Oct. 9, 1923. 1,470,117

N. MacRAE

GAME

Filed Feb. 3, 1922 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

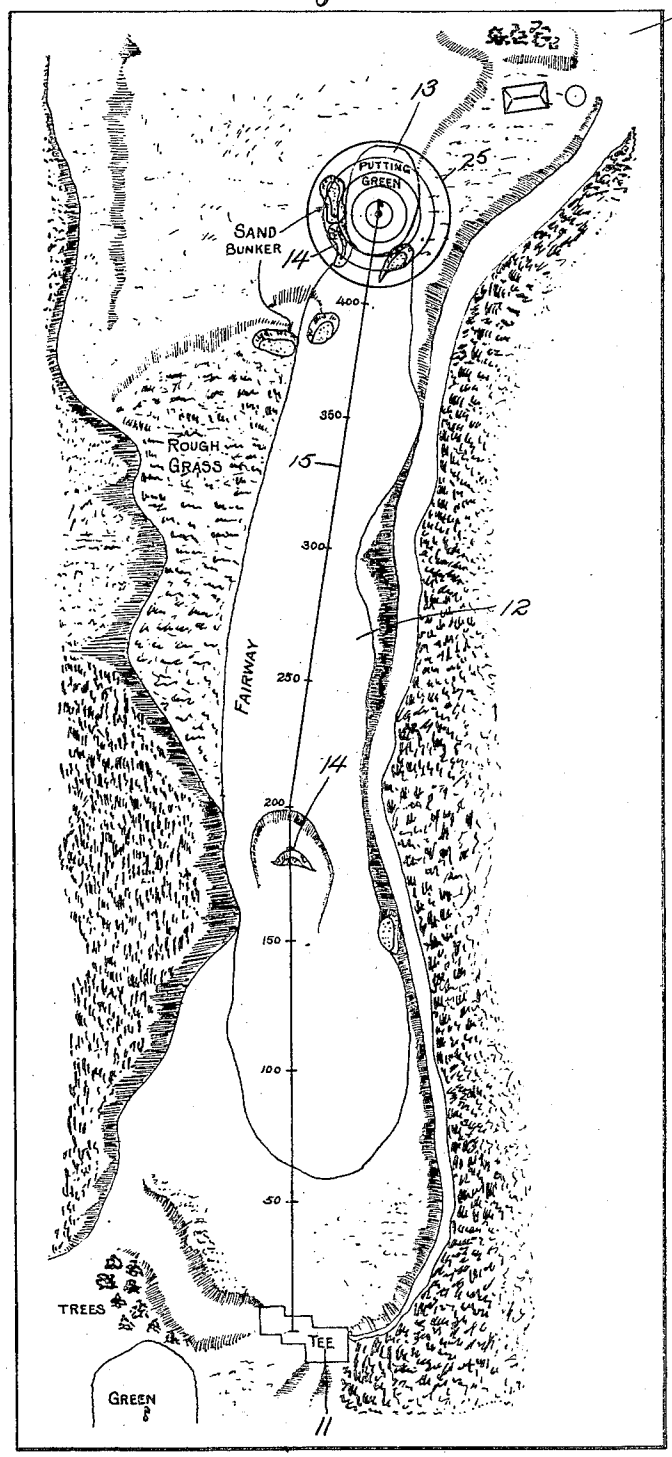
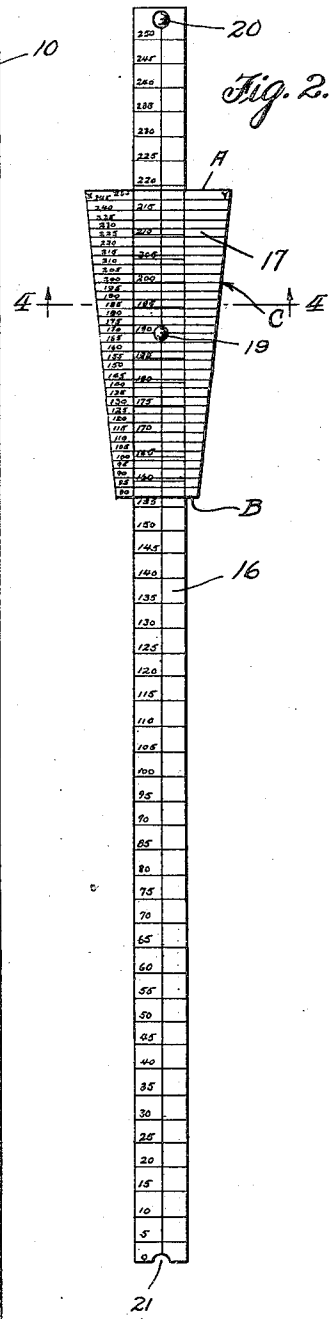


Fig. 2.



