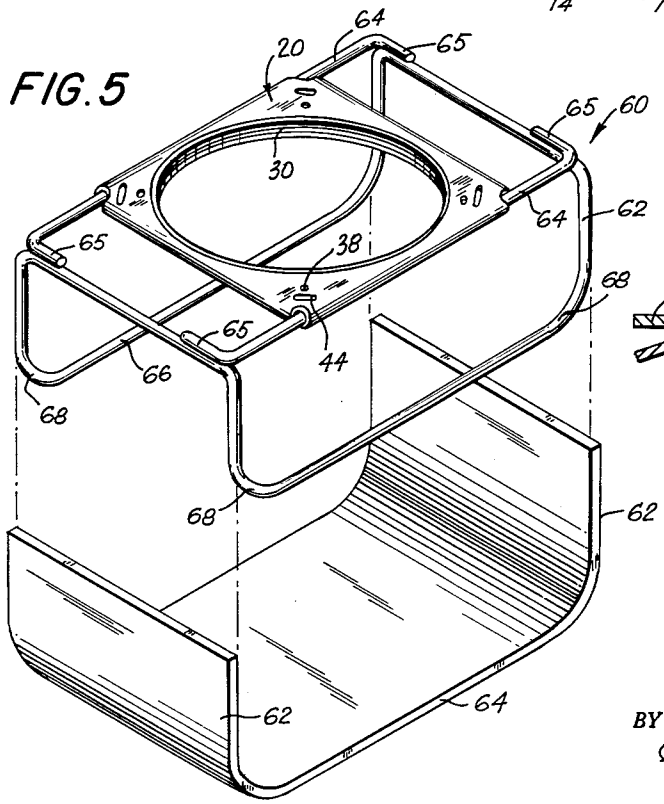


FIG. 5



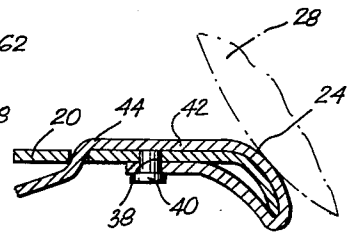


FIG. 7

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STAND AND DIVIDER FOR BOWLING BALL AND ACCESSORIES

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7 Claims. (Cl. 211—14)

This invention relates to handbags and, more particularly, to a frame for bowling accessories.

Various types of handbags have been designed for carrying bowling balls and shoes in a compact and convenient manner. In many instances, however, the bowling ball has been scuffed or otherwise damaged by contact with sharp objects either in the bag construction or adjacent accessories. It is, therefore, an object of the present invention to provide a bowling ball support frame for bowling accessory handbags which will allow for maximum room within the bag, and which will effectively prevent damage to the bowling ball supported thereupon.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a bowling equipment accessory bag having an interior frame which will effectively maintain the shape of the bag at all times, and which will allow for the side loading and emptying of the bowling ball and shoes in a simple and convenient manner.

Still an additional object of the present invention is to provide a bowling ball support frame for bowling accessory handbags having a ball supporting section safely covered by a resilient layer of material so as to prevent scratching, scuffing, and other damage to the surface of the bowling ball supported thereupon.

Still a further object of the present invention is to provide a bowling accessory handbag frame of the type described which can be readily fabricated in large quantities at a relatively low cost, and which will enhance the outward appearance and constructional features of the bowling bag formed therearound.

All of the foregoing and still further objects and advantages of this invention will become apparent from a study of the following specification, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, wherein:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a bowling accessory handbag having a skeletal framework made in accordance with one form of the present invention.

FIG. 2 is a perspective view of the frame shown in FIG. 1, removed from the bowling bag.

FIG. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary cross-sectional view taken along line 3—3 of FIG. 2.

FIG. 4 is an exploded perspective view of a slightly modified form of frame assembly.

FIG. 5 is a view similar to FIG. 4, of still another form of frame assembly made in accordance with the present invention.

FIG. 6 is an enlarged fragmentary plan view of certain parts of a skeletal framework made in accordance with the present invention, illustrating a different form of scuff-proof pad means for supporting a bowling ball upon the frame.

FIG. 7 is a fragmentary cross-sectional view taken along line 7—7 of FIG. 6.

Referring now to the drawing, and more particularly to FIGS. 1 and 2 thereof, a bowling accessory bag **10** is shown to be formed around a support **12** made in accordance with one form of the present invention.

The support unit **12** embodies a skeletal frame formed from wire rod, including a pair of side rails **14**, and a pair of depending legs **16** connected together in predetermined spaced apart relationship by means of a longitudinally extending tie bar **18**. Mounted centrally upon the side rails **14** of the frame is a rectangular mounting plate **21**

having marginal side portions **22** formed into tubular sections which add to the strength and rigidity thereof, and which further on at least one pair of sides, receive the side rails **14** of the skeletal frame. The central portion of the plate **21** is provided with a circular cutout formed by a downwardly turned circular flange **24** of arcuate cross-sectional configuration. This flange **24** defines a circular opening **26** having a diameter substantially less than the bowling ball **28** to be supported thereupon.

