Aug. 30, 1960 L. D. OLINGHOUSE 2,950,748

GOLF CLUB AND BALL CARRIER

Filed Jan. 2, 1959

FIG. 1

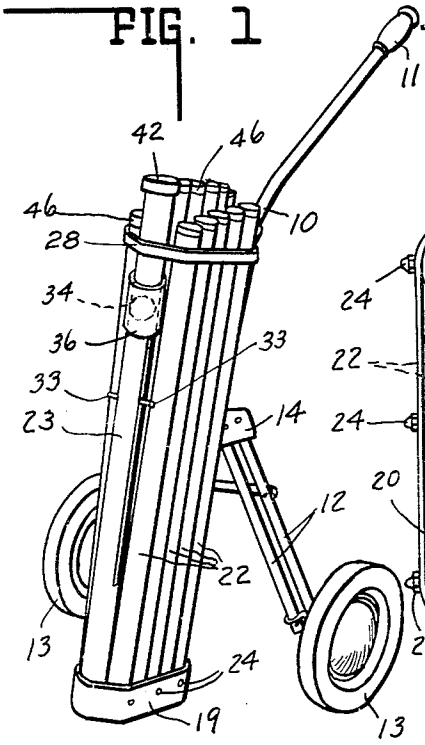


FIG. 2

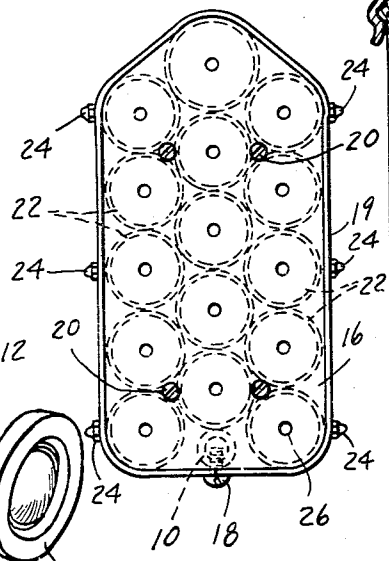


FIG. 4

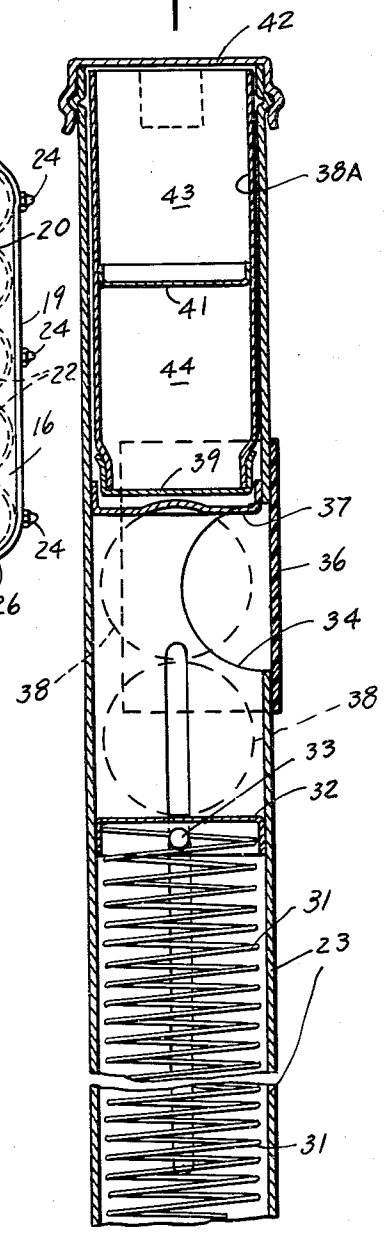
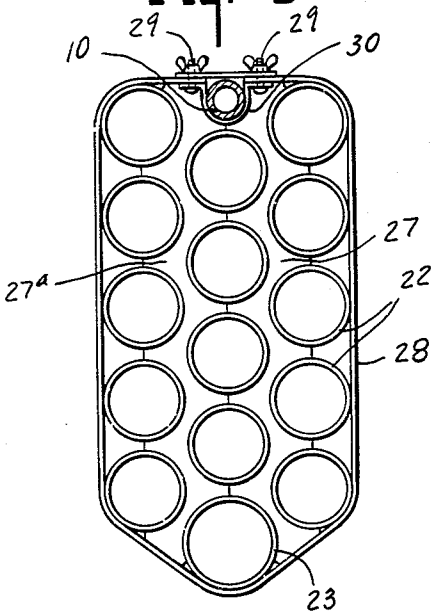


FIG. 3



INVENTOR.
LOWELL D. OLINGHOUSE.
BY
Lockwood, Woodard, Smith & Weikart.
ATTORNEYS.

