Oct. 25, 1955 W. H. WALNER 2,721,755

RETRIEVING RAKE FOR GOLF BALLS

Original Filed Aug. 8, 1948

FIG 1

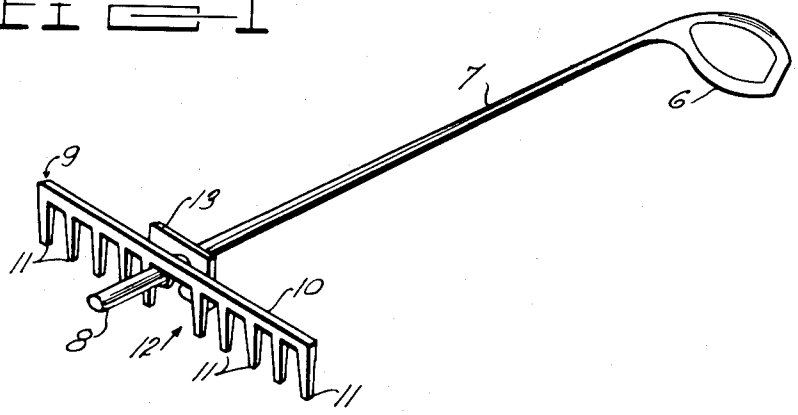


FIG 2

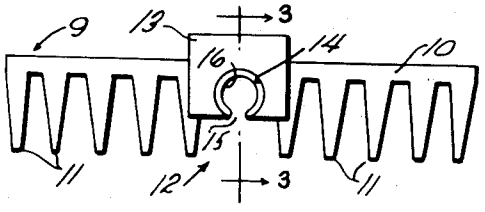


FIG 3

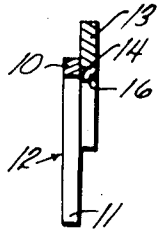


FIG 5

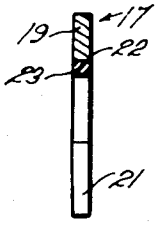
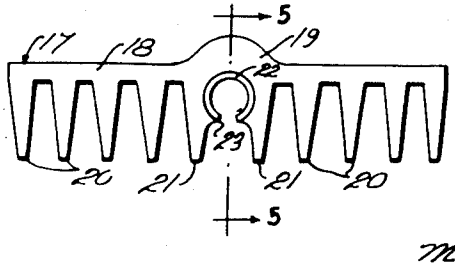


FIG 4



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RETRIEVING RAKE FOR GOLF BALLS

William H. Walner, Norfolk, Va.

Substituted for abandoned application Serial No. 42,293, August 3, 1948. This application December 3, 1954, Serial No. 472,986

2 Claims. (Cl. 294—19)

This invention relates to golf ball retrievers, and particularly to a special type of rake for retrieving golf balls.

The main object of my invention is to provide a retrieving device for golf balls in the form of an attachment to the shaft of a golf club.

Another object is to provide a detachable golf ball retrieving rake head adapted to be conveniently applied to and removed from the handle end of a golf club shaft.

A further object is to convert a golf club into a retrieving rake for recovering golf balls from rough terrain, water or irregular and more or less inaccessible places.

It is also an object to have such a ball retrieving rake attachment which is simple in form and readily manufactured at reasonable cost.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear in further detail as the specification proceeds.

In order to facilitate ready comprehension of this invention for a proper appreciation of the salient features thereof, the invention is illustrated on the accompanying drawing forming part hereof, and in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a golf club with a golf ball retrieving rake applied thereto according to the invention;

Figure 2 is a front elevation of the retrieving rake head alone;

Figure 3 is a vertical section taken on line 3—3 of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a modification of the ball retrieving rake head as shown in Figure 2;

Figure 5 is a vertical section taken on line 5—5 of Figure 4.

In the views the same reference numerals indicate the same or like parts.

Among golfers it is frequently a recurring problem to retrieve a golf ball that has dropped into the rough terrain or water, or into more or less inaccessible places. In water and muddy terrain, certain difficulty is obviously encountered in the attempt to recover the lost ball, and even in the rough careful searching will often fail to disclose the ball. It has, therefore, occurred to me that if a ball retrieving device should partake of the nature of a rake, the ball would easily be recovered even in rough scrub or grass which otherwise could be scoured in vain inasmuch as such a device readily covers a sizeable territory in relatively few strokes.

