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[54] GOLF BAG STAND

5 Claims, 7 Drawing Figs.

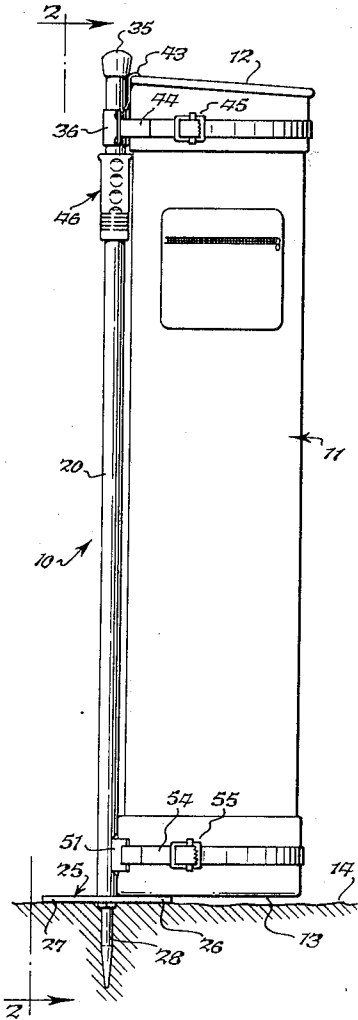
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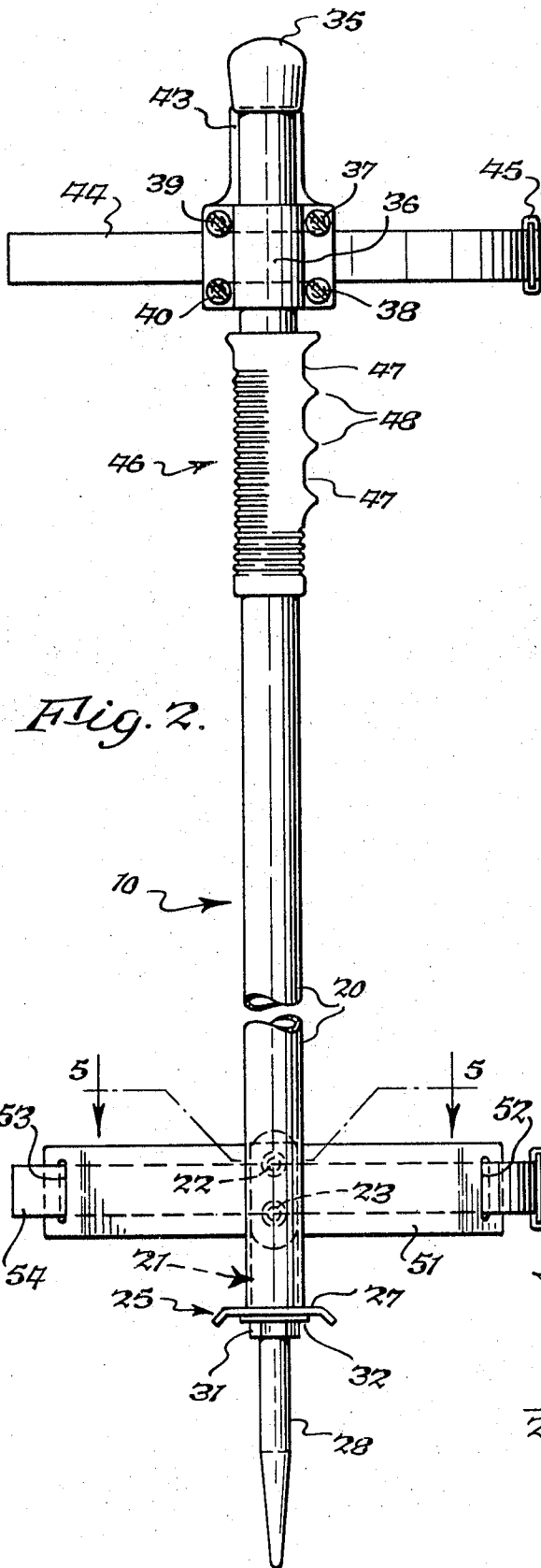
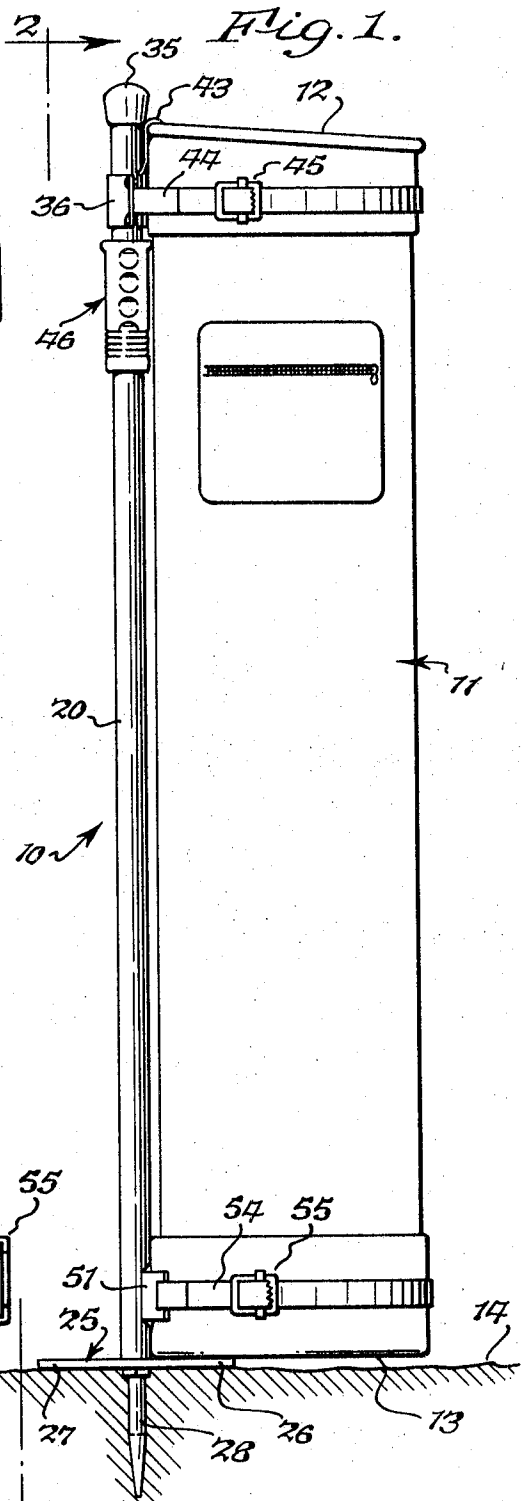
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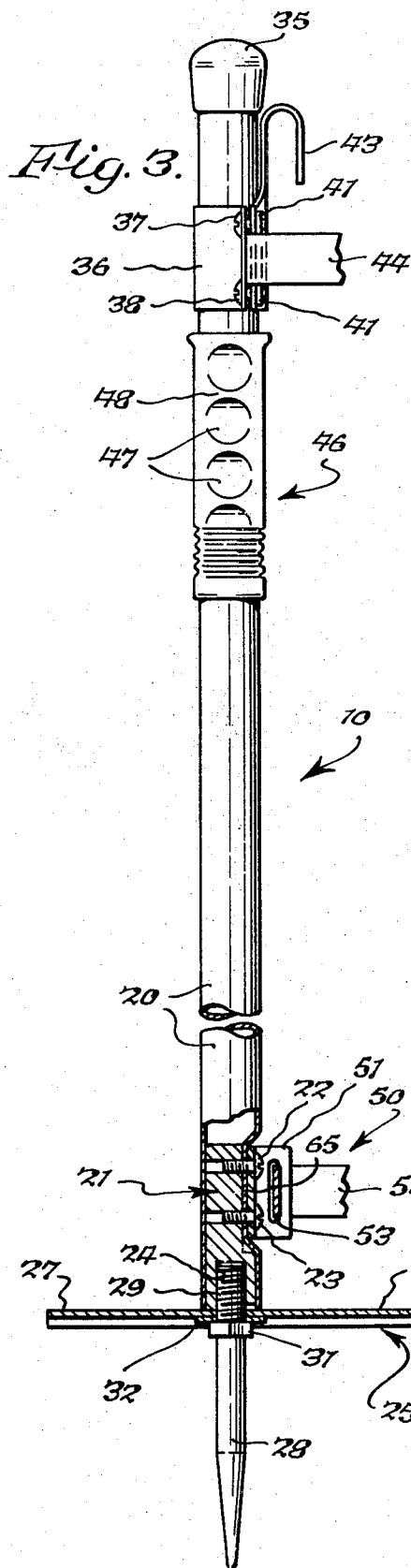
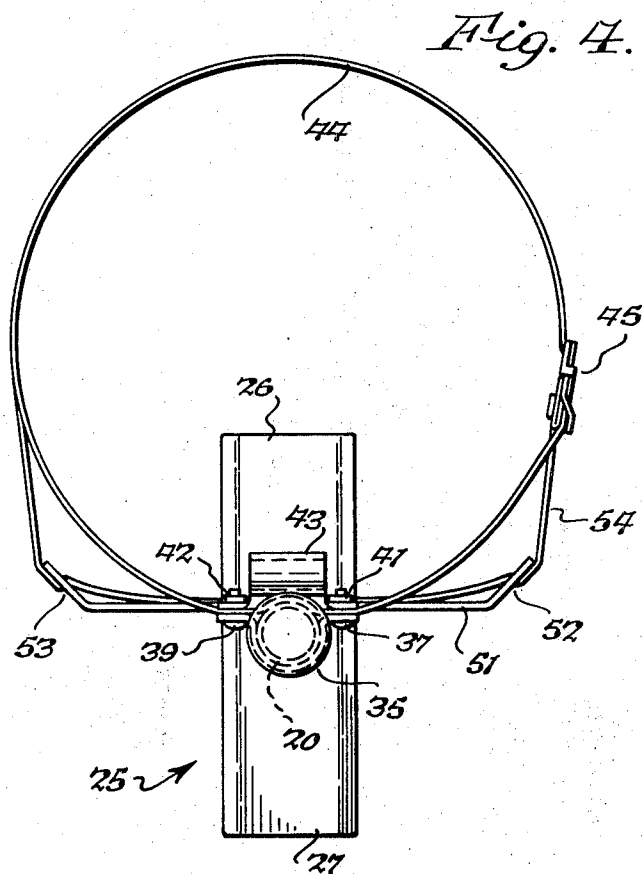
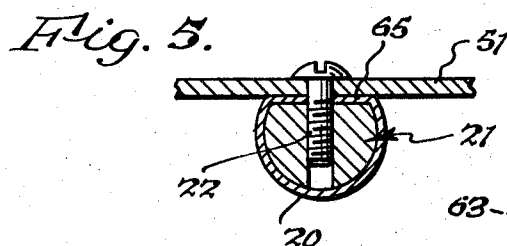
