

Nov. 18, 1958

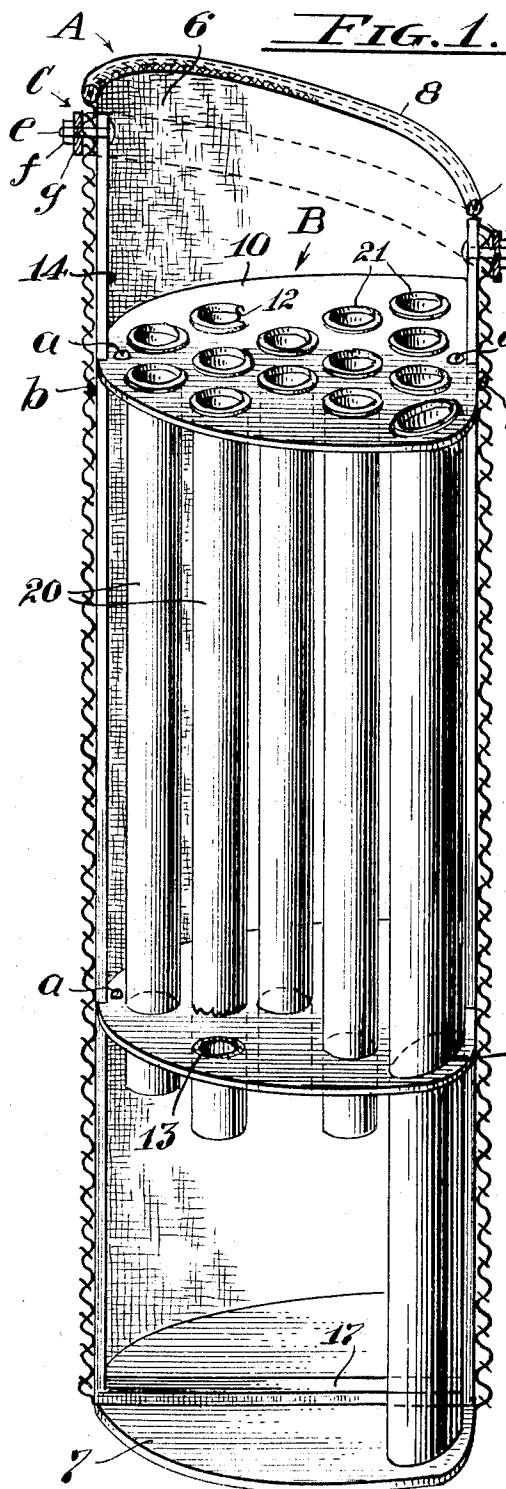
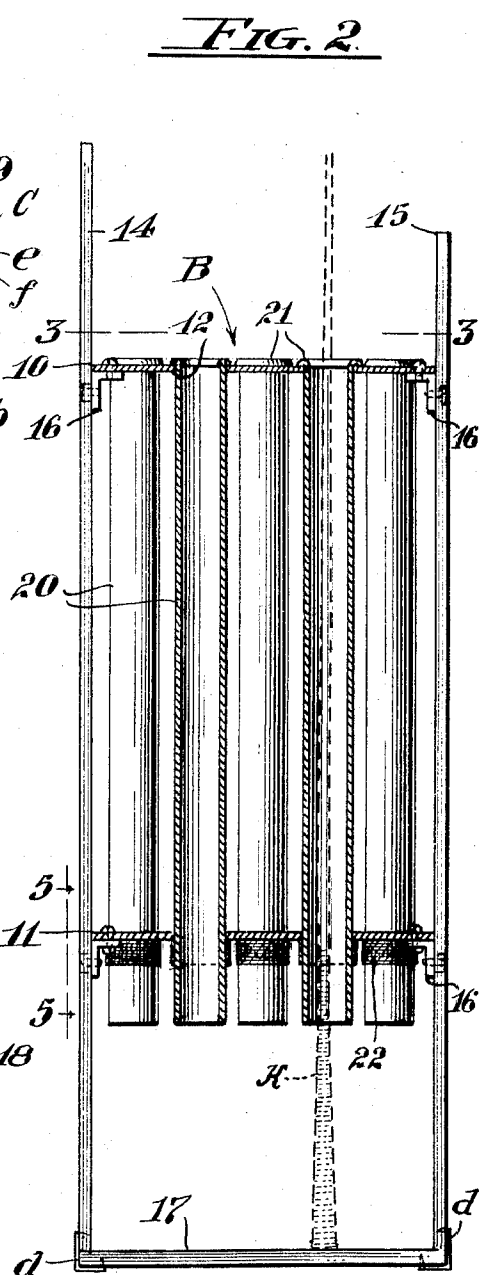
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2,860,679

RACK INSERT FOR GOLF BAGS

Filed Sept. 28, 1956

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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FIG. 3.

