Aug. 23, 1960 S. LUTSKY 2,949,610

BOWLING GLOVE

Filed June 2, 1958

FIG. 1

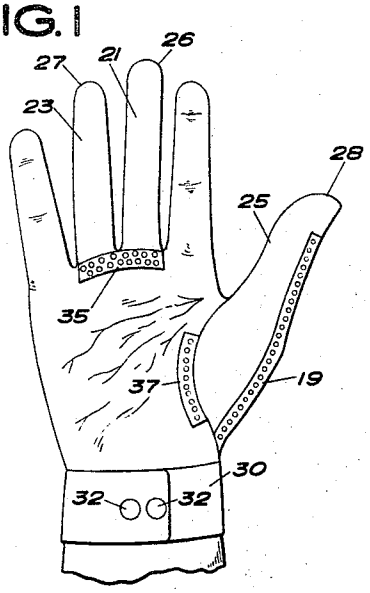


FIG. 2

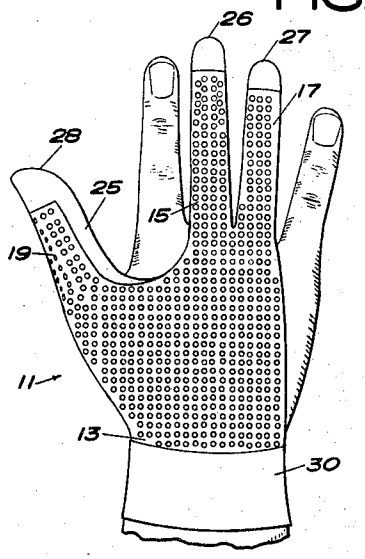


FIG. 3

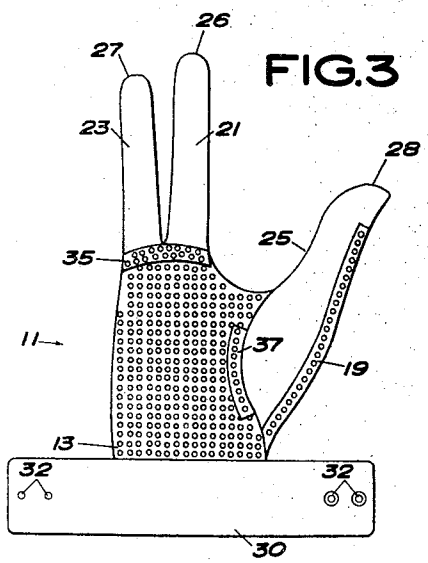
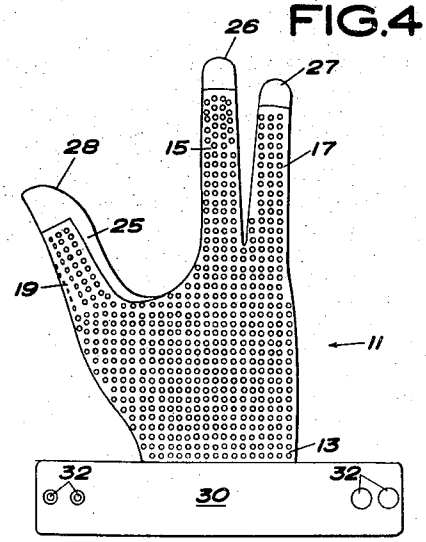


FIG. 4



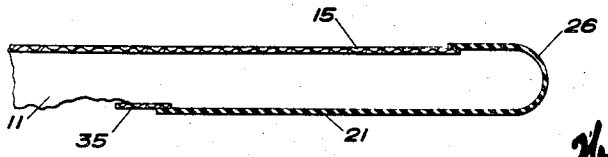


FIG. 5

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BOWLING GLOVE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 2—16)

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in gloves particularly of the type adapted for use in bowling, and is particularly directed to vastly enhancing the "feel" which the bowler may achieve with the bowling ball while maintaining protection of the bowler's fingers.

As is well known, bowling balls are conventionally provided with a plurality of openings for the insertion of the bowler's fingers in order to enable him to grip and control the ball. Over long sessions of bowling, the friction of the bowling ball being released by the fingers and passing along the fingers creates a sometimes unpleasant rubbing effect on the fingers and thumb of the bowler, and many bowlers have adopted one or another type of glove device for the purpose of protecting the fingers.

