March 14, 1967 R. V. DOYLE 3,309,089

GOLFER'S AID INCLUDING BALL MARKER, PLUMB, AND TURF REPAIR TOOL

Filed Nov. 6, 1964

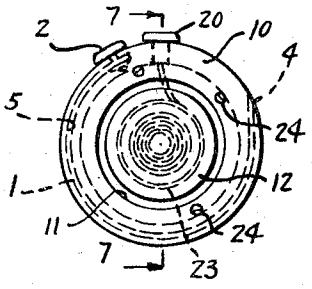


FIG. 2

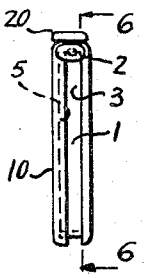


FIG. 3

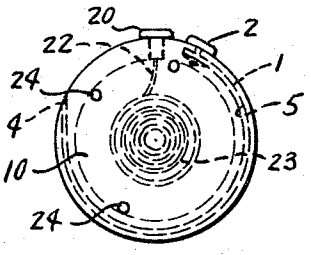


FIG. 4

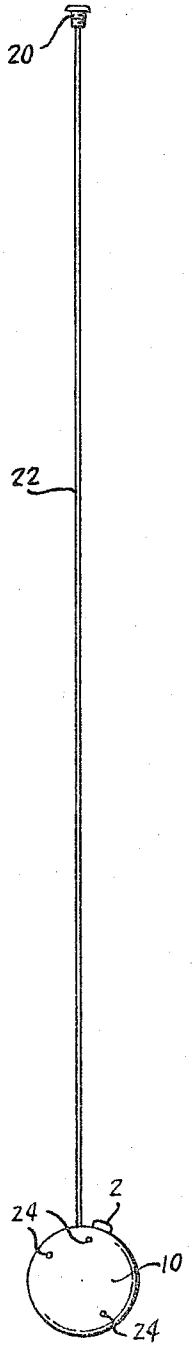


FIG. 1

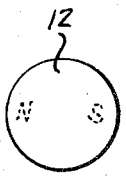


FIG. 8

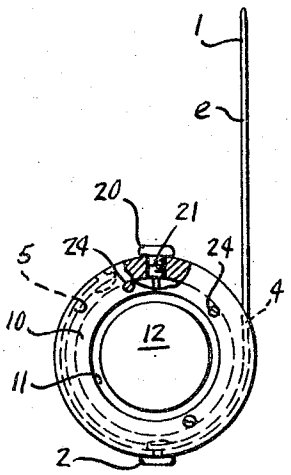


FIG. 5

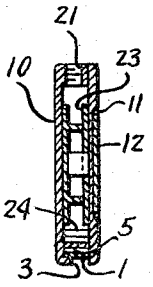


FIG. 7

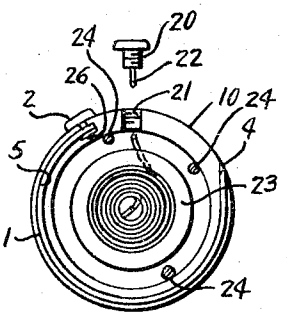


FIG. 6

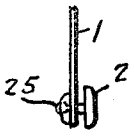


FIG. 9

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United States Patent Office

3,309,089

Patented Mar. 14, 1967

3,309,089

GOLFER'S AID INCLUDING BALL MARKER, PLUMB, AND TURF REPAIR TOOL

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Filed Nov. 6, 1964, Ser. No. 409,460

5 Claims. (Cl. 273—32)

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in a putting green repair tool and in a golfer's putting green aid.

When a golfer, upon reaching the putting green, determines that the green has been scarred or gouged, he may wish to make repairs to the turf. My invention will assist the golfer in making these repairs. Furthermore, my invention will assist a golfer in marking his ball during a play or in determining the contour of a green to help him in playing his putt.

Accordingly, the objects of my invention are as follows:

First, I have provided a repair tool whereby torn or scattered turf may be lifted back into position and the scarred marks on the putting green thereby repaired. As a matter of courtesy when a golfer has scarred the putting turf, he should repair the same so that the green is in an unscarred state for the next golfers. However, when the preceding golfers have failed in this respect, a golfer will want to repair the putting turf himself so that he may putt accurately.

A second object of my invention is to provide a golfer with a marking aid for marking the position of his ball during play. Accompanying this feature of the invention, I also furnish a receptacle for carrying or housing the ball marker.

A third object of my invention is to furnish the golfer with a weight and plumb line for understanding the contour and slopes of the putting green which is allowable in practice and nontournament play.

These objects will be more completely understood from the following detailed description taken in connection with the drawings, in which:

FIGURE 1 is a back elevational view of the invention with the nylon plumb line extended and the putter's aid dangling therefrom;

FIGURE 2 is a front elevational view of the invention;

FIGURE 3 is a side elevational view of the invention showing the slot for guiding the knurled knob attached to the steel point of this invention;

FIGURE 4 is a back elevational view of the invention;

FIGURE 5 is a front elevational view of the invention showing the steel point knurled knob in extruding position and the steel point extruded;

FIGURE 6 is a sectional view taken along lines **6—6** of FIGURE 3 and showing the plumb line and steel point secured within the accessory housing, the cover of said housing being removed, and showing the plumb line knurled knob removed from its screw receptacle in said housing;

FIGURE 7 is a sectional view taken along lines **7—7** of FIGURE 2;

FIGURE 8 is a front elevational view of the ball marker; and,

FIGURE 9 is a side elevational view of a ball bearing assembly for aiding in extruding the steel point of this invention.