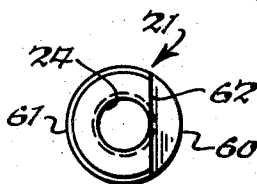
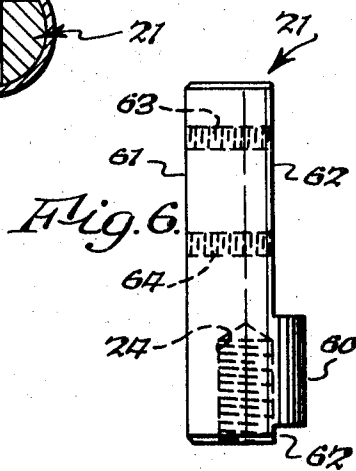
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ABSTRACT: A stand for holding a golf bag in upright position on a golf course and adapted for convenient storage in small spaces when not in use. An elongated tubular supporting member has secured in one end thereof a mounting member to which are releasably attached a spike, a plate functioning as both a bottom support for the bag and a foot step, and a member which supports one side of the bag. A strap connected to the member is releasably buckled around the bag. A C-shaped hanger adapted to engage the bag top rim and a second bag-holding strap are connected to a clamp movably fastened on the tubular supporting member near the other end thereof. A tubular grip-type handle is positioned on the tubular supporting member intermediate the ends thereof.





