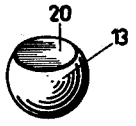
Oct. 8, 1963 G. BIBANOFF 3,106,399

PLAYING PIECES FOR BALL GAMES

Filed Oct. 23, 1961

Fig. 2



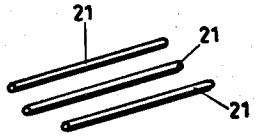


Fig. 3

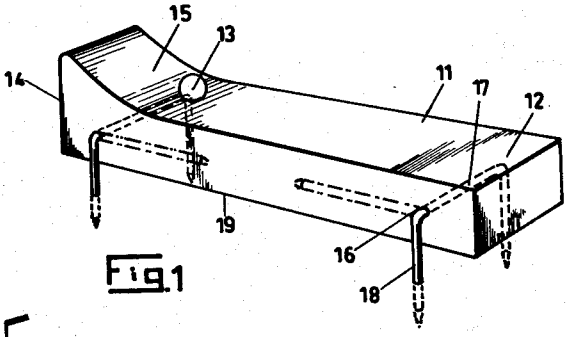


Fig. 1

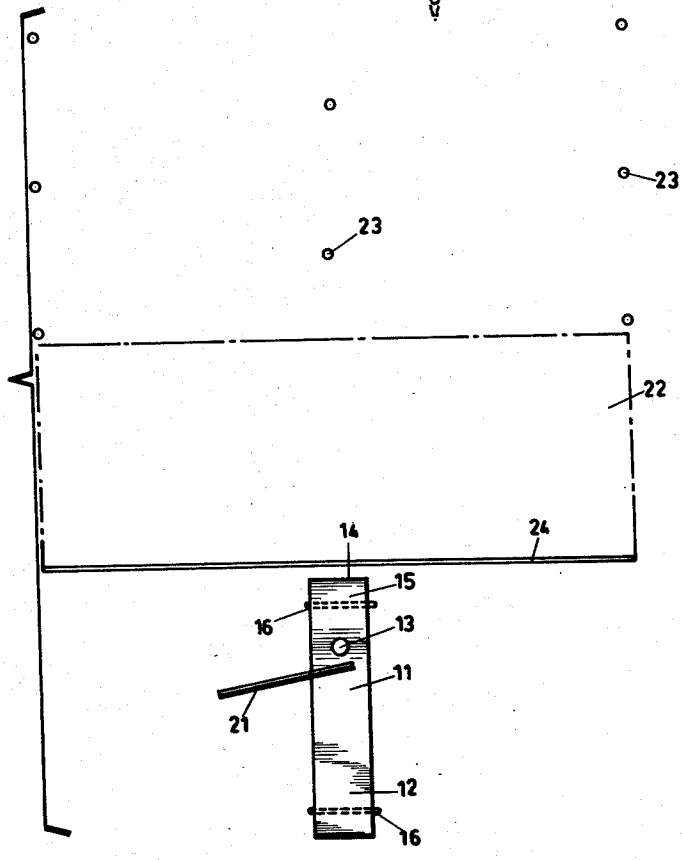


Fig. 4

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PLAYING PIECES FOR BALL GAMES

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This invention relates to sporting equipment and more particularly to playing pieces for ball games.

A primary object of the invention is not to improve over existing ball games but to provide playing pieces for a novel type of ball game, a suggested set of rules for which will be hereinafter included.

Another object of this invention is to provide playing pieces which are easily portable.

A further object of the present invention is to provide playing pieces, the base plate for which may be quickly and easily located in any convenient patch of ground deemed suitable as a playing area.

Still another object of the invention is to provide playing pieces for a ball game requiring more skill and dexterity than strength to play therewith.

These and other objects and features of this invention will become apparent when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a base plate provided with the present invention, showing a ball located thereon.

FIG. 2 is a perspective view of the ball utilized in cooperation with the base plate illustrated in FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 shows a plurality of sticks utilized to strike the ball illustrated in FIG. 2.