Pad means in the form of a flexible collar **30** of substantially U-shaped cross-sectional configuration, is provided with a pair of reentrant portions **33, 34** which receive the lower portions of the annular flange **24** therewithin. The radially inwardly facing side **33** of the collar is provided with a plurality of annular ridges **32** which yieldably receive the bowling ball thereupon with minimum surface contact. The outer one of the reentrant portions **34** is engaged by the tangentially disposed terminal portion **36** of the side rail receiving tubular members **22**, thus serving to clamp the collar in assembled relationship with the central opening or depressed area **26** of the plate **21**. The tubular sleeve portions **22** on all sides of the plate **21** clampingly engage a respective portion of the collar **30**, in the manner described, thus securely retaining the collar in proper position upon the plate **21**. This clamping action is provided for during the fabrication of the article following the assembly of the collar **30** with the plate portion **21**.

The bowling ball support plate **20** is also provided with alternate pad means for insulating the bowling ball from contact with the metallic surface of the plate **21**. Such alternate pad means includes an aperture **38** and slot **44** at each corner of the rectangular plate **21**. The aperture **30** receivers a rivet or similar fastener **40** for securing one end of a flexible strap **42** to the bottom surface of the plate **21**. The opposite end of the strap **42** is then wrapped around the depressed flange **42**, as shown in FIG. 7, and extended through the slot **44**. Thus, with straps assembled in this manner, the bowling ball **28** is insulated at four points from the support plate assembly **20**, and may be used as a replacement for the colar **20** whenever desired.

Reference is now made to FIG. 4 of the drawing, wherein a slightly modified form of skeletal framework **50** is shown to include a one-piece formed rod having a pair of side rails **52**. Inwardly directed and downwardly depending legs **54** are connected together by a laterally extending tie bar **56**, and the juncture between the legs **54** and side rails **52** defines a convex surface **60** for facilitating the molding and shaping of an accessory bag bottom plate **64** having upstanding sides **62**.

With reference to FIG. 5 of the drawing, a still further modified form of skeletal frame **60** is shown which, in a manner similar to that employed by the device shown in FIG. 4, facilitates the forming and assembling of a wood or similar material base panel **64**. This framework **60** includes a single formed wire frame having a pair of depending legs **62** and lower side rails **66** spaced therefrom by arcuate portions **68** which guide the sides **62** of the base panel **64** therearound during fabrication. A pair of side rails **64** are supported upon and secured to the upper extremities of the depending legs **62**, upon which the mounting plate is secured in the manner hereinbefore described. The terminal portions of the side rails **64** are provided with inwardly directed extensions **65** to facilitate the welding, brazing, or other type of securement.

With reference now to FIG. 1 of the drawing, it will be recognized that a support of the type illustrated in any one of the embodiments of the present invention, may be conveniently inserted within the handbag **46** during the fabrication thereof. In view of the open sides of the skeletal framework, the handbag **46** may be constructed so that both the ball and shoes **48** may be removed from

and inserted into the handbag **46** in the most convenient manner. A flap **49** may be used to close the handbag after it is emptied or filled, such as by use of a slide fastener, or the like.

Another feature of the present invention is that the frame can be easily removed from the handbag, so that the handbag may be used for other purposes whenever necessary. In view of the pinching action of the marginal portions of the depressed area of the mounting plate, the annular collar is secured in place upon the assembly at all times. Thus, an extremely compact, durable, and useful handbag has been provided for convenient use for all types of bowling purposes.

While this invention has been described with particular reference to the construction shown in the drawing, it is to be understood that such is not to be construed as imparting limitations upon the invention, which is best defined by the claims appended hereto.

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

1. For use in a handbag, a removable support comprising, in combination, a skeletal frame having a central portion and depending legs supporting said central portion above the level of said legs, a mounting plate secured upon said central portion of said frame, said mounting plate having a central depressed area for receiving a bowling ball thereupon, and pad means carried by said plate projecting into said depressed area and insulating said plate from a bowling ball supported thereupon, said frame including securement means integrally fastening said pad means to said plate.

2. For use in a handbag, a removable support as set forth in claim 1, wherein said plate comprises a circular downwardly turned and inwardly convex flange defining said depressed area.

3. For use in a handbag, a removable support as set forth in claim 2, wherein said pad means comprises a flexible collar of substantially U-shaped cross-sectional configuration having a pair of reentrant portions receiving said flange of said plate therebetween, one of said reentrant portions overlying the inwardly facing surface of said convex flange, and the other one of said reentrant portions extending at least partially over the opposite outwardly facing surface of said flange.

4. For use in a handbag, a removable support as set forth in claim 2, wherein said securement means comprises marginal portions of said plate defining sleeve members receiving portions of said frame therethrough, and the terminal edge of at least one of said sleeve members clampingly abutting said other one of said reentrant portions with said outwardly facing surface of said flange.

5. For use in a handbag, a removable support as set forth in claim 4, wherein said one reentrant portion of said collar includes a plurality of yieldable ridges for surface contact with a bowling ball.

6. For use in a handbag, a removable support as set forth in claim 2, wherein said pad means comprises a plurality of straps overlying at least part of the inside facing surface of said flange, and said fastening means securing said straps to said plate.

7. For use in a handbag, a removable support as set forth in claim 6, wherein said fastening means comprises a fastener securing one end of each strap to said plate, and said plate defining a slot adjacent to each said fastener slidably receiving the opposite end of said respective strap therethrough, and the intermediate portions of said straps overlying the flange.

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