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GOLF BAG STAND

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to a golf bag holding stand and, more particularly, to a stand adapted to support a conventional golf bag in an upright or vertical position anywhere on a golf course and which stand may be stored readily in small spaces when not in use.

Golf bag stands have been proposed which enable the golfer to place his golf bag in an upright position on the golf course rather than to laying the bag horizontally on the ground while playing a ball. With such stands the golfer need not stoop to withdraw and replace clubs, and the bag is not subject to harmful ground moisture and unnecessary wear and tear. Such stands have included, generally, an elongated rigid supporting member having a stake or spike which is pushed into the ground to maintain the supporting member in an upright position. The supporting member is also provided with holding means for embracing the golf bag. In addition, some stands are provided with a handle to facilitate carrying and with a footstep on the elongated member near the spike or stake to facilitate pushing it into the ground.

A consideration of some of the more specific characteristics of golf bag stands heretofore available will amplify the significant disadvantages and limitations thereof. With stands having an elongated supporting member in the form of a solid rod, significant strength and rigidity must be sacrificed if the stand is to be light in weight and easily carried. Where the spike or stake, footstep and handle are either integral with the supporting member of fixedly attached thereto, the stand is not adapted to be readily stored in small spaces since these components generally project along as well as outwardly at right angles to the longitudinal axis of the supporting member. In some stands the holding means for embracing the bag comprises a bottom support having brackets which embrace opposite sides of the bag and which are adjustable from underneath. This arrangement, however, does not permit removal of the bag from the stand when the stake has been pushed into the ground.

In those stands provided with a handle, the handle often projects outwardly and frequently at a right angle to the longitudinal axis of the elongated supporting member. This arrangement is intended to enable the user to grasp the handle and be favorably oriented relative to the footstep to facilitate driving the stake into the ground. This outward projection of the handle, however, sacrifices compactness which is important when the stand and bag are to be carried together and also when the stand is to be stored.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is, therefore, an object of this invention to provide a stand for holding a golf bag in an upright or vertical position on a golf course which stand is both light in weight and significantly strong and rigid.

It is a further object of this invention to provide such a golf bag stand having a compact and simple structure which is pleasing in appearance and which may be stored readily in small spaces.

It is a further object of this invention to provide such a golf bag stand which can be hand-carried readily and easily either alone or while attached to the golf bag and from which stand the golf bag may be removed easily while being supported upright on the golf course.

It is a more particular object of this invention to provide such a golf bag stand of the type having an elongated supporting member wherein the components which extend along as well as outwardly from the longitudinal axis of the supporting member are readily and easily removable for storage.

This invention provides a golf bag stand including a tubular elongated supporting member with a mounting member at one end thereof for releasably connecting to the supporting member a stake or spike member and a member which functions both as a footstep and a bottom support for the golf bag.

The elongated tubular supporting member is provided with detachable means at the same end thereof which functions as a side support for the bag. Adjacent both ends of the tubular supporting member are first and second detachable means for holding the golf bag. The stand is provided with a handle which is constructed and oriented so as to facilitate pushing the stake or spike in the ground as well as carrying the bag.