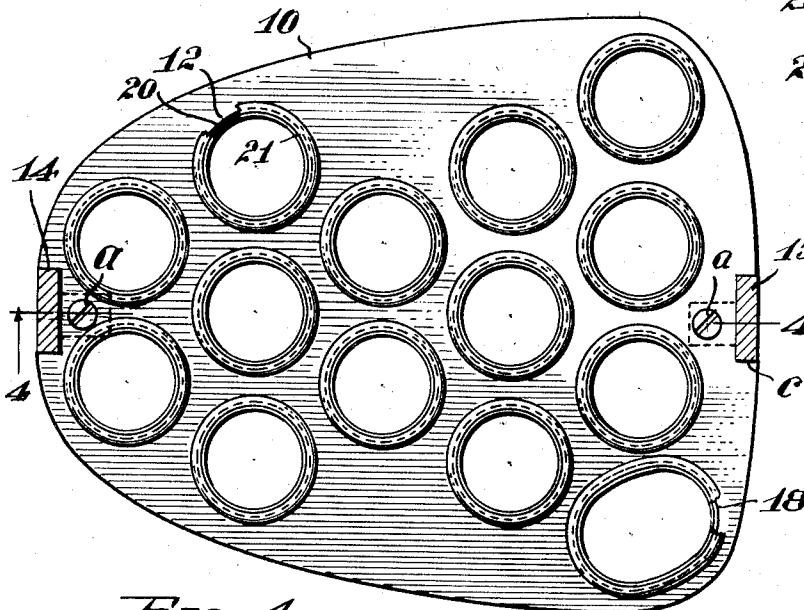


FIG. 6.

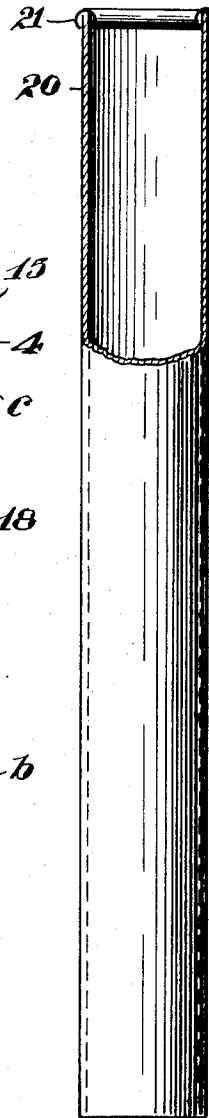


FIG. 4.

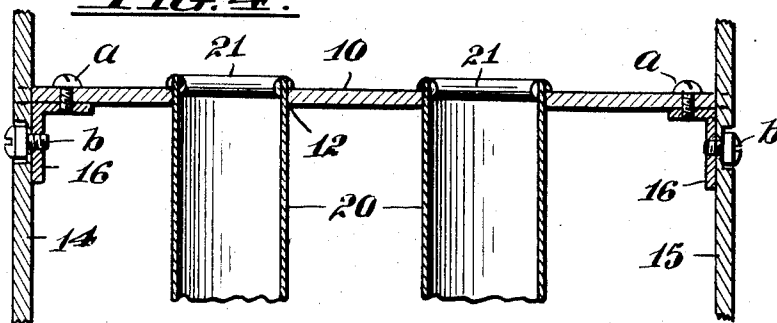
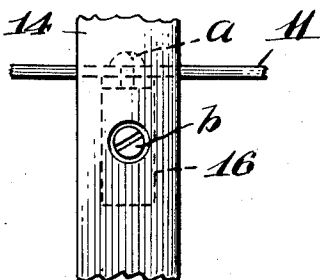


FIG. 5.



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RACK INSERT FOR GOLF BAGS

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4 Claims. (Cl. 150—1.5)

This invention relates to a rack for supporting golf clubs and particularly pertains to the type of golf club rack set forth in United States Letters Patent No. 2,781,072 issued to me February 12, 1957.

