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(54) **ALL WEATHER PROTECTIVE, ADJUSTABLE AND REVERSIBLE SLIP OVER LACROSSE STICK HEAD COVER**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A lacrosse stick head cover is described comprising a bag open at one end made of waterproof material and having an interior and an exterior; a waterproof drawstring attached to the open end of the bag; a sliding and locking mechanism attached to the drawstring adapted to allow the drawstring to hold the open end of the bag closed; and a hanging mechanism attached to the exterior of the bag.

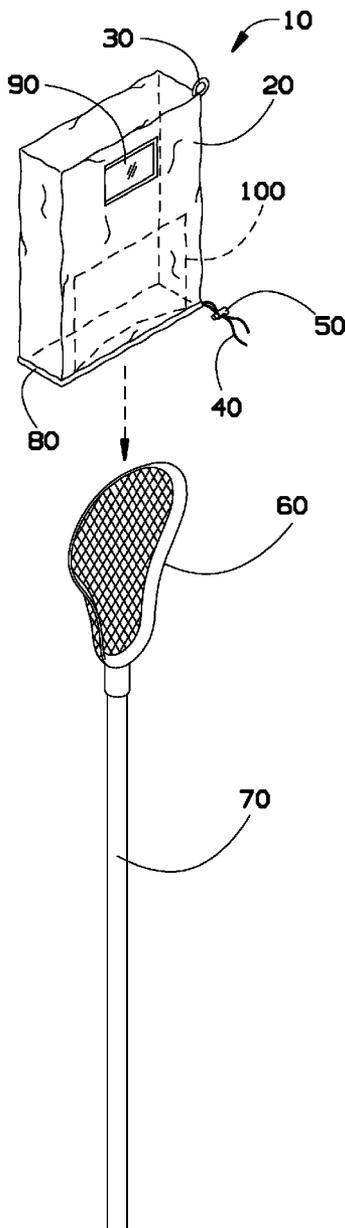
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Related U.S. Application Data