FIG. 4 is a plan view of the playing pieces shown in FIGS. 1, 2 and 3, together with one suggested layout of a playing area for a game utilizing the aforementioned pieces.

Referring to FIG. 1, a base plate **11** of substantially elongated, parallelepiped configuration, having a long, narrow, upper surface **12** is adapted to support a ball **13** thereon. The forward end **14** of base plate or member **11** extends upwardly, causing the forward end of upper surface **12** to incline upwardly to form a ball deflecting surface **15**.

Base plate **11** is securely located in position by anchoring means comprising a plurality of U-shaped stakes **16**, each having a horizontal bar **17** extending transversely through plate **11**, each end of bar **17** terminating in a substantially right angled spike **18**. Spikes **18** are adapted to extend substantially beyond the lower surface **19** of plate **11** and to be driven into the ground to provide the required anchoring means for plate **11**. It is also possible to swing spikes **18** through an arc of substantially 90° when not required for use in order to facilitate transportation of base plate **11**, this portion being shown in phantom in FIG. 1.

Ball **13** as further illustrated in FIG. 2 is substantially spherical, having a segment thereof removed to form a flat, plane surface **20**, thus enabling it to be placed and remain in the selected position upon upper surface **12** of base plate **11**.

FIG. 3 illustrates a plurality of sticks **21** of substantially solid, cylindrical configuration utilized in conjunction with base plate **11** and ball **13** for the playing of a game therewith.

By way of illustration but not of limitation, FIG. 4 exemplifies how the foregoing equipment may be used to play a game, and arbitrary rules of play are given to illustrate in a practical manner a method of playing therewith.

Base plate **11** is firmly anchored to the ground by stakes **16** and ball **13** placed on upper surface **12** thereof, the flat portion **20** of ball **13** permitting it to be located adjacent the lower end of deflecting surface **15**. A player may then hurl a stick **21** from a distant rearward area and attempt to strike ball **13**. Upon successfully making contact with ball **13**, both stick **21** and ball **13** will be caused to move up deflecting surface **15** and thus fly arcuately over the forward playing area. Ball **13**, due to its having absorbed a large amount of the kinetic energy of stick **21** and also due to its general configuration, will fly farther and faster than stick **21**, the latter dropping within an area **22** defined by broken lines in FIG. 4. The players **23** of the opposing side are stationed outside area **22** and their main objective is to catch ball **13** and thereby catch out the player at bat. The objective of the player at bat is to run forward into area **22** and retrieve stick **21** before he can be struck by ball **13**, thrown by any player **23** and thereby score a point.

A base line **24** of area **22** defines the batter safety zone. Each batter may have three sticks **21** with which to attempt to hit ball **13** and should he be unsuccessful on the first or first and second attempts he may retrieve all the sticks **21** lying in area **22** and thereby score additional points. He may also retrieve any sticks **21** left in area **22** by preceding batters in order to score additional points. The conventional rule of three players out to retire the side may also be applied in order to speed up the game.

It may be seen, therefore, that a large amount of skill and dexterity is required to play a game with the equipment herein described, and each player at bat has the opportunity to recoup losses sustained by previous batters. Furthermore, the equipment is simple and easily portable and only a minimum amount of portective clothing is required.

The general design of the idividual parts of the invention as explained above may be varied according to requirements in regards to manufacture and production thereof, while still remaining within the spirit and principle of the invention, without prejudicing the novelty thereof.

The embodiments of this invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

A plurality of playing pieces for ball games including a base member; a ball adapted to rest one said base member; and a plurality of sticks to be utilized in dislodging said ball from said base member; said base member being of substantially parallelepiped configuration having a raised forward end and an upper surface in a substantially horizontal plane for the majority of its length; said upper surface sloping upwardly and forwardly at the forward end thereof to form a deflecting surface; and means for the anchoring of said base member to the ground; said ball being substantially spherical and flattened over a minor segment thereof.

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