Jan. 21, 1969 W. H. COX 3,423,095

GOLFING AID

Filed Oct. 22, 1965

FIG. 1.

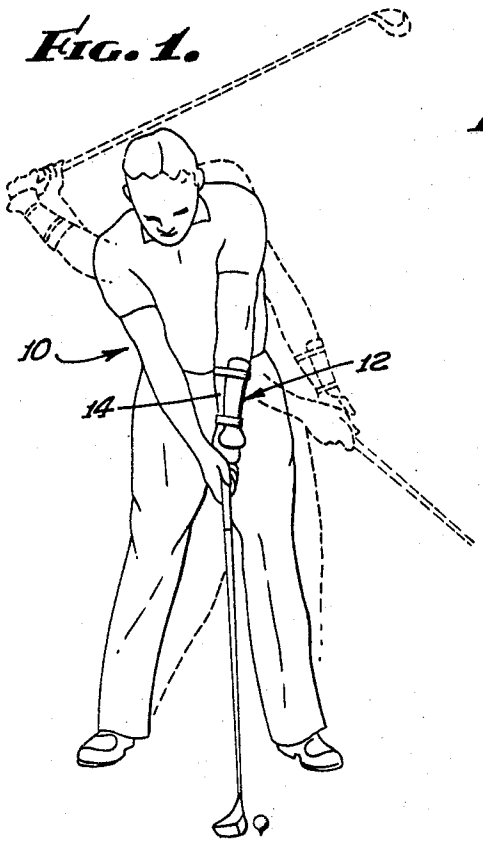


FIG. 3.

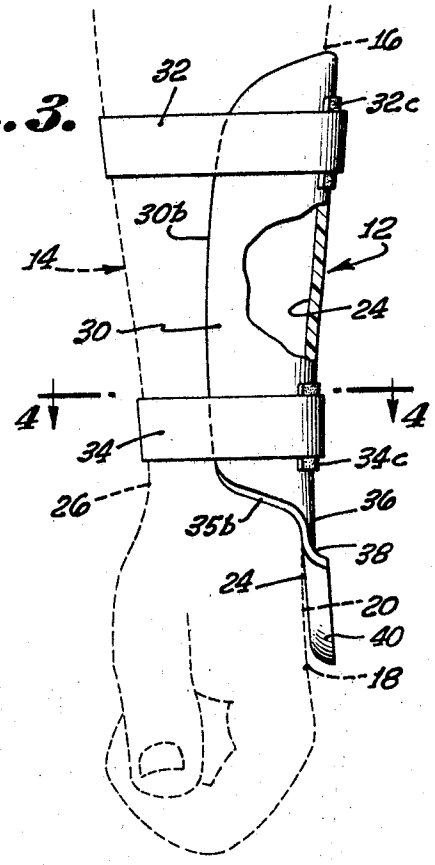


FIG. 2.

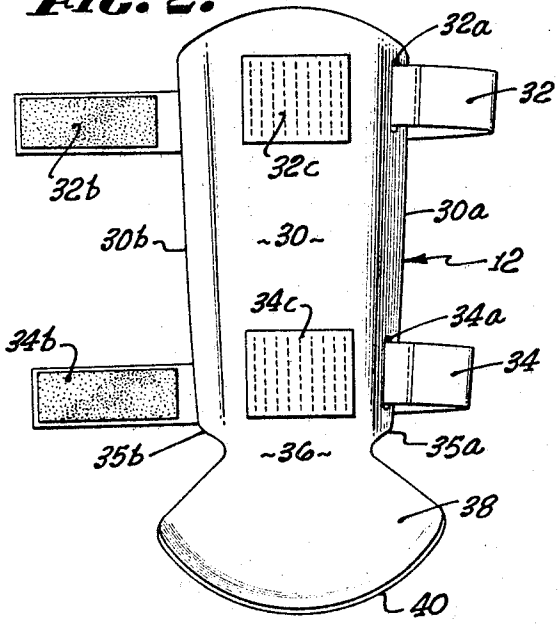
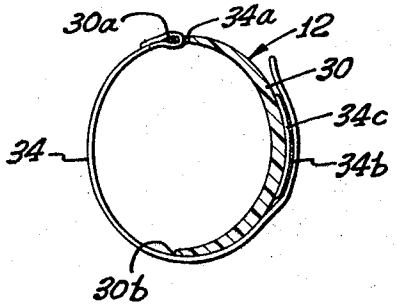


FIG. 4.



