Jan. 24, 1933. C. B. ISBELL 1,895,393

SHUFFLE BOARD CUE

Filed May 27, 1930

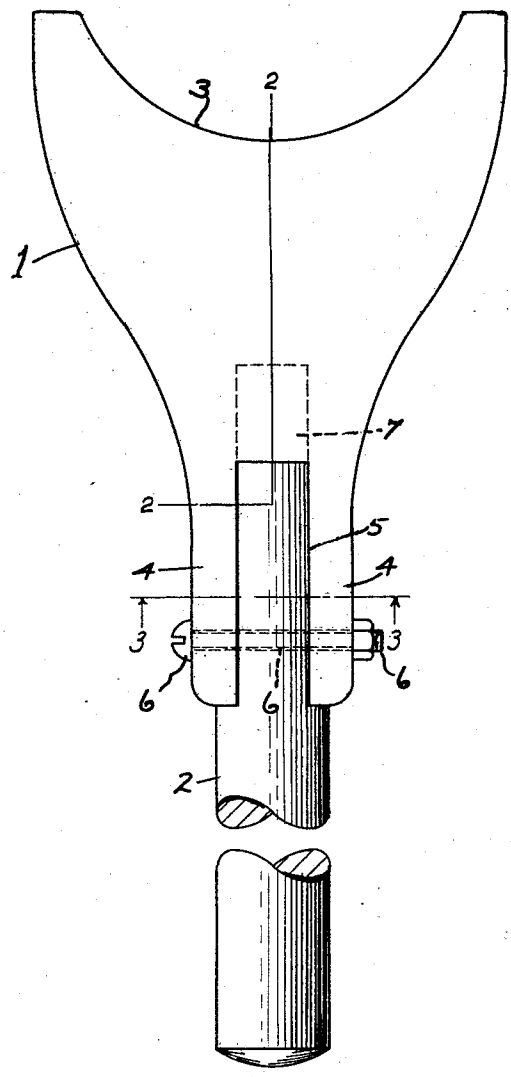


Fig. 1

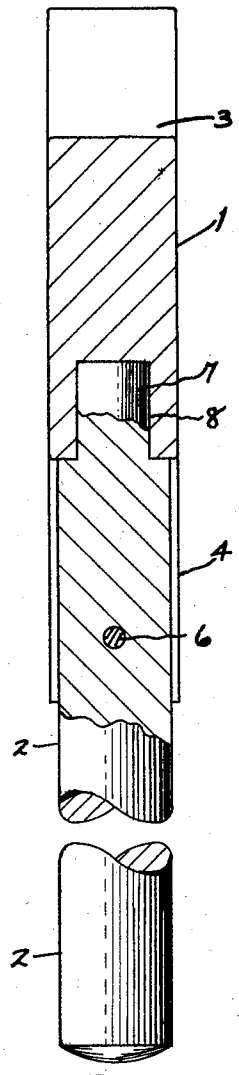


Fig. 2

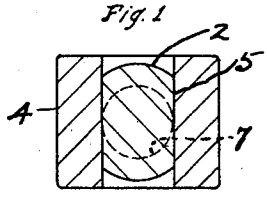


Fig. 3

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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SHUFFLE BOARD CUE

Application filed May 27, 1930. Serial No. 456,201.

My invention relates to the game of shuffle board, and particularly to the cue used in playing the game.

The cue used in playing the game of shuffle board is usually made of wood, and the type now in common use is rather fragile and frequently broken by misuse by temperamental players, who becoming agitated, upon the execution of either a skillful or unskillful play, hammer the ground or the nearest object violently with the cue, thereby damaging the cue or rendering it wholly useless.

The principal object of my invention is to provide an improved shuffle board cue that is sturdy in construction, yet simple and cheap, and which cannot readily be damaged or destroyed by ordinary misuse at the hands of an unduly elated or temperamental player.

The preferred embodiment of my invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein

Figure 1 is a plan elevational view of my improved shuffle board cue;

Fig. 2 is a section taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1 and including the handle; and

Fig. 3 is a section taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Similar numerals of reference indicate like parts throughout the several views on the drawing.

Referring now to the drawing the numeral 1 indicates a shuffle board cue head, preferably made of some suitable wood, and 2 the handle connected therewith, as hereinafter described. The head 1 is provided with the concaved front end 3, which is adapted to engage the disk to be projected by the player, as is well known in the art, said head being provided also with the furcated shank section 4 within which the somewhat flattened lower end 5 of the handle is secured by the fastener member 6 which may take the form of a bolt and which may penetrate the handle and both prongs of the head shank furcation.

The extreme lower end of the handle 2 may be provided with a cylindrical portion 7 which engages snugly in a cylindrical socket 8 formed in the head shank at the termination of the shank furcation and between the prongs thereof, the bolt 6 maintaining the juxtaposition of the handle within the furcation prongs and said socket.