(60) **Provisional application No. 61/247,443, filed on Sep. 30, 2009.**



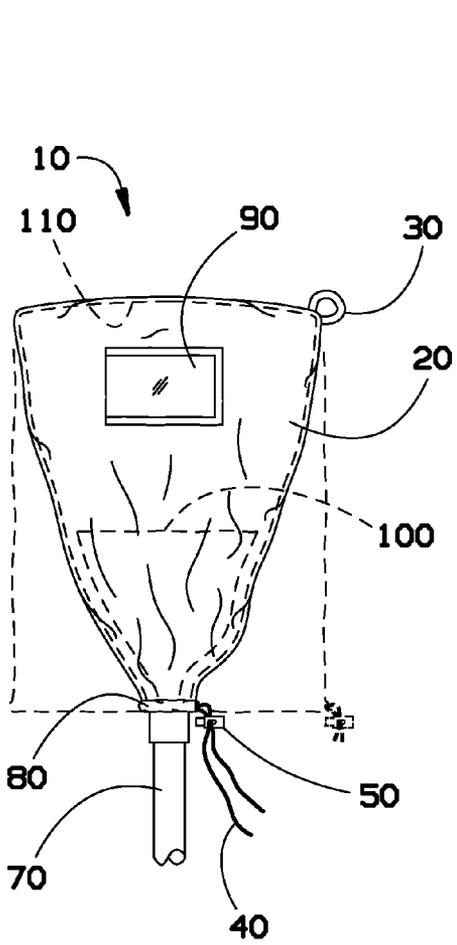


FIG. 1

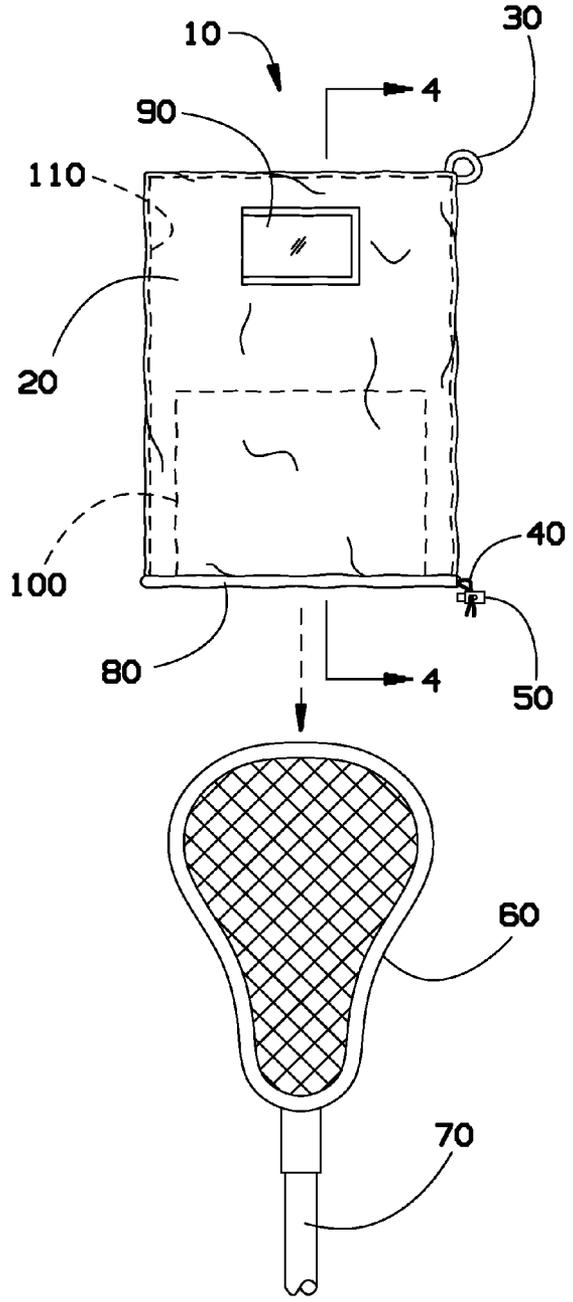


FIG. 2

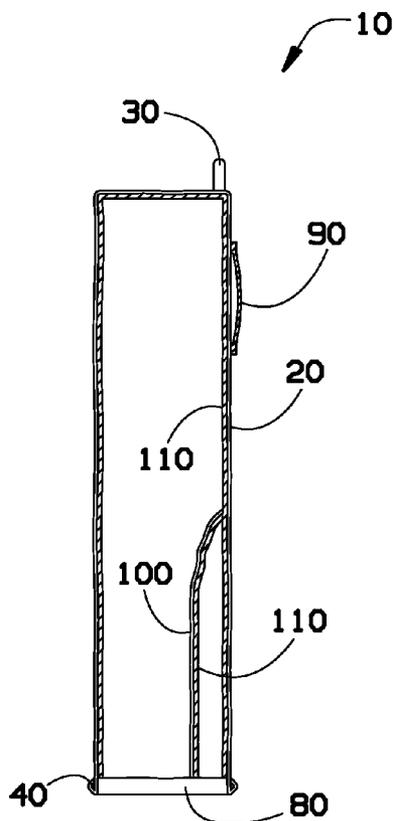


FIG. 4

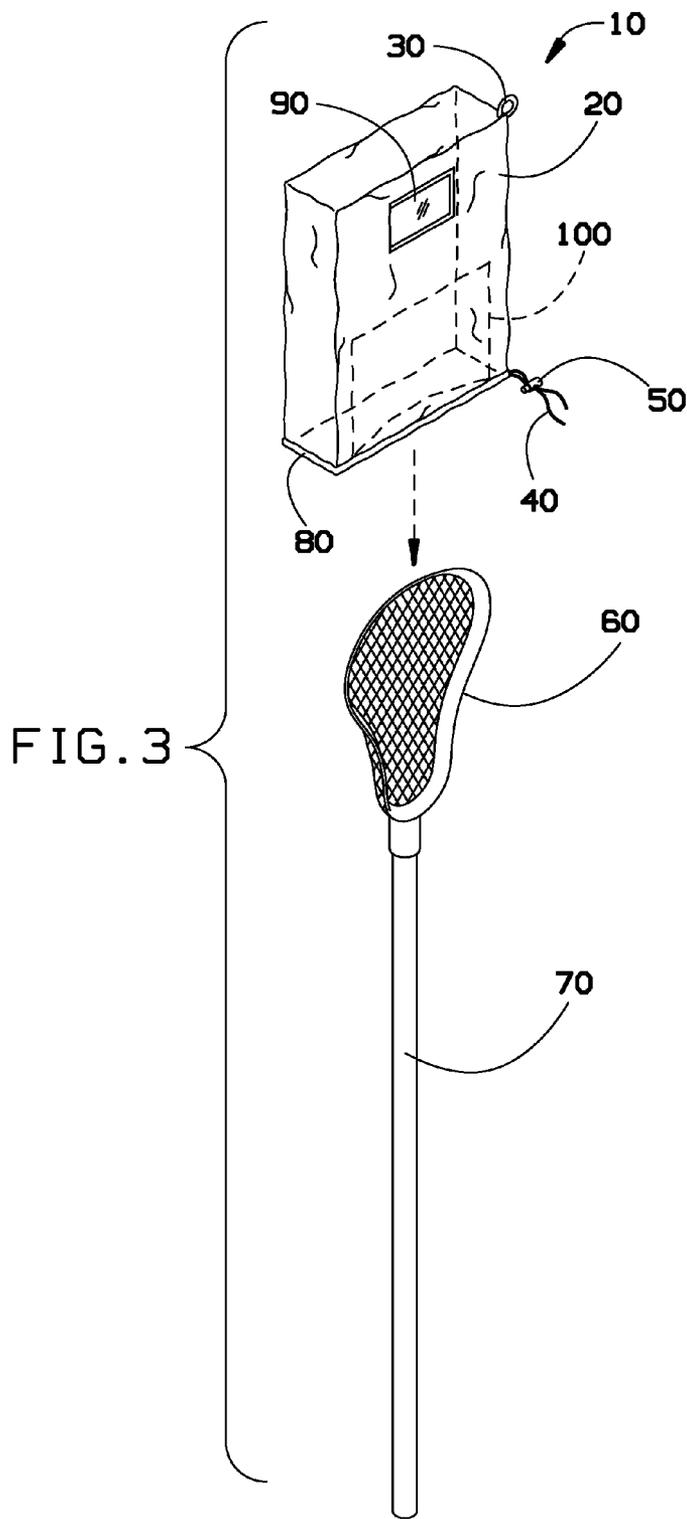


FIG. 3

**ALL WEATHER PROTECTIVE, ADJUSTABLE
AND REVERSIBLE SLIP OVER LACROSSE
STICK HEAD COVER**

RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] The present application claims benefit of priority from U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/247,443, filed Sep. 30, 2009, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The present invention generally relates to a protective lacrosse stick head cover accessory that slips over the head of the stick(s) only and is adjustable and reversible. During games and practice in outdoor lacrosse, players do not have a form of protection for their back-up sticks when exposed to inclement weather. These sticks, which typically are not used during the course of a game or practice, lay flat on the ground exposed to rain, snow, cold weather, and the like.

[0003] As can be seen, there is a need for a device to ensure the protection of the head of the stick and the components within it, from inclement weather and abuse.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0004] In one aspect of the present invention, a lacrosse stick head cover is described comprising a bag open at one end made of waterproof material and having an interior and an exterior; a waterproof drawstring attached to the open end of the bag; a sliding and locking mechanism attached to the drawstring adapted to allow the drawstring to hold the open end of the bag closed; and a hanging mechanism attached to the exterior of the bag.

