April 8, 1924. 1,489,550

C. T. SHAFFER

GAME PIECE

Filed Nov. 21, 1922

Fig. 1.

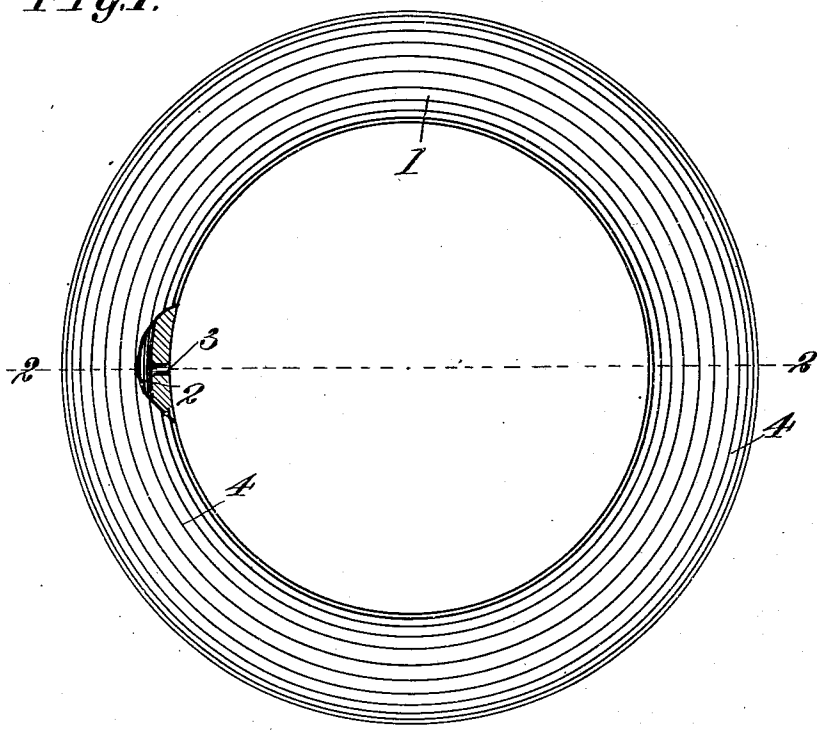
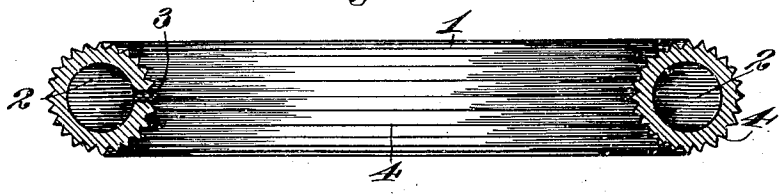


Fig. 2.



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Patented Apr. 8, 1924. 1,489,550

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLEVE T. SHAFFER, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

GAME PIECE.

Application filed November 21, 1922. Serial No. 602,348.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLEVE T. SHAFFER, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city and county of San Francisco and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game Pieces, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a game piece, particularly that type of game piece commonly known as a quoit, however, this game piece is adapted to be cast or thrown by one of two or more players in the playing of a game, and to be caught and returned by the other player if he deems it advisable to gain an advantage in the game by so doing.

Among the objects of the invention, are to provide a game piece adapted to be easily grasped by a player either in throwing or catching the same; one only sufficiently rigid to maintain it in extended form and of sufficient flexibility to yield and become dead on striking the turf or playing surface, and one provided with a roughened surface to facilitate the grasping thereof and to assist in the arresting of the sliding movement thereof in contacting with the turf or playing surface. Other objects will be understood from the following description, read in connection with the drawing forming a part of this application, and wherein—

Figure 1 is a view in plan of the preferred embodiment of my invention, with a portion of the wall thereof broken away, illustrating the aperture in the wall.

Figure 2 is a sectional view taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Referring to the views of the drawing, wherein like characters designate corresponding parts—1 indicates a ring, circular in plan, preferably molded, cast or otherwise formed of rubber or other material of sufficient body and mass to maintain a circular form and of sufficient resiliency to lie relatively dead when striking an object, such as a court or playing surface, reducing to a minimum the bouncing thereof.

The ring is circular in cross section and tubular in form, the central channel 2 communicating with the atmosphere through one or more orifices 3 formed in the inner peripheral surface of the wall of said ring 1. The orifice 3 relieves the compression of air within the channel 2 and assists in reducing the bouncing of the game piece when striking the turf or playing surface.

To facilitate the ready grasping of the quoit, either when throwing or catching the same, the outer surface thereof is suitably roughened, the form illustrated in the preferred embodiment being radially projecting annular ridges 4 which also assist in arresting the sliding movement of the quoit over the turf or court surface in alighting thereon.

The flexible resilient quoit provided with a roughened exterior surface enables the player to quickly grasp the same in imparting thereto various spinning movements to render more difficult the catching of the quoit by an opponent; this construction also enables an opponent without fear of injury to attempt to catch a difficult shot and also reduces the bouncing radius of the quoit should the same be permitted to strike the turf or playing surface.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to protect by Letters Patent of the United States is:—

1. A quoit, comprising a circular, hollow, semi-flexible self-sustaining rubber ring formed with an aperture in its wall communicating with the hollow interior thereof.

2. A hand game-piece adapted for use in connection with the playing of games, the same comprising a circular, hollow, semi-flexible self sustaining rubber body formed annularly with a roughened gripping surface and provided in its wall with an aperture affording a communication between the interior and the atmosphere.

3. A hand game-piece adapted for use in connection with the playing of games, the same comprising a self sustaining hollow rubber ring circular in plan and in cross section, the exterior of said ring being provided with longitudinally disposed ribs affording a gripping surface, and said ring being formed with a normally open aperture in its wall surface affording a communication between the interior and the atmosphere.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification.

CLEVE T. SHAFFER.