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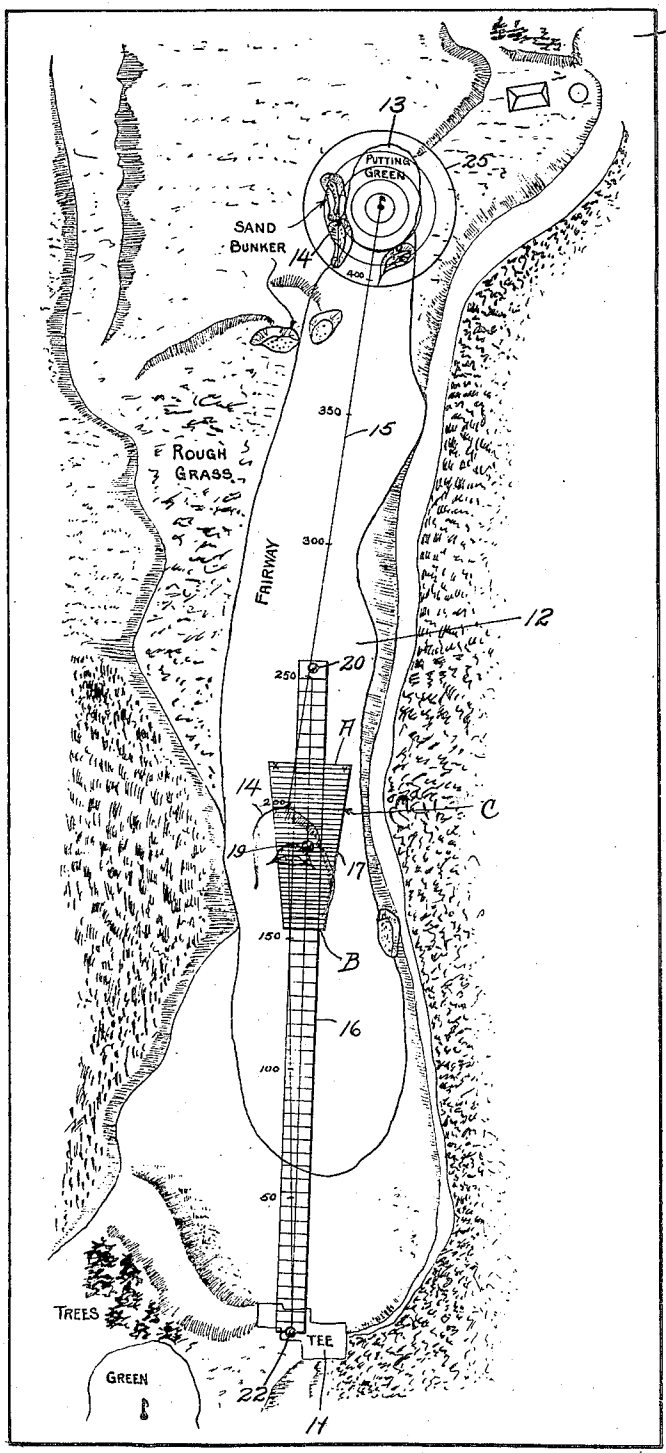


Fig. 6.

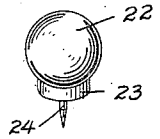


Fig. 3

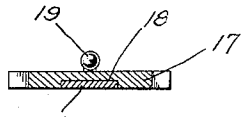


Fig. 4.