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GOLFING AID

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An elongated transversely arcuate rigid sheet portion is secureable to a golfer's forearm and includes a rigid planar fan-shaped portion which spans the back of a golfer's hand to prevent the backward collapse of a golfer's wrist while excuting a golf swing.

This invention relates to a supporting device adapted to help golfers develop a proper swing and more particularly to prevent a player from backwardly breaking or collapsing his wrist during the swing.

Many golfers develop improper swings which cause a driven golf ball to hook or slice rather than take flight in a direct line. One of the most common reasons for such a defective swing is caused by the backward collapsing of the left wrist (on a right-handed player). When this happens, the swing alignment is not straight forward, and a ball driven by such a swing will tend to slice, hook, or fall short of where desired. Attempts to correct such a defective swing prior to this invention have been unsatisfactory.

Therefore, it is a primary object of this invention to provide a golfing aid that will prevent the backward breaking of a golfer's wrist, yet not interfere with other movement of his wrist, so as to develop a swing where the driving power is applied in a direct line in the direction of flight that the golf ball is intended to take.

Another object is to provide a golfing aid which assists a golf player to develop muscle memory by preventing backward flexing of his wrist during the swing, so that after sufficient practice the aid may be removed and the proper "stiff position" induced thereby will remain.

A further object is to provide a golfing aid adapted to prevent backward flexing of a player's wrist of the type which comprises a longitudinally rigid member which can be tightly secured in position around a player's forearm, and extends to the back of his hand to restrain backward flexing thereof, and guide lateral flexing of the wrist so as to produce a smooth rolling movement.

Other objects and advantages will become apparent from the following description and accompanying drawings.

In the drawings:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of a golfer using the subject golfing aid showing several different positions the player assumes during his swing in dotted lines;

FIGURE 2 is a top plan view of the golfing aid;

FIGURE 3 is a side elevational, partly fragmented, view of the golfing aid secured in position on a player's forearm, with his left arm and hand shown in dotted lines; and

FIGURE 4 is a cross sectional view of the golfing aid taken through lines 4—4 in FIGURE 3.

Referring to the drawings, a right-handed golfer **10** is wearing a golfing aid **12**, in accordance with this invention, secured to his left forearm **14**. (If the golfer is left-handed, he would wear the golfing aid on his right forearm.)

The golfing aid **12** is an elongated structure adapted to extend from a point **16** on a golfer's forearm **14**, to a point **18** midway down the back of his hand **20**. Golfing aid **12** is made of a longitudinally rigid material which, for example, may be plastic. The inner surface **24** of the

golfing aid **12** substantially conforms longitudinally to the upper surface of the player's forearm **14**, wrist **26**, and the back of his hand **20**, when his arm is in relaxed position hanging down along the side of his body. Thus, as best viewed in FIGURE 3, the longitudinal center line of the golfing aid **12** extends down forearm **14**, by the wrist **26**, and down the back of the player's hand **20**.

Golfing aid **12** is comprised of a sleeve portion **30** which curves laterally down toward each of its side marginal edges **30***a* and **30***b*, so as to substantially conform to the lateral curvature of a player's forearm **14** and is arcuate in cross-section. The side marginal edges **30***a* and **30***b* preferably extend around the sides of a golfer's forearm **14**, from the point **16** on his forearm **14** to about his wrist **26**, so that golfing aid **12** can be firmly secured in position.