United States Patent Office 2,950,748
Patented Aug. 30, 1960

2,950,748

GOLF CLUB AND BALL CARRIER

Lowell D. Olinghouse, 927 Devon St., Indianapolis, Ind.

Filed Jan. 2, 1959, Ser. No. 784,773

4 Claims. (Cl. 150—1.5)

This invention relates generally to golf club and ball carriers and in particular to a carrier of this type adapted to be attached to conventional golf carts.

A conventional form of golf cart is comprised essentially of a central post having an inclined upper portion at the end of which a rubber hand grip may be suitably positioned. A foldable wheel structure is hinged to the central post, the hinged mounting for the wheels permitting folding of the carrier into a relatively small space. Conventionally, a golf bag is secured to the post, the bag holding the clubs, balls and tees.

The present invention is embodied in an assembly of generally vertically disposed tubes each adapted to accommodate a golf club, the assembly being attached to the carrier post thus replacing a conventional golf bag. The assembly also includes a tube adapted to carry a supply of balls and provided with a ball dispensing means. This tube is further provided with a removable two-section compartment for carrying tees, change, tickets and the like.

The primary object of the present invention is thus to provide a light weight golf club and ball carrier attachment for golf carts, the carrier housing the clubs individually and being provided with a convenient ball dispensing means.

This and other objects of the present invention will become apparent as the description proceeds with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a carrier embodying the present invention and shown installed upon a conventional club cart.

Fig. 2 is a bottom view of the carrier of the present invention.

Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the carrier of the present invention.

Fig. 4 is a side view partially in section showing a portion of the carrier of the present invention.

Referring initially to Figs. 1 and 2, there is shown a conventional golf cart including a central post **10** having an inclined upper portion provided with a hand grip **11**. Centrally upon the post **10** there is mounted a wheel structure which includes the inclined members **12** supporting rubber tired wheels **13**. The wheels supporting structure is secured to the central portion of the post **10** by a hinge **14**. It will be understood that the structure so far described is conventional and the hinge support for the wheel structure permits folding the wheels into a stowed position when the cart is not in use.

The golf club and ball carrier of the present invention includes a base plate **16** encircled by an aluminum band **19**. A screw **18** extends through the band **19** and is threaded into a tapped hole in the side of the post **10**.

Extending upwardly from the base plate and disposed within the band **19** are a series of aluminum tubes **22** which are of various lengths and are each adapted to receive the shaft of a golf club. One of the tubes **23**, located at the front of the array, is adapted to hold and dispense golf balls as will subsequently be described.

Bolts **24** extend through the band **19** and are threaded into the adjacent ones of the tubes **22**, thereby fastening the band to the tubes. As may be seen in Fig. 2, the base plate **16** is provided with apertures **26** to provide drainage for the tubes. At their base ends the tubes in each of the three parallel banks of tubes may be welded together and screws **20**, extending through the base plate and into the weld metal, serve to secure the base plate to the tube assembly.

Referring now to Fig. 3, the tubes have interposed therebetween and adjacent their upper ends are abutting spacer plates **27** and **27***a*. The tubes and plates are held in assembled relation by means of an upper band **28** which is clamped to the post **10** by means of bracket **30** and bolts **29**. The clamping structure is disposed to the rear of the cart post **10** and effectively binds the tubes to the post. The spacer plates **27** and **27***a* are proportioned so that the tubes are spread apart somewhat, thereby inclining the axes of the outer tubes away from the central row of tubes. This disposition of the tube provides added convenience in removing or replacing golf clubs in the tubes.

The tube **23** and its golf ball storing and dispensing feature will now be described with reference to Figs. 1–4. As may be seen in Fig. 4, the tube **23** houses a coiled compression spring **31** which bottoms on the base plate **16**. At its upper end the spring rests against a movable piston **32** having sidewardly extending pins **33** protruding therefrom. The pins extend through diametrically opposed, longitudinal slots in the tube **23** and provide a means for manually lowering the piston **32** within the tube and also provide a visual indication of the piston within the tube.

Spaced somewhat above the uppermost position of the piston, the tube **23** has an aperture **34** sized somewhat larger than a golf ball. The aperture is provided with a suitable cover **36** which may be formed of a material such as transparent, and somewhat flexible Lucite or the like, the cover being slidable along the tube to open and close the aperture **34**. Just above the aperture **34** the tube **23** is provided with a transverse partition **37**.

As will be evident from Fig. 4, the assembly is such that golf balls, indicated at **38**, may be positioned in stacked relation above the piston **32**. The portion of the tube **23** extending beyond the partition **37** receives a tubular container **38A** having a removable base **39** and a transverse central partition **41**. The upper end of the tube **23** is closed by a snap-on cover **42**. The tubular container **38A** is thus provided with an upper compartment **43** and a lower compartment **44**, access to the lower compartment being accommodated by removal of the container **38A** from the tube **23**. The compartments **43** and **44** may be utilized to carry tees, change, tickets and the like.