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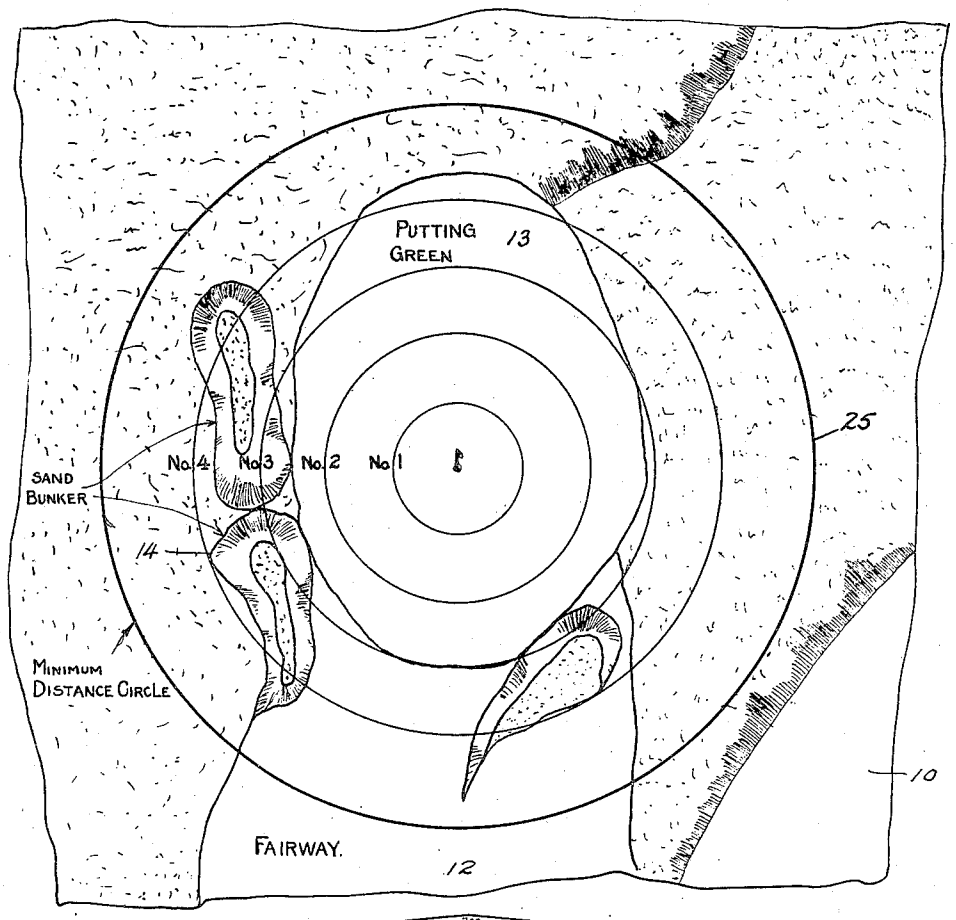


Fig. 7.

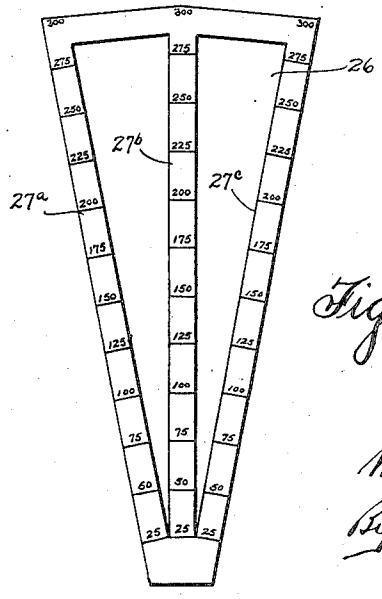


Fig. 5.

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Patented Oct. 9, 1923. 1,470,117

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NELSON MacRAE, OF WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA.

GAME.

Application filed February 3, 1922. Serial No. 533,900.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NELSON MACRAE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Wilmington, in the county of New Hanover and State of North Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Game, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to games and more particularly to a game simulating the game of golf.

It is the object of my invention to provide an indoor golf game in which the actual strokes which are made by the player may be indicated on a golf course, the golf course comprising a topography similar to that encountered on actual golf courses.

In carrying out my invention, I provide a plurality of prints each of which represents one hole of a golf course including the tee, the fairway, the green, the hazards and all other topography incident to that particular section of the course. It is intended that the prints of the holes of the course be reproductions drawn to scale of the leading golf courses of the country or of the course upon which the player or players are in the habit of playing.

In addition, my invention contemplates the use of what is known as a golf machine of which a number of types are now in universal use. These machines embody a golf ball and recording device which records the length of the stroke by registering approximately the distance the ball would have been driven upon a regular course by a similar stroke. For example, the types of golf machines shown in United States Patents 661,381, dated November 6, 1900, and 1,074,880, dated October 7th, 1913, may be satisfactorily used. My invention further contemplates the use of a putting carpet and indoor putting cup similar to those now universally used although as will be explained more fully hereinafter, the putting carpet and putting cup may be dispensed with.