The primary object of the invention is the provision of a golf club rack which is adapted to be mounted within a golf bag and then serve as a means for holding the handles of a multiple of golf clubs in separated spaced relation to each other while the clubs are carried in the bag and whereby interlocking of the club handles in the bag will be prevented and whereby withdrawing of a club from the bag will be facilitated.

Another object is to provide a rack of the above character which is so designed that it may be assembled apart from the bag and then be readily positioned within the bag and securely fastened in place therein.

Another object is to provide a golf club rack which is light in weight so as not to appreciably increase the weight of the bag to which it is applied, which is strong and durable and which will withstand hard usage.

Another object is to provide a rack which may be marketed in knocked-down condition so as to effect economy in space during shipment and storage, yet which may be readily assembled and mounted in a golf bag by persons of ordinary skill.

A further object is to provide a rack embodying a pair of superimposed complementary apertured plates together with frame members whereby the plates are secured in suitable spaced relation to each other and be spaced from the upper and lower ends of the bag in which the rack is mounted.

A particular object of the invention is to provide a rack embodying rigid tubular guideways extending through opposed apertures in said plates for smoothly guiding the handles of golf clubs through the apertures in the uppermost plate downwardly through the apertures in the lowermost plate, and which is effective irrespective of whether the bag is positioned upright or horizontal, or at an inclination as when being carried, and to provide an effective means for removably mounting said guideways on said plates.

With the foregoing objects in view together with such other objects and advantages as may subsequently appear, the invention resides in the parts and in the combination, construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and claimed, and as illustrated by way of example in the accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view in transverse section of a golf bag showing the club supporting rack mounted therein with a portion of a guideway broken away;

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the rack partly in elevation showing it as detached from the bag;

Fig. 3 is a horizontal section and plan view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2 with parts broken away;

Fig. 4 is a detail in cross section partly in elevation as seen on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a detail in elevation as seen on the line 5—5 of Fig. 2; and

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Fig. 6 is a detail in section and elevation of one of the tubular guideways with parts broken away.

Referring to the drawings more specifically A indicates generally a conventional golf bag, a vertical half of which is shown in Fig. 1, and B designates the golf club rack designed for positioning within the bag A.

The golf bag is here shown as comprising a flexible fabric tube 6 one end of which is closed by a relatively stiff bottom wall 7 and the other end of which is open and fitted at its margin 8 with a rigid metallic reinforcing ring 9 which serves to maintain the bag open at its upper end. The margin 8 extends at an inclination from the back portion of the bag to the front portion thereof as is common in golf bag construction.

The rack B embodies a pair of complementary rigid plates 10 and 11 the margins of which at least substantially conform to the contour of the inner periphery of the bag A, and which plates are formed with a plurality of circular apertures 12—13 respectively with the apertures of one plate registering or aligned with the apertures of the other plate. The plates 10—11 are designed to be spaced apart in the bag A with the upper plate 10 spaced below the open upper end of the bag and with the other plate spaced from the bottom wall 7 of the bag. As a means for supporting the plates in such spaced relation and in parallel relation to each other and to the bottom wall 7 and also to sustain the flexible tube 6 against longitudinal collapse a frame is provided which consists of a pair of parallel elongated and narrow posts 14 and 15 arranged at opposite ends of the plates 10—11 and to which the latter are rigidly attached by angle brackets 16 each having one arm thereof secured by a screw *a* to the plate and the other arm secured to the adjacent post by a screw *b*. The posts 14—15 are of rectangular cross section and are fitted into conforming notches *c* formed in the end margins of the plates which serve to stabilize the connection between the plates and posts as well as to position the outer faces of the posts flush with the margins of the plates. The posts 14—15 may be connected together at their lower ends by a base strip 17 which is secured to the posts as by staples *d* or similar fastenings and is adapted to seat on the bottom wall 7. However this strip 17 is not essential since the lower ends of the posts may seat directly on the bottom wall 7.

The post 14 is designed to extend adjacent the inner face of the rear wall portion of the bag from the base strip 17 or bottom wall 7 to adjacent the uppermost point of the inclined margin 8 of the bag beneath the ring 9 while the post 15 is designed to extend adjacent the inner face of the front wall portion of the bag from the base strip 17 or bottom wall 7 to adjacent the underside of the ring 9 at the lowermost portion of the inclined margin of the bag.