As previously mentioned, the required golf clubs may be inserted into the ends of the tubes **22** and golf balls may be dispensed from the tube **23** through the aperture **34** upon removal of the aperture cover **36** from the aperture. The pins **33** give a visual indication as to when the last ball in the tube is positioned in the aperture **34** and also provide a means whereby the piston may be lowered in the tube to permit loading thereof. To load the tube **23**, the piston **32** may be moved downwardly by means of the pins **33** and the desired number of balls inserted into the aperture **34**. Release of the piston then will urge the balls upwardly in the tube **23** and will present the balls one by one at the aperture **34** from whence they may be manually removed for use.

From the foregoing it will be evident that the golf club and ball carrier of the present invention is of relatively simple construction and is easily and conveniently assembled. The tubes, upper and lower bands, and plates are formed of aluminum and the entire assembly is thus

relatively light in weight. The tubes may be anodized to provide them with contrasting colors. The upper margins of the tubes 22 may be provided with plastic rims indicated at 46 in Fig. 1, to provide protection for the golf clubs inserted therein.

While the invention has been disclosed and described in some detail in the drawings and foregoing description, they are to be considered as illustrative and not restrictive in character as other modifications may readily suggest themselves to persons skilled in this art and within the broad scope of the invention, reference being had to the appended claims.

The invention claimed is:

1. A golf club and ball carrier adapted for attachment to the central post of a golf cart, said carrier comprising a series of tubes arranged in side-by-side relation, each of said tubes having a drainage aperture in a lower end thereof, a base plate on which said tubes are bottomed, a lower band encircling the base portions of said tubes, spacer plates and an upper band disposed adjacent the upper ends of said tubes and adapted to hold said tubes out of engagement with each other, whereby the axes of said tubes are inclined outwardly from base to top, means for fixing said upper band to the central post of a golf cart, a piston movable within one of said tubes and adapted to underlie a stack of balls accommodated in said one tube, a compression spring within said one tube urging said piston upwardly, a ball dispensing aperture in the side wall of said one tube located just above the position assumed by said piston when said spring is uncompressed, and a removable closure for said aperture, said piston thereby feeding balls to the level of said aperture for removal therethrough, and an element carried by said piston and extending through an accommodating slot in said one tube, whereby said piston may be lowered for loading and the position of said piston within said one tube may be visually ascertained from the exterior of the tube.

2. A golf club and ball carrier adapted for attachment to the central post of a golf cart, said carrier comprising a series of tubes arranged in side-by-side relation, each of said tubes having a drainage aperture in a lower end thereof, a base plate on which said tubes are bottomed, a lower band encircling the base portions of said tubes, spacer plates and an upper band disposed adjacent the upper ends of said tubes and adapted to hold said tubes out of engagement with each other, whereby the axes of said tubes are inclined outwardly from base to top, means for fixing said upper band to the central post of a golf cart, a piston movable within one of said tubes and adapted to underlie a stack of balls accommodated in said one tube, a compression spring within said one tube urging said piston upwardly, a ball dispensing aperture in the side wall of said one tube, said piston thereby feeding balls to the level of said aperture for removal therethrough, and an element carried by said piston and extending through an accommodating slot in said one tube, whereby said piston may be manually lowered for loading.

3. A golf club and ball carrier adapted for attachment to the central post of a golf cart, said carrier comprising a series of tubes arranged in side-by-side relation, a base plate on which said tubes are bottomed and means holding said tubes in engagement at their base, spacer plates disposed adjacent the upper ends of said tubes and adapted to hold said tubes out of engagement with each other, whereby the axes of said tubes are inclined outwardly from base to top, means for fixing said upper band to the central post of a golf cart, a piston movable within one of said tubes and adapted to underlie a stack of balls accommodated in said one tube, resilient means within said one tube urging said piston upwardly, a ball dispensing aperture in the side wall of said one tube and a removable closure for said aperture, said piston thereby feeding balls to the level of said aperture for removal therethrough.

4. A golf club and ball carrier comprising a series of tubes arranged in side-by-side relation, means for fixing said tubes to the central post of a golf cart, a base plate on which said tubes are bottomed and means holding said tubes in engagement, a piston movable within one of said tubes and adapted to underlie a stack of balls accommodated in said one tube, a compression spring within said one tube urging said piston upwardly, a ball dispensing aperture in the side wall of said one tube located just above the position assumed by said piston when said spring is uncompressed, and a removable closure for said aperture, said piston thereby feeding balls to the level of said aperture for removal therethrough.

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

1,671,285	Hanna	May 29, 1928
1,810,491	McClure	June 16, 1931
1,951,492	Schneider	Mar. 20, 1934
2,879,122	Maves	Mar. 24, 1959

FOREIGN PATENTS

120,433	Germany	May 17, 1901