The foregoing and other objects, advantages and characterizing features of this invention will become clearly apparent from the ensuing detailed description of an illustrative embodiment thereof, considered in conjunction with the accompanying drawings wherein like reference numerals denote like parts throughout.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a side elevational view of the golf bag stand of this invention as it would appear in use, supporting a golf bag in an upright position;

FIG. 2 is an enlarged, rear elevational view of the golf bag stand of FIG. 1, taken about on line 2-2 of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is an enlarged view thereof, partly in elevation and partly in section the straps being broken away for convenience in illustration;

FIG. 4 is a top plan view of the golf bag stand shown in FIGS. 2 and 3;

FIG. 5 is a fragmentary sectional view thereof taken about an line 5-5 of FIG. 2;

FIG. 6 is a side elevational view, on an enlarged scale, of a preferred form of the mounting member contemplated by this invention; and

FIG. 7 is a plan view of the mounting member shown in FIG. 6.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

FIG. 1 shows a golf bag stand 10 provided by this invention as it would appear in use, supporting a golf bag 11, having a top rim 12 and bottom 13, in an upright position on a golf course 14.

Golf bag stand 10, shown in more detail in FIGS. 2-7, includes an elongated tubular supporting member 20 having a length which desirably, although not necessarily, is approximately equal to the height of the golf bag 11 to be supported. Member 20 is of a rigid material, such as aluminum or other metal, and by virtue of the tubular form thereof is both lightweight and of significant strength and rigidity.

Within tubular member 20 and at one end thereof there is secured a mounting member 21 comprising, in a preferred form, a generally cylindrical solid member having an outer diameter substantially equal to the inner diameter of the tubular member 20. Mounting member 21 is secured within tubular member 20 by suitable fastening means, for example screws 22, 23 which extend through tubular member 20 and into the mounting member 21.

Mounting member 21 is provided with an internal recess 24 which opens through one end of member 20 for receiving another component of the stand as will be described. In the illustrated embodiment, recess 24 is concentric with member 20 and extends approximately one-third the length of mounting member 21.

Stand 10 also includes an elongated plate 25 releasably attached intermediate the ends thereof to the same end of tubular member 20 as member 21. Plate 25 has a portion 26 extending laterally of member 20 which functions as a bottom support or rest for the golf bag 11 and another portion 27 extending laterally of member 20 on the side thereof opposite portion 26 which serves as a footstep for a purpose to be described. The stand further includes a spike or stake 28 which is releasably mounted in recess 24 of mounting member 21 and advantageously functions to releasably attach plate 25 to the end of the tubular supporting member 20. Spike 28 is threadably connected at one end 29 thereof in recess 24, and

extends through an aperture 30 in plate 25 which aperture is of a smaller diameter than that of member 20. Spike 28 is provided with a stop member in the form of nut 31 which cooperates with a washer 32 to firmly position plate 25 against the end of member 20 when spike 28 is threaded home in recess 24. Plate 25 may be channel-shaped, as shown in FIG. 2, to increase the strength thereof.

It should be noted that spike 28 can be releasably connected in the recess 24 of the mounting member 32 in various other ways without departing from the spirit and scope of this invention. For example, recess 24 could be provided with longitudinal channels along the sides thereof to receive corresponding projections on the end 29 of the spike 28 as it is pushed into the recess and with a lateral channel for receiving the projections when the spike 28 is rotated and hence locked in the recess. It should also be apparent that while spike 28 in this particular illustration advantageously also secures plate 25 to the end of the member 20, the plate can be separately and releasably attached to member 20 by suitable means without departing from the spirit and scope of this invention.

Tubular member 20 is closed at the other end thereof by a cap 35. Also, there is provided at this end of tubular member 20 movable golf bag holding means including a clamp 36 fastened to the exterior of member 20 by bolts 37—40 and a nut plate 41. A C-shaped hanger member 43 is connected to clamp 36 by bolts 37—40 and is adapted to fit over the top rim 12 of golf bag 11. A strap 44 also is connected to clamp 36 and is provided with suitable adjustable buckling means 45 so that it can be releasably secured around golf bags of various diameters. It will be appreciated that because hanger 43 is connected to clamp 36 which, upon loosening of bolts 37—40 can be moved axially along the member 20, golf bags of various heights can be accommodated.