As a means for fastening the rack B within the bag A, the upper end portions of the posts 14—15 are connected to the contiguous portions of the bag by fasteners C here shown as comprising bolts *e* which pass through the posts and bag and are fitted with nuts *f* in the usual manner which bolt and nut assemblies afford a means whereby the rack may readily be engaged with and disengaged from the bag. A reinforcing strip or band *g* may be affixed to the bag where the fasteners C engage the latter.

A feature of the invention resides in forming the plates 10—11 with opposed elongated openings 18 for the reception of the putter club which is characterized by having a handle so shaped and dimensioned as not to be receivable in the circular apertures 12—13.

Means are provided for guiding the handles of golf clubs passed through the apertures 12 in the upper plate 10 to direct the handles to and through the apertures

13 in the lower plate 11. This means consists of a series of rigid tubes 20 extending in parallel relation to each other between the plates 10—11 with their ends engaged in the apertures 12—13. The apertures 12 in the uppermost plate 10 are dimensioned to slidably receive the tubes 20 which in assembling are passed longitudinally therethrough, while the apertures 13 in the lower plate 11 are dimensioned to receive the lower ends of the tubes 20 with a snug driving fit to securely hold the tubes in place. The plates 10—11 are preferably formed of sheet metal while the tubes 20 are preferably formed of laminations of spirally wound paper strips in the manner common to the manufacture of paper tubing.

As a means for holding the tubes 20 against being passed completely through the apertures 12, the upper ends of the tubes 20 are fitted with metal grommets 21 which protrude from the outer surfaces of the tubes and effect seated engagement with the margins of the apertures 12. The grommets 21 also serve as wear resistors since they shield the upper ends of the guideway tubes 20 against impacts of the ends of club handles when inserting the latter in the tubes.

The tubes 20 are water proofed by the application thereto of a suitable coating of water proofing material such as oil or wax which coating also serves to reinforce the tubes and to resist wear. By mounting the tubes as set forth, a damaged tube may be readily removed and replaced without disturbing other of the tubes.

As a means for securing the tubes in place a strip 22 of adhesive tape is wound around each of the tubes adjacent the underside of the plate 11.

Manifestly the pieces of which the rack B is formed may be readily assembled and accordingly are adapted to be merchandised in a knocked-down condition.

The operation of the invention is apparent from the foregoing, it being manifest that mounting of the assembled rack B in the golf bag A involves merely inserting the rack in the bag to its seated position therein and then securing it in place by application of the fastenings C.

Mounting of golf clubs in the rack simply involves inserting the handle ends of the clubs into the upper ends of the guideways 20 and thrusting the clubs along the guideways to a seated position on the bottom wall 7 of the bag as indicated at k in Fig. 2. A series of golf clubs may thus be mounted in the rack with each club independently supported so that a single club may be readily removed by withdrawing it longitudinally from the rack, which is effected without disturbing adjacent clubs.

Manifestly while carried in the rack the series of clubs will be supported by the plates 10—11 and tubes 20 with their handles clear of each other irrespective of the normal position of the bag.

While a specific embodiment of the invention has been shown and described, the invention is not limited to the exact details of construction set forth, and the invention embraces such changes, modifications and equivalents of the parts and their formation and arrangement as come within the purview of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In a club rack insert for golf bags, a pair of spaced superimposed complementary plates formed with corresponding arrangements of apertures, a pair of elongated narrow posts between which said plates are interposed and arranged in spaced parallel relation to each other, means rigidly fastening said plates to said posts, a series of rigid tubes leading from the margin of each of the apertures in the uppermost of the plates through the apertures in the other of said plates, the apertures in the uppermost of said plates being dimensioned to freely receive said tubes and the apertures in the other of said plates being dimensioned to receive said tubes with a snug driving fit, and metal grommets on the upper ends of said tubes adapted to seat on the margins of the apertures in the uppermost of said plates.

2. A golf club rack comprising a pair of spaced parallel plates, a supporting frame to which said plates are rigidly attached, said plates each being formed with a series of apertures arranged with the apertures in one of the plates aligned with the apertures in the other plate, a rigid open ended tube extending through and snugly fitted in each of the aligned apertures, and means fixed on said tubes engaging the portions of said plate forming the margins of said apertures to hold the tubes in place.

3. The structure called for in claim 2 in which certain of said apertures are circular and the tubes therein are cylindrical.

4. The structure called for in claim 2 in which certain of said apertures are circular and the tubes therein are cylindrical and wherein at least one pair of the aligned apertures is elongated and the tube therein correspondingly shaped.

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