[0005] In another aspect of the present invention, a method of protecting a head of a lacrosse stick from damage during storage is described comprising providing a waterproof bag with one open end having a drawstring encircling the open end of the bag and a sliding and locking mechanism attached to the drawstring; slipping the open end of the bag over the head of the lacrosse stick; pulling the drawstring to close the open end of the bag securely against a shaft of the lacrosse stick; and securing the sliding and locking mechanism attached to the drawstring to hold the bag closed; thus protecting the head of the lacrosse stick from damage.

[0006] These and other features, aspects and advantages of the present invention will become better understood with reference to the following drawings, description and claims.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0007] FIG. 1 illustrates an exemplary embodiment of the device in place on a lacrosse stick head; a broken line shows the position of the device before closing with the drawstring;

[0008] FIG. 2 illustrates a front view of an exemplary embodiment of the device according to FIG. 1 in the open position, and also shows a lacrosse stick head ready to be covered with the exemplary embodiment of the device;

[0009] FIG. 3 illustrates a perspective view of an exemplary embodiment of the device according to FIG. 1 in the open position, and also shows a lacrosse stick ready to be covered with the exemplary embodiment of the device, and

[0010] FIG. 4 illustrates a sectional view taken along line 4-4 in FIG. 1 of an exemplary embodiment of the device.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0011] The following detailed description is of the best currently contemplated modes of carrying out exemplary embodiments of the invention. The description is not to be taken in a limiting sense, but is made merely for the purpose of illustrating the general principles of the invention, since the scope of the invention is best defined by the appended claims.

[0012] Various inventive features are described below that can each be used independently of one another or in combination with other features.

[0013] Broadly, embodiments of the present invention generally provide slip over, adjustable and reversible protective covers to serve as a lacrosse stick head accessory and designed to protect one or more lacrosse stick heads from weather exposure and physical damage.

[0014] This cover can protect the head of the stick only so that the elements can not negatively affect the components within the head of the stick such as mesh, leather, and stringing. The instant waterproof cover can slip over the head only of the lacrosse stick (not the shaft) and protect it from inclement weather and cold temperatures. Furthermore, it is quick and easy to put on and take off, making it useful during games when the cover needs to be removed quickly.

[0015] An exemplary embodiment of the device is shown in FIGS. 1-3. The device **10** comprises a bag **20** composed of material that is waterproof, provides insulation, and resists abrasion, with all the stitching inside the bag **20** and not exposed. Exemplary dimensions for covering a short stick head **60** can be rectangular in shape about 8 inches wide by 13 inches long. Exemplary dimensions for the larger goalie sticks can be about 14.5 inches wide by 20 inches long. Both bags can have a depth between the walls of the bag **20** of about 2.5 inches to 3 inches. Attached to the bag **20** on the inside and within the bag **20**, so it acts as one solid piece, is a padded and insulated material **110** to help insulate the bag **20** as well as protect the head **60** of the stick **70** from damage. A variety of suitable materials and fabrics are known in the art. A hanging mechanism **30** such as a hook or loop can be attached to the bag **20** to allow the device to be easily hung up. The open end of the bag **20** can be encircled by an integral waterproof drawstring **40**. The drawstring **40** can be contained within a reinforced channel **80** at the open end of the bag **20**. Attached to the drawstring **40** can be a sliding and locking mechanism **50** to assist in opening and closing the cover and securing it tightly to the shaft of the stick **70**. When pulled tight and locked in place, the bag **20** can be held firmly to the shaft of the stick **70** (see FIG. 1) so elements can not enter the bag **20**, as well as keeping the bag **20** firmly in place and unable to fall off.

[0016] In an alternative embodiment, a two-drawstring system may be implemented where the two drawstrings can be pulled from opposite sides of the open end of the bag. In another alternative embodiment, a hook and loop fastener system such as a VELCRO® strap can be combined with the drawstring system, or used by itself, but VELCRO® may not perform optimally in inclement weather. The device may also be expanded to a larger cover so that multiple sticks may be covered within one bag. An optional element may be an insulated pouch **100** within the bag to facilitate storage of small items or insertion of a heat pad to control the interior temperature during cold weather.