The invention will be better understood by referring to the following detailed description in connection with the drawings.

When a golfer upon reaching a putting green finds the turf scarred or torn, he may use the steel point of my invention to replace turf and smooth the green. To use the steel point **1**, the steel point knurled knob **2** is lifted away from the guide slot **3** and then is forced down along

guide slot **3** to the position shown in FIG. 5, whereby the steel point **1** is forced through an opening **4** in the golfer's accessory case **10** to its extruded position. Then the golfer may pick up the turf by jabbing into it with the steel point. Hereafter the turf may be placed in pitted areas of the green and by jabbing around the pit marks the sod will become aerated so that with pressure from the hand or shoe pressing the replaced turf the golfer may make the green once again smooth, according to the United States Golf Association's Rules of Golf, as delineated in Section III, Rule 35c. Knurled knob **2** is connected to a bearing **25**, see FIG. 9, which is adapted to rest in a groove **26** when the steel point is in retracted position, see FIG. 6. The bearing **25** allows a smooth operation when extruding the steel point since the bearing will easily run along the bottom of the steel point housing or guideway **5**.

The putting aid **10** comprises a round metal case not unlike a pocket watch case. In the preferred embodiment of the invention, the case is one and one-half inches in diameter, and one-quarter of an inch in thickness and is machined to a smooth finish. Thus the putter's aid can readily be carried in a pocket or wearing apparel. The putter's aid has a recessed portion **11** therein approximately three-quarters of an inch in diameter. A magnetic marker **12** adapted to fit smoothly within this recessed portion so that it cannot easily be jarred loose from the aid as it is carried by the case of the golfer's aid. Since the case itself is of a magnetic material, the magnetic attraction between the case and marker will aid in retaining the marker snugly against the case. The marker resembles a thin coin such as a dime in appearance, although it is thinner and is smoother on the faces thereof. To mark a ball during play, e.g., while other players putt as allowed in Sec. III, Rule 35–1, U.S. Golfers Rules of Golf, the magnetic marker **12** is forced from the recess **11** by picking at it with a thin hard object such as the thumb nail. Then the marker is simply placed behind the ball position.

To determine the contour of the putting green this invention may be used as a plumb bob. In this operation the plumb line knurled knob **20** is unscrewed from its screw threads **21** and by pulling on the knurled knob **20** the nylon plumb line **22** is unwound from the winding drum **23** which is similar to a watch spring type of assembly until the case dangles therefrom, as is illustrated in FIG. 1. The weight of the case, together with its component parts, is sufficient to keep the nylon cord unwound. Thus it is seen that I have provided an efficient and easy to operate plumb bob like apparatus which can be used to view the various slopes and contours of a putting green. This apparatus is extremely helpful in practice play to readily familiarize a golfer with the hills and slopes of a putting green.

The golfer's aid comprises two conforming sections which are held together by three screws such as **24**, FIG. 1. The golfer's aid of this invention is compact with only the steel point knurled knob and the plumb line knurled knob protruding therefrom, so that the golfer's aid may be carried in apparel without snagging or piercing the apparel.

Although I have shown and described a preferred embodiment of my invention, other variations hereof will become readily apparent to those skilled in the art, e.g., the steel point may be merely removed from the carrying case by pulling the steel point from the case rather than extruding it as I have shown and described. Accordingly, I do not wish to be limited to the precise details described herein but want to protect my invention within the scope and spirit thereof as set forth in the following claims.

I claim:

1. A golfer's accessory comprising in combination, a circular hollow case having opposed faces and an annular wall, a recess on one face of said case, a flat marker removably secured in said recess, a spring biased winding drum in said case, a nylon line wound on said drum, said annular wall having a first opening through which one end of said line extends, a first knob on said one end of said line normally seating in said opening, said case having a peripheral slot in one edge thereof, a resilient elongated normally straight member adapted to be coiled interiorly of said annular wall, a stud on one end of said member extending through said slot, a second knob on said stud, a second opening in said annular wall adjacent the other end of said member through which said other end of said member is extended upon movement of said second knob, and hence said stud in said slot, a point on said other end of said elongated member, and guide means in said casing for directing said point through said second opening to the exterior of said case when extended.

2. The structure of claim 1 wherein said casing is metal and said marker is magnetized, magnetic attraction

serving as means whereby said marker is removably secured in said recess.

3. The structure of claim 1 wherein said first opening is internally threaded and said first knob has an externally threaded shank engaging in said first opening for releasably retaining said first knob in said first opening.

4. The structure of claim 1 wherein an annular track is positioned in said casing between said drum and said annular wall and serves as said guide means for said resilient member.

5. The structure of claim 3 wherein said stud extends through said resilient member and carries a bearing on the end opposite said knob, said bearing riding on said guide means.

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