For use in connection with the charts or prints of the holes of the course, my invention contemplates the use of a scale, the divisions of which are on the same scale as the course and a protractor whereby arbitrary distances are established as indicative of the probable length of roll of the ball and the possibility of it encountering hazards or of it rolling off the fairway.

Imitation golf balls are further provided and are adapted to be placed on the course as indicating the play of each person. In addition, there may also be provided printed cards containing the rules of the game and score cards of the course.

In addition to the scale and protractor as mentioned hereinbefore, my invention further contemplates the use of a scale arbitrarily indicating the divergence of "pulled" or "sliced" shots whereby faulty strokes of this nature may be taken account of in indicating the score of that particular player.

One example of my invention will be described in detail in the accompanying specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a print or chart illustrating one hole of a golf course.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of the scale and protractor.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one of the golf balls.

Fig. 4 is a section taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a modified form of scale.

Fig. 6 is a view of a chart illustrating one of the holes of the course as it appears when in use, and

Fig. 7 is an enlarged view of the putting green illustrated on the print in Fig. 6.

In carrying out my invention in which a replica of an 18 hole course is to be made, I provide 18 charts or prints 10 such as illustrated in Fig. 1 upon each of which there is displayed one hole of the course, the topography of the course being definitely defined and indicated. These charts are preferably made of cardboard, linen or other similar material so that golf balls used in connection with my game may be suitably attached to the charts at the desired points. As mentioned hereinbefore it is my intention to reproduce famous golf courses so that players in using my game may become familiar with these courses and in this connection there is illustrated on the print 10 in Fig. 1, the 13th hole of the golf course at Gleneagles, Scotland. In this section of the course, there is illustrated the tee 11, the fairway 12, the putting green 13, and the

hazards 14 of various kinds. Obviously, if each print reproduces one hole of an actual golf course, the topography will be different from the illustrative example shown herein. But in general, there will be illustrated a tee, a fairway, a putting green and the associated hazards. If desired, there may be drawn centrally of the fairway a scale line 15 indicating the distance from the tee to the hole.

In placing the ball at the completion of each stroke the player uses a scale 16, the division lines of which are arranged on the same scale as the course and a compensating protractor 17. The protractor 17 is provided with a longitudinal recess 18 of sufficient size to receive the scale 16 so that in use the protractor 17 is placed upon the scale 16 and moved relatively thereto by means of a handle 19. In this connection the scale 16 may also be provided with a handle 20 for convenience in moving the same. The other end of the scale 16 is provided with a notch 21 to enable it to be conveniently placed in contact with the ball used in this game. The protractor 17 is made of transparent material to enable the graduations on the scale to be visible therethrough and in this connection it has been found desirable also to form the scale 16 of a transparent material whereupon the exact position on the course may be noted.

One of the balls 22 is illustrated in Fig. 3 and as shown, is formed with a shank portion 23 with which the notch 21 is adapted to engage and a pin-like projection 24. In placing the balls 22 the projection 24 is forced into the chart 10, the ball remaining in position by reason of the same. In this connection it should be noted that a plurality of balls are provided each colored differently for identification purposes.

Around the hole on each print there is described a plurality of circles, (see particularly Fig. 7) suitably denominated. Four of these circles are herein denominated No. 1, No. 2, No. 3 and No. 4 respectively, these circles being drawn on a radius representing 5, 10, 15 and 20 feet from the hole indicated on the print. There is furthermore described a circle 25 denominated "Minimum distance circle" which indicates in general the minimum distance the golf machine will register with accuracy. It should be understood, however, that the distance of the minimum circle from the hole is arbitrary and may be changed to correspond to the design of the golf machine in connection with which this game is played. The circles denominated No. 1, No. 2, No. 3 and No. 4 are used in putting as will be more fully described hereinafter.

The method of playing my game will now be described:

If for example, a foursome is to be played, the side having the honour places their ball on the tee and lays the scale upon the course with the zero end at the position of the ball, the center line of the scale extending toward the desired direction of play, (see particularly Fig. 6). In this connection, the notch 21 surrounds the shank 23 of the ball. The first player then makes a stroke with the golf machine and notes the distance registered on the machine. The compensating protractor 17 is then placed upon the scale with the end A pointed in the direction of play. A line is selected on the protractor corresponding to the yardage indicated on the golf machine and the protractor is thereupon slid along the scale 16 until the selected line on the protractor coincides with the same yardage mark on the scale 16. Such coincidence is visible because of the transparency of the protractor.