Inherently such glove devices have been faulty in their usefulness to the bowler in that while probably protecting the fingers of the bowler, they have presented cumbersome and relatively bulky surfaces which have detracted from the bowler's ability to feel the bowling ball apertures and have consequently reduced the ability of the bowler to control the ball in its path from his hands to impact with the bowling pins. Additionally, prior bowling glove devices have heretofore contemplated the utilization of material covering the palm of the hand which has further impeded with the bare hand feel, which the bowler should have in relation to the ball which he is handling in order to enhance and not limit his power of control over the ball.

The principal object of the present invention is to provide a new and novel glove means, particularly adapted for use by bowlers in bowling.

A further object of the invention is to provide such a device in which the ball engaging surfaces of the bowler's fingers are covered by a membrane-like thin, resilient panel as of thin rubber latex substantially preserving the skin-like contact of the finger with the ball while providing a protection to the surface of the finger.

A further object of the invention is to provide such a device in which the membrane-like surfaces for covering the bowler's fingers are carried by a fabric glove back which is perforated to provide ventilation to the bowler's hand and thus to minimize unnecessary sweating.

A further object of the invention is to provide such a device in which the palm portion is left open in order that the palm of the bowler's hand may in desired manner contact the bowling ball during use.

A further object of the invention is to provide such glove means for bowlers with a relatively wide wristband adapted to be snugly fastened about the wrist of the bowler in order to support the wrist against straining and twisting during bowling; and

A further object of the invention is generally to improve the design, construction and efficiency of glove means adapted for use by bowlers in bowling.

The means by which the foregoing and other objects

of the invention are accomplished and the manner of their accomplishment will be readily understood from the following specification upon reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a front view showing the positioning of the glove means of the present invention upon a bowler's hand.

Fig. 2 is a back view of the glove as on the hand as shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a front view of the glove means of the present invention.

Fig. 4 is a back view of the glove means of the present invention.

Fig. 5 is a longitudinal fragmentary sectional view on an enlarged scale taken as along the longitudinal center line of one of the digit sheaths of the device as shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

Referring now to the drawings in which the various parts are indicated by numerals, the glove means of the present invention comprise a back panel **11** formed of a perforated fabric for the purpose of providing ventilation to the back of the hand of the user of the device, and the fabric is preferably formed of a natural fiber such as cotton or the like in order to enhance its moisture or perspiration absorption qualities.

Back panel **11** extends from a lower wrist edge **13** upwardly to the finger area where it is provided with a pair of upwardly extending finger sheath backs **15, 17**, which are adapted to form the backs of sheaths for encasing two of the fingers of the user's hand as for example, the middle finger and ring finger, and which are preferably formed integrally with back panel **11** and of the same material. Additionally, back panel **11** is provided with a somewhat laterally extending sheath back **19**, which may be formed integrally with the back panel, or may, as shown in the present drawings, be formed as an independent panel secured to an edge portion of back panel **11**, and which is preferably formed of the same material as back panel **11**, and is adapted to provide the back of a sheath for housing the thumb of a user of the present device. It will be noted that back panel **11** is formed so as to leave free and unobstructed the areas adjacent to the index finger and little finger of the user of the device.

To the front of the sheath backs **15, 17**, are respectively secured as by suitable adhesive or other desirable means, front sheath panels **21, 23** and additionally to sheath back **19** a similar sheath front panel **25** is secured. Each of the panels **21, 23, 25** is formed of a tough, resilient elastic material of extreme thinness so as to preserve substantially the finger feel which the user may accomplish in the utilization of the device substantially equal to the finger feel of the bare fingers. It is preferred that the panels **21, 23, 25**, be formed of a thin rubber latex material which is substantially imperforate, is extremely thin, is stretchable in its elasticity and is resilient without bulkiness, providing the characteristics which are desired for the sheath fronts and enabling the front panels closely to adhere to the surface of the user's fingers and thumb without gapping or other undesired conditions.

Preferably, each of the panels **21, 23, 25** extends beyond the upper end of the sheath backs **15, 17, 19** in order that the front panels **21, 23, 25** may be lapped over as at **26, 27, 28** so as to encase the tips of the fingers and thumb of the user of the present glove means with the resilient, closely adhering thin material of the front panels.