The golf bag stand provided by this invention also includes a handle 46 which is tubular in form, having an inner diameter substantially equal to the outer diameter of the tubular supporting member 20. Handle 46 preferably is formed from rubber or plastic material and is positioned along member 20 at a conveniently accessible location intermediate the ends thereof. Handle 46 is provided with a series of finger receiving recesses 47 to facilitate gripping thereof, and the recesses 47 define a series of ridges 48 therebetween. Handle 46 can be rotated relative to member 20 so as to be in any desired rotational position. A position found most desirable is with the ridges pointing toward the golf bag. An alternative position is shown in FIGS. 1—3 may be preferred driving the stake. The user is thus oriented relative to the bag and stand so that he can conveniently place his foot nearest the bag step 27 to drive stake 28 into the ground. The handle can be oriented to facilitate carrying the stand or driving the stake but it does not project outwardly or at a right angle from the supporting member 20.

The golf bag stand provided by this invention also includes bag holding and supporting means 50 located on supporting member 20 near the stake end thereof. The means 50 includes an elongated, rigid member in the form of a strip 51 releasably attached intermediate the ends thereof to the tubular member 20. Strip 51 is disposed so that the longitudinal axis thereof is substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the tubular member 20. By virtue of this arrangement member 51 serves as a side supporting member for the golf bag 11. In this particular example member 51 is secured to supporting member 20 by fastening means comprising the same screws 22, 23 which secure mounting member 21 within support 20.

Member 51 is provided with slots 52, 53 for receiving a strap 54 adapted to be fastened through buckling means 55 snugly around the golf bag. Member 51 also is bent slightly at each slotted end thereof in a direction toward bag 11 to enhance the lateral supporting feature.

In the preferred form, mounting member 21 is a cylindrical solid having a bottom portion 60 and a top portion 61 which is substantially cylindrical with the exception of a portion removed to provide a flat surface 62. Recess 24 is provided in

one end of member 21 and two holes 63, 64 are drilled through the flat surface 62 of portion 61 for receiving the screws 23, 24. Tubular member 20, as shown in FIG. 3, has a portion bent inwardly to form a corresponding flat surface 65 which mates with surface 62 to facilitate attachment of strip 51 and positioning of the member 21. A notch 62' also can be provided, as shown in FIG. 6, which is in alignment with the surface 62. The notch 62' facilitates alignment of member 21 in tube 20 when, during assembly, the tube is bent inwardly to form surface 65 after member 21 is positioned therein. In addition, notch 62' and the end of tube 20 define a region which can receive an extension from step 25 for alignment thereof.

When entirely assembled, stand 10 is attached to the golf bag 11 simply by slipping the bag top rim 12 under the C-shaped hanger 43 and by resting the bag bottom against the support portion 26 of plate 25. The hanger 43 is adjustable along the member 20 by means of the movable clamp 36, as previously described, to accommodate bags of various heights. Then straps 44, 54 are each buckled snugly around bag 11 and the stand and bag are ready to be carried by the golfer, either by means of handle 46 on the stand 10 or by means of the conventional handle or strap on the golf bag. The compact structure of the golf bag stand provided by this invention is desirable both in permitting convenient transportation thereof and in creating a pleasing appearance.

When the golfer wishes to withdraw a club from the bag, the bag and stand are placed in an upright position on the course as shown in FIG. 1. Stake 28 is pushed into the ground by the golfer applying force through his foot to the step portion 27 of plate 25. As previously explained, the orientation of handle 46, specifically the finger receiving recesses 47 thereon, facilitates this operation.

If for any reason the golfer desires to remove the bag from the stand while in the position shown in FIG. 1, he simply unbuckles the two straps, moves the bottom 13 of the bag outwardly along support 26 and removes the top rim 13 out from under the hanger 43. The bag subsequently could be attached to the stand with the same ease and convenience.