It is to be particularly noted that the head 1 and handle 2 are disposed in alignment and that the relation of the handle and head is one best adapted to reduce breaking strain on the head and thereby overcome the liability to breakage in the misuse of the cue referred to. The thickness of the head and the diameter of the handle are substantially equal and the spacing of the parts forming the bifurcation 4 of the head is such as to require a material reduction in the diameter of the handle to fit between these parts. This requires a rather considerable area of the squared portion of the handle in contact with the inner surface of the bifurcation so that throughout the ordinarily weak part of the head, i. e. throughout the length of the bifurcation, there is a very considerable area of the handle to resist the breaking tendency of the arms forming the bifurcation. Furthermore, the relation of the handle and the inner surface of the bifurcated portion forms square-fitting or abrupt bearing surfaces to prevent any possibility of twisting or turning the handle independently of the head, and thus there is further resistance to a breaking strain under such an action.

Again, the handle presents square shoulders which bear against the free ends of the arms forming the bifurcation and the end of the handle remote from these square shoulders is slightly reduced in diameter and seated in a longitudinally ranging, centrally disposed recess wholly included within the area of the head. The shoulders and extension 7 prevent relative endwise movement of the head and handle in one direction, and the handle proper forms immediately adjacent one end of the extension 7 a shouldered portion which bears squarely against the inner wall of the bifurcation. The transverse pin 6 located near the remote end of the arms 4 confines the free ends of the arms with relation to the adjacent shoulder and the handle, and thus the handle and head are locked against relative rotative movement, relative endwise movement

or a relative twisting, with the effect that through the formation and by the provision of a single bolt, the connection between the head and handle is as strong and rigid as if the parts were integral, while at the same time permitting the convenient and ready separation of the handle and head through the removal of a single bolt.

It is recognized that the joint connection between the head and handle provides an arrangement involving the specific details of a joint, but these details in the present instance are not designed primarily with a view to providing a joint but with a view to permitting the separation of the handle when necessary, and more particularly a correlation of the parts which insures the utmost rigidity and resistance to breaking strain under the misuse to which the cues are frequently subjected. In such misuse, where one edge of the operative end of the head is driven against the floor or other object, there is a decided tendency to twist or turn the head relative to the handle. In the present instance, this is resisted by the relative broad bearing between the handle and head and the provision of the cooperating shoulders at the respective ends of the handle and head. If the misuse directs a strain on the head which tends to move it at an angle to the handle, the projection 7, together with the shoulders at the respective ends of the head and handle, guard against any independent movement of the head under such strain. Therefore, the joint is essentially correlated to a particular article such as described, namely a shuffle board cue, and insofar as its objects in this particular relation are concerned, is to be clearly distinguished from the general joint connection.

The construction of my improved shuffle board cue imparts great strength and durability thereto without impairing its effectiveness or materially enhancing its weight.

I am aware that the invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential attributes thereof, and I therefore desire to present embodiment to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new therein and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A shuffle board cue involving a head and a handle removably connected therewith, the head and handle being in alignment, the free end of the head being formed to cooperate with the playing element, the opposite end of the head being reduced in width to provide a shank section presenting spaced parallel arms, the handle being substantially round in cross section and of a diameter materially exceeding the space between the arms of the shank, said handle being reduced in diameter to present diametrically opposed square surfaces to fit between and bear squarely against the inner surface of the arms, the end of the handle having a cylindrical projection of a diameter substantially equaling the distance between the squared surfaces of the handle, with the head formed with a recess in line with the space between the arms to snugly receive said projection, the reduction of the handle to fit between the arms providing side shoulders to bear squarely against the free ends of the arms, the formation of the projection of the handle forming upper and lower shoulders to bear against the end of the space between the arms above and below the projection.

2. A shuffle board cue involving a head and a handle removably connected therewith, the head and handle being in alignment, the free end of the head being formed to cooperate with the playing element, the opposite end of the head being reduced in width to provide a shank section presenting spaced parallel arms, the handle being substantially round in cross section and of a diameter materially exceeding the space between the arms of the shank, said handle being reduced in diameter to present diametrically opposed square surfaces to fit between and bear squarely against the inner surfaces of the arms, the end of the handle having a cylindrical projection of a diameter substantially equaling the distance between the squared surfaces of the handle, with the head formed with a recess in line with the space between the arms to snugly receive said projection, the reduction of the handle to fit between the arms providing side shoulders to bear squarely against the free ends of the arms, the formation of the projection on the handle forming upper and lower shoulders to bear against the end of the space between the arms above and below the projection, and a transverse securing element passing through the arms and handle adjacent the free ends of the arms.

3. A shuffle board cue comprising a head formed at one end with a recess to cooperate with the playing disk, the head being of reduced width beyond the recess to provide a shank including spaced parallel arms having inner surfaces at right angles to the plane of the head, the body of the head immediately beyond the space between the arms being formed with a longitudinal recess, and a handle having opposed squared surfaces to fit between and bear substantially throughout the squared surfaces of the inner sides of the arms, and an end extension to fit within said recess, the handle presenting shoulders at right angles to the plane of the head to bear squarely against the ends of the arms and shoulders at right angles to the first mentioned shoulders to bear against the end of the space between the arms above and below the recess.

CHARLES B. ISBELL.