The area lying between the selected line on the protractor 17 and the rear edge B for any particular shot is calculated to show the roll of the ball for that length of shot and also the probable or average accuracy of the shot. Consequently if the area of the protractor lying between the line corresponding to the yardage and the rear edge B of the protractor covers any trap, hazard or rough, or any part thereof, the ball shall be placed in said hazard, trap or rough and the next shot played accordingly. When the said area of the protractor covers more than one hazard at the same time, the ball shall be placed in the hazard which will incur the most severe penalty to the player. Where two hazards are in the same line of play, the ball shall be placed in the one furthest from the hole. In any hazard the ball may be placed in the most advantageous position in preparation for the next stroke.

By way of example, reference being had to Figs. 2 and 6, it will be assumed that the stroke with the golf machine registers 200 yards. The compensating protractor 17 is moved along the scale 16 until the line indicating 200 yards on the protractor 17 coincides with the mark indicating 200 yards on the scale 16. This point is indicated by the reference character C in Figs. 2 and 6. The area of the protractor lying between the line C and the rear edge B arbitrarily indicates the roll of the ball and consequently if during the roll the ball would encounter any trap, hazard or rough, it is assumed that its travel would be intercepted and the ball would come to rest in any such hazard, trap or rough. In Fig. 6, the area defined by the line C and the rear edge B of the protractor 17 covers a hazard 14 which in this particular instance, is a bunker. Obviously, therefore the ball will be presumed to have come to rest in the bunker and the player's ball will therefore be moved from the tee to a position in this bunker.

When it again becomes time for this ball to be played the scale is placed with the notch 21 in engagement with the ball and the scale laid in the direction of the hole, the same procedure being adhered to as just described.

When the area defined by the rear edge B of the protractor and the line indicating the yardage does not cover any hazard, trap or rough, the ball shall be conceded as having traveled the full distance and shall be placed the full number of yards indicated on the golf machine.

In playing the game the Rules of Golf shall govern with however, the following qualifications which for the purpose of simplicity will herein be separately designated.

(*a*) If the player's ball comes to rest in a sand trap, the golf machine is not used for the next shot, but the ball is placed by the player 50 yards in any desired direction. This shall count one stroke. Exception:— When the sand trap is within the minimum distance circle, (see Putting Green Rules.)

(*b*) If a player's ball comes to rest in any other hazard it must be dropped out by the player with the usual penalty as set forth in the Rules of Golf.

(*c*) If the player's ball reaches the rough, 25 yards will be deducted from the length of that stroke as registered on the golf machine, provided that 25 yards does not bring the ball back into the fairway, in which case the ball will be brought back toward the tee but left in the edge of the rough.

(*d*) On any stroke played from the rough the player will deduct a distance of 50 yards from that stroke as registered on the golf machine and the protractor placed accordingly. Exception:—For strokes not in excess of 150 yards full distance will be allowed and must be taken by the player except that in no case will the ball be conceded as coming within No. 3 circle (see Putting Green Rules.) In case the ball should come within No. 3 circle from such a shot, it shall be placed on No. 3 circle and played accordingly.

(*e*) For topped shots the whole area of the protractor shall be conceded as arbitrarily designating the roll and probable accuracy and the line X Y on the protractor shall be placed on the yardage line on the scale as indicated by the golf machine.

(*f*) For each succeeding shot the above procedure must be followed until the ball shall come to rest within the minimum distance circle.

While I have set forth hereinbefore a set of arbitrary rules to be used in connection with the recognized Rules of Golf, it should be understood that these rules are suggestive only and are set forth solely as an illustrative example of arbitrary qualifications deduced after actual experiment.

For the government of procedure around each hole I have as hereinbefore mentioned described a plurality of circles, four of which are denominated No. 1, No. 2, No. 3 and No. 4 and which represent distances of 5, 10, 15 and 20 feet from the hole respectively. There is also described a larger circle denominated Minimum distance circle which arbitrarily represents the minimum distance that the golf machine will register accurately.

When therefore a player's ball comes to rest within the minimum distance circle and when it is found convenient to employ a putting carpet and putting cup, the following Putting Green Rules obtain:

(*g*) If a player's ball comes to rest within the minimum distance circle on or off the green but outside No. 4 circle, not in rough or sand trap, count one stroke, place ball on No. 2 circle and put out from the 10 foot mark on the putting carpet.