The bag and stand can be removed from the upright position simply by grasping handle 46 and giving an upward pull along the axis of support member 20, the stand and bag then carried to a new location on the golf course.

It is a particularly advantageous feature of the stand of this invention that when not in use it can be stored readily in small spaces. By a simple removal of the two screws 23, 24, mounting member 21 with the plate 25 and spike 28 connected thereto, together with the strip 51, are detached from the tubular member 20. The spike then can be unscrewed from the member 21 thus detaching plate 25. These removed components can be stored with member 20 in a much smaller space than would be required if they remained assembled thereto. In particular, some of these components when assembled extend substantially at right angles to the axis of the tubular member 20 which extension would unnecessarily occupy additional space during storage.

The present invention thus accomplishes its intended objects. The elongated supporting member 20, being tubular, is both strong and lightweight. The provision of the mounting member 21 enables this tubular construction to be used and still have various components, such as the stake 28 and plate 25, readily detachable from the tubular supporting member so as to allow storage in small spaces.

While the invention has been described with specificity, this has been done by way of illustration, not limitation.

I claim:

1. Apparatus for supporting a golf bag comprising:

a. an elongated tubular supporting member;

b. a substantially cylindrical mounting member having an outer diameter substantially equal to the inner diameter of said tubular member and rigidly and releasably secured within said tubular member at one end thereof by releasable fastening means extending through said tubular member and into said mounting member;

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c. a plate releasably attached to said tubular member adjacent said one end thereof, said plate being disposed in a plane substantially perpendicular to the axis of said tubular member;

d. a spike releasably connected to said mounting member and disposed so that the axis thereof is substantially parallel to the axis of said tubular member;

e. bag-holding means connected to said tubular member near the other end thereof; and

f. a tubular handle provided with finger-receiving recesses, said handle being positioned on said tubular supporting member intermediate the ends thereof and disposed so that the axis thereof extends along the axis of said tubular member.

2. Apparatus as set forth in claim 1, said mounting member having a recess opening through said one end of said tubular member, and said plate having an aperture of diameter less than the diameter of said tubular member, said spike extending through said aperture and into said recess and being provided with means for preventing axial movement of said plate along said spike.

3. Apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein said bag-holding means comprises:

a. clamping means secured to said tubular member;

b. hanger means connected to said clamping means and adapted to extend over the top rim of a golf bag; and

c. a strap connected to said clamping means and adapted to releasably embrace a golf bag.

4. Apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein said mounting member is a solid member having a portion thereof removed so as to provide a flat surface, said tubular supporting member being bent inwardly on a portion of the surface thereof to form a flat surface mating with said mounting member flat surface,

and wherein said fastening means secure said elongated member to said tubular member on said flat portion thereof.

5. Apparatus for supporting a golf bag comprising:

a. an elongated tubular supporting member;

b. a substantially cylindrical solid mounting member having an outer diameter substantially equal to the inner diameter of said tubular member and a portion thereof removed so as to provide a flat surface, said tubular supporting member being bent inwardly on a portion of the surface thereof to form a flat surface mating with said mounting member flat surface;

c. a plate releasably attached to said tubular member adjacent one end thereof, said plate being disposed in a plane substantially perpendicular to the axis of said tubular member;

d. a spike releasably connected to said mounting member and disposed so that the axis thereof is substantially parallel to the axis of said tubular member;

e. bag-holding means connected to said tubular member near the other end thereof;

f. bag-holding and supporting means connected to said tubular member near said one thereof and including a rigid, elongated member connected intermediate the ends thereof to said tubular member and disposed so that the longitudinal axis thereof is substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of said tubular member and a strap connected to said elongated member and adapted to releasably embrace a supported golf bag; and

g. fastening means securing said elongated member to said tubular member on said flat portion thereof and extending through said tubular member into said mounting member.

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