After duly considering this problem, I have succeeded in producing a rake head for retrieving golf balls and adapted to be applied to a golf club, as will now be particularly described.

Hence, in the practice of my invention, and referring again to the drawing, the golf club **6** has a tapered shaft **7** terminating at the upper end in the handle portion **8** and as a whole, being more or less conventional in form. A rake head, generally indicated at **9**, primarily includes an elongated bar **10** having a series of depending spaced teeth **11**, **11** integral therewith, there being a space provided for clearance in the intermediate portion of the rake head at **12**, while upon the rear of the elongated bar **10**

and the upper portions of the two teeth **11** disposed at either side of the central clearance space **12** is riveted, brazed or welded a rigid plate-like block **13** having a downwardly open circular aperture **14** in the lower portion thereof with the bottom opening **15** a sufficient width to pass the narrowest lower portion of shaft **7** therethrough in order to straddle the block **13** on the shaft. Preferably, the interior of the opening **14** is lined with rubber or other soft or resilient lining **16** in order to compensate for differences in the sizes of the handle portions of the several different clubs usually carried in a golf bag thereby to render the rake attachment suitable for use on any one of the several clubs and to avoid damaging the shaft **7** or the handle **8**, while also contributing to the frictional grip of the block **13** upon the handle when the head **9** with its block **13** is slid up along the shaft to the handle portion and wedged thereon, due to the fact that the handle portion is the widest or greater in diameter over the rest of the shaft **7**. Lining **16** is preferably cemented in place.

When the rake head **9** is frictionally held in its wedged position on the upper handle end **8** of the shaft **7** of the club **6**, it is evident that the shaft may be used as a handle by which to run the teeth **11**, **11** through the grass or scrub, or even the water, wherein the lost ball is to be retrieved.

It is evident that a separate wedging block **13** is not necessarily attached to the rake head **9**, but the latter may instead be formed in such fashion as to have the handle wedging portion integral therewith, as particularly shown in the modification of Figures 4 and 5. In this form, the rake head **17** includes an elongated upper rigid plate-like frame member **18** having an upwardly arched intermediate portion **19** with a series of spaced teeth **20**, **20** depending integrally down from the frame **18** on either side of the upwardly arched central portion **19**. The two middle teeth **21**, **21** at their lower ends are spaced a useful distance apart, and between these teeth immediately below the upper arched portion **19** is an arcuate opening **22** lined with rubber, felt, leather or other soft lining **23** for engaging upon the handle **8** of golf club shaft **7**, as already described in connection with the clamping or wedging block **13** and its arcuate aperture or opening **14**. The mentioned rake head **17** is naturally applied to and removed from and otherwise used in the same fashion as the previously described rake head **9** with its block **13** fixed thereto.

The rake head and the block may be made of metal, plastic or any other material which will serve the purpose, and among metals aluminum is useful due to its lightness.

Manifestly, variations may be resorted to and parts and features may be modified or used without others within the scope of the appended claims.

This application is a substitute of my now abandoned prior application Serial No. 42,293, filed August 3, 1948, Retrieving Rake for Golf Balls.

Having thus described the invention what is new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent is:

1. A rake for attachment to a golf club including a ball engaging head and a shaft tapering from one end to the other end thereof with said other end secured to said head, said rake comprising a bar adapted to be arranged transversely and inwardly of said one end of said shaft, a saddle arranged longitudinally of said bar intermediate the ends of the latter and secured to said bar, and spaced teeth arranged longitudinally of said bar between said saddle and the adjacent ends of said bar and carried by said bar, said saddle being sized to freely receive a portion of said shaft spaced inwardly of said other end of said shaft and to wedgingly engage said shaft when said rake is moved toward said one end of said shaft.

2. A rake for attachment to a golf club including a ball engaging head and a shaft tapering from one end to the other end thereof with said other end secured to said head, said rake comprising a bar adapted to be arranged transversely and inwardly of said one end of said shaft, a saddle arranged longitudinally of said bar intermediate the ends of the latter and secured to said bar, a pair of spaced teeth arranged longitudinally of said bar and dependingly secured to said saddle, said saddle being in the same plane as said bar, and spaced teeth arranged longitudinally of said bar between said saddle and the adjacent ends of said bar and carried by said bar, said saddle being sized to freely receive a portion of said shaft spaced inwardly of said other end of said shaft and to wedgingly engage said shaft when said rake is moved toward said one end of said shaft.

No references cited.