[0017] When considering on-the-field needs when outdoors, this device can function with the following exemplary elements. The device can function as an integrated piece and can be waterproof and insulated to protect against inclement weather and cold temperatures. The waterproof, insulated and damage-resistant cover is important for protection when

outdoors. Additionally, the cover can comprise parts and pieces that do not easily break or jam in inclement weather. The re-enforced material for holding the drawstring securely around the base of the bag, the waterproof drawstring and the sliding and locking mechanism are important elements. This device ensures that players are provided with a cover that is easy to use, does not consist of parts and pieces that easily break or jam, as well as securing the device tightly to the head of the stick so elements cannot enter the cover, the cover cannot fall off as well as allowing the player to take the cover on and off quickly during games. Players often have a secondary or back-up stick in addition to the one being actively used in a game.

[0018] In order to use the device, disengage the locking mechanism and pull the drawstring so that the opening of the bag is expanded to its maximum width. Slip the bag over the head of the stick only so that the head is completely protected and not visible. When the bag is applied, hold the drawstring and gather the open end of the cover towards the shaft of the stick at the base of the head of the stick (where the head joins the shaft). Slide the locking mechanism on the drawstring toward the shaft of the stick and lock the cover in place so it is held securely against the shaft of the stick. When complete, the head of the lacrosse stick is completely covered and protected and the cover is securely held in place against the stick shaft at the base of the cover so elements cannot enter the cover, and the cover cannot fall off.

[0019] This instant invention can be used in multiple ways. Players can use the instant invention as an on-the-field cover to protect their sticks in inclement weather. Players can also use this cover when traveling for protection against abuse under buses, planes, and the like. Additionally, the cover can be used as a bag to hold wallets, keys, and the like. The device can optionally come with a see-through pouch **90** on the exterior allowing users to insert personal identity items for easier recognition of property. The bag can also be reversible.

[0020] It should be understood, of course, that the foregoing relates to exemplary embodiments of the invention and that modifications may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the following claims.

We claim:

- 1.** A lacrosse stick head cover comprising:
 - a bag open at one end, made of waterproof material, and having an interior and an exterior, where the bag is adapted to fit over the lacrosse stick head;
 - a waterproof drawstring attached to an open end of the bag;

a sliding and locking mechanism attached to the drawstring adapted to allow the drawstring to gather the open end of the bag and secure the bag to a shaft of a lacrosse stick; and

a hanging mechanism attached to the exterior of the bag.

2. The lacrosse stick head cover of claim **1** further comprising a layer of insulating material attached to the interior of the bag.

3. The lacrosse stick head cover of claim **1** wherein the drawstring is contained within a reinforced channel of material at the open end of the bag.

4. The lacrosse stick head cover of claim **1** wherein the bag comprises a box shape of 8 inches wide, 13 inches long, and 2.5 inches deep.

5. The lacrosse stick head cover of claim **1** wherein the bag comprises a box shape of 14.5 inches wide, 20 inches long, and 3 inches deep.

6. The lacrosse stick head cover of claim **1** wherein the bag is of a size sufficient to contain a plurality of lacrosse stick heads.

7. The lacrosse stick head cover of claim **1** further comprising a see-through pouch attached to the exterior of the bag.

8. The lacrosse stick head cover of claim **1** further comprising an insulated pouch within the bag for storage of small items.

9. A method of protecting a head of a lacrosse stick from damage during storage comprising:

providing a waterproof bag with one open end having a drawstring encircling the open end of the bag and a sliding and locking mechanism attached to the drawstring;

slipping the open end of the bag over the head of the lacrosse stick;

pulling the drawstring to gather the open end of the bag against a shaft of the lacrosse stick; and

securing the sliding and locking mechanism attached to the drawstring to hold the bag securely against the shaft of the lacrosse stick;

whereby the head of the lacrosse stick is protected from damage.

10. The method of claim **9** where the bag is used to protect the head of a secondary lacrosse stick during a game.

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