(*h*) If a player's ball comes to rest in any sand trap or rough within the minimum distance circle but outside No. 4 circle, count one stroke, place ball on No. 4 circle and put out from 20 foot mark on putting carpet.

(*i*) If player's ball is in any trap inside No. 4 circle, place on No. 3 circle, count one stroke and put out on putting carpet from 15 foot mark.

(*j*) If player's ball is within No. 4 circle but not on the green, count one stroke and place on No. 1 circle and put out on putting carpet from 5 foot mark.

(*k*) Whenever the ball is actually played on the golf machine from without the minimum distance circle and comes to rest within No. 4, No. 3, No. 2 or No. 1 circle on green, place ball on nearest circle line without counting a stroke and put out on putting carpet from corresponding distance on the carpet.

In connection with the foregoing set of rules it is assumed that sufficient room is available to use a 20 foot putting carpet divided into four spaces of 5 feet each. However, where it is impractical to use a putting carpet of this length a smaller putting carpet may be used the same results being obtained by dividing the same into four equal parts, these divisions corresponding to the first four circles described around the hole on the course.

The manner in which the game is played when the ball reaches the putting green will be obvious from the foregoing rules and a further description of the same is believed to be unnecessary.

When it is not feasible or practical to use a putting carpet, arbitrary rules such as the following "supplemental putting green rules" will obtain:

(*l*) If the ball comes to rest in sand trap within 50 yards of green, player will be

conceded as holing out in three additional strokes.

(*m*) If ball comes to rest inside No. 2 circle, player will be conceded as holing out in one put.

(*n*) If ball comes to rest between No. 2 and No. 4 circle, player will be conceded as holing out in two puts.

(*o*) If ball comes to rest between minimum distance circle and No. 4 circle, a player will be conceded as holing out in three additional strokes.

The foregoing rules which are employed when it is found inconvenient to use a putting carpet seem to describe the manner of playing the game when the ball reaches the putting green sufficiently to dispense with the necessity of a further description herein.

The compensating protractor 17 is used in connection with the scale 16 when a golf machine is employed which does not distinctly show "pulls" and "slices"—such for instance as shown in patent numbered 661,381. When however, a golf machine is used—such as shown in patent numbered 1,074,880, which designates distinctly "pulls" and "slices" the protractor 17 is used in connection with a scale 26 illustrated in Fig. 5. This scale has three columns of graduations 27^a, 27^b and 27^c arranged at an angle of 10° from one another, the line of graduations 27^a indicating the "pull" line, the line of graduations 27^c representing the "slice" line while the line of graduations 27^b represents a stroke which is not faulty in either one of these two respects. The compensating protractor 17 when used in connection with the scale 26 is placed upon either one of the columns of graduations and moved along the same, in the same manner as described with reference to Fig. 2. The columns of graduations on the scale 26 are drawn to the same scale as the course.

Obviously a "foursome" a "threesome" or a "single" may be played and the positions of each side accurately indicated on the prints representing each hole of the course. The ball may be followed "through the green" and all of the technicalities of the game of golf made possible.

Obviously it is not necessary to furnish prints illustrating a complete 18 hole course but that a game employing three or six holes could be made, thereby producing practically the same results at a considerable smaller expense. Obviously a print or chart representing one standard hole could be produced with a topography indicated thereon which would enable the tee to be shifted to different locations, thereby maintaining the game complete as to details but materially reducing the concomitant expense of production.

I therefore expressly reserve the right to make such modifications and changes in the form of my improved game as will prove necessary and desirable and it should be furthermore understood that the scale upon which the charts are produced may be likewise varied as I find desirable. Also the arbitrary rules hereinbefore set forth may likewise be changed and modified to enable the object of this game to be properly accomplished.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A game of the class described for use in connection with a golf machine comprising a playing field chart upon which is delineated a golf course, separate scale and protractor means for determining the position of a golf ball on said course corresponding to the stroke length registered on said golf machine, said protractor arbitrarily fixing the length of roll of the ball.

2. A game of the class described for use in connection with a golf machine which registers the length of a stroke, said game comprising a playing field in the form of a golf course delineated upon a plurality of charts, each chart representing one hole of the course, a scale and a protractor movable relatively thereto for determining the position of a golf