In order to secure the golfing aid **12** to a forearm **14**, straps **32** and **34** are attached near marginal edge **30***a* to sleeve portion **30**, through slots **32***a* and **34***a*, respectively. The straps **32** and **34** are then wrapped around forearm **14** and, by means of detachable connecting portions **32***b* and **34***b* near the free end of each strap, are secured to complementary connecting patches **32***c* and **34***c*, respectively, on the top of sleeve portion **30**. Though other strap securing means can be used, complementary detachable connections comprised of one portion having a plurality of small fiber hooks engageable in a complementary patch comprised of a porous pad of fibrous material, an example of which is known by the trademark Velcro, are preferred.

Preferably, sleeve portion **30** tapers laterally from its longitudinal center around toward each of its side marginal edges **30***a* and **30***b*, as best seen in FIGURE 4. Thus, if it is made of a sufficiently resilient material, it can flex laterally when straps **34** and **36** are tightened so that it is urged to conform to forearms of different persons, and be held tightly in position. At the same time, sufficient longitudinal rigidity must be retained to provide the support needed in accordance with this invention.

Sleeve portion **30** of golfing aid **12** slopes sharply inwardly at **35***a* and **35***b* to a reduced neck portion **36** near a player's wrist **26**, and then flares out to a hand or fan-shaped portion or brace **38** having a generally flat planar surface adjacent to the back of a player's hand **20**. The terminal end **40** of the fan-shaped portion **38** is curved and curls upwardly. Thus, a broad, curved surface is provided on the end of the golfing aid **12**, adapted to bear against the back of a player's hand **20**, so that smooth, rolling lateral wrist flexure is facilitated while, at the same time, backward bending of the wrist is blocked and eliminated. With the upwardly curved end **40**, it will be seen that the player's hand **20** will not be injured as the wrist flexes backwardly or rolls when it engages the fan-shaped portion **38**.

It is preferable that the fan extend across the width of a player's hand so that the surface of content will be great enough to act as a stop. If the hand portion is too narrow, a player's hand could collapse around the brace and roll backwards, creating additional golfing faults.

Thus, a golfing aid in accordance with this invention provides a comfortable support which is secured firmly in place and will not be moved from operative position or injure a golf player when used, but will smoothly guide lateral wrist flexure and eliminate backward collapsing of the wrist during his swing.

While the particular golfing aid herein shown and described in detail is fully capable of attaining the objects and providing the advantages hereinbefore mentioned, it is to be understood that it is merely illustrative of the presently preferred embodiments of the invention, and that no limitations are intended to the details of construction or design herein shown other than as defined in the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A golf aid for preventing the backward collapse of

a golfer's wrist during a golf swing, comprising: an elongated first rigid sheet portion having first and second ends, longitudinally extending side edges and a length such that, when attached to a golfer, said first end terminates at a point on the golfer's forearm above the wrist and said second end terminates at a point on the wrist, the lateral dimension of said first sheet portion curving upwardly from one side edge and then downwardly to the other side edge so as to define a lateral curvature conforming to the lateral curvature of a golfer's forearm, a second substantially planar elongated rigid sheet portion integrally secured to a central part of said second end of said first sheet portion, the juncture of said first and second sheet portions defining a connection area, the width of said connection area being substantially less than the width of said first sheet portion, said second sheet portion having an outwardly facing end edge and two side edges, said side edges of said second sheet portion diverging outwardly from said connection area to said outwardly facing end edge, said outwardly facing end edge curving outwardly from one of said side edges of said second sheet portion and then inwardly to the other side edge of said second portion so as to form an outwardly rounded edge, said outwardly facing end edge including along the length thereof an upwardly extending lip curved so as to prevent injury to the back of

a golfer's hand, the length of said second sheet portion being such as to extend from the wrist of said golfer to a point midway along the back of said golfer's hand, the width of the outward end of said second sheet portion being such as to extend across the width of the back of a golfer's hand, and means for releasably securing said first sheet portion to a golfer's forearm.

2. An aid as defined in claim **1**, wherein the first sheet portion is laterally resilient so as to adjustably conform to the forearm.

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128—133; 273—54