Thus, it will be seen that the present device provides a glove means in which the middle and ring fingers and thumb of a user are encased in a sheath formed of the

perforated fabric back and of the thin latex front panels with the latex front panels terminating substantially at the base of the respective fingers and/or thumb leaving the palm of the user completely free and unimpeded and also leaving the forefinger and ring finger of the user completely unimpeded, while covering the back of the hand of the user with the back panel **11** formed of a material to absorb any accumulation of perspiration on the back of the hand and yet sufficiently ventilate the back of the hand so as to minimize undue increase of perspiration thereon.

In order to secure the glove means of the present invention in position on the user's hand, it is preferred that a wristband **30** adapted for fastening on the front of the wrist of the user, be secured along a portion of its upper edge to the wrist edge **13** of back panel **11**. Preferably wristband **30** is provided with adjustable fasteners **32** and it will be observed that wristband **30** is of a relatively substantial width in order that when it is fastened about the wrist of a user as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the width of the band will provide a support for the wrist of the user preventing twisting or undue bending or strains on the wrist of the user, as for example during bowling. Wristband **30** is preferably formed of a relatively stiff fabric, having sufficient body to provide a stiffener for the wrist of a user.

It thus will be seen that the present invention provides an open palmed device, particularly adapted for use in bowling, with gripping finger surfaces providing a maximum of feel and control for the user of the device in bowling.

Preferably the digit sheath front panels **21**, **23**, **25** are for convenience in positioning on the hand of a user, each provided with fabric tab means which may be readily grasped to pull the sheath into position. In the preferred embodiment shown, a fabric tab **35** is secured to and spans across the lower edges of sheath panels **21**, **23**, and an additional fabric tab **37** is secured to the lower edge of thumb sheath panel **25**. Each of these tabs **35**, **37**, is secured by suitable adhesive or other desired means to the flexible, membrane-like, sheath panels.

I claim:

1. Glove means adapted for use in bowling comprising a back panel of a porous absorbent fabric adapted to cover the back of the hand of a user, a plurality of digit sheaths connected with the upper part of said back panel and adapted to encase selected digits of such user, said sheaths including a thumb sheath and at least one finger sheath for an intermediate finger of the hand of a user, each said sheath being of a length to substantially completely cover the digits of such user and including a sheath back of said fabric connected with said back panel at the lower part of the sheath back and extending upwardly throughout a majority of the length of the sheath terminating at its upper end below the upper end of the sheath, each said sheath having a sheath front and a tip portion of membrane-like, tough, thin, resilient material connected to the perimeter of the sheath back, said sheath front at its lower end terminating substantially at the level of the connection of the sheath back and said back panel and adapted thereby to extend along a digit of a user into adjacency with the base of the front of a digit of a user forwardly of said back panel leaving the palm area of the user free, said sheath front extending upwardly along the front of the sheath, said tip portion overlying the upper end of the sheath and extending a minor distance downwardly along the rear of the sheath joining the upper end of the sheath back, each said sheath thereby including a resilient front and tip and a fabric back, said back panel extending downwardly from said digit sheaths substantially to the wrist area of a user when said glove means is in use.

2. Glove means adapted for use in bowling comprising a back panel of a porous absorbent fabric adapted to cover the back of the hand of a user, a plurality of digit sheaths connected with the upper part of said back panel and adapted to encase selected digits of such user, said sheaths including a thumb sheath and a pair of finger sheaths for the intermediate fingers of the hand of a user, each said sheath being of a length to substantially completely cover the digits of such user and including a sheath back of said fabric connected with said back panel at the lower part of the sheath back and extending upwardly throughout a majority of the length of the sheath terminating at its upper end below the upper end of the sheath, each said sheath having a sheath front and a tip portion of membrane-like, tough, thin, resilient material connected to the perimeter of the sheath back, said sheath front at its lower end terminating substantially at the level of the connection of the sheath back and said back panel and adapted thereby to extend along a digit of a user into adjacency with the base of the front of a digit of a user forwardly of said back panel leaving the palm area of the user free, said sheath front extending upwardly along the front of the sheath, said tip portion overlying the upper end of the sheath and extending a minor distance downwardly along the rear of the sheath joining the upper end of the sheath back, each said sheath thereby including a resilient front and tip and a fabric back, said back panel extending downwardly from said digit sheaths substantially to the wrist area of a user when said glove means is in use, and a relatively wide wrist band fixed to the lower edge of said back panel at its ends extending forwardly and beneath the sheath fronts when secured and having detachable fasteners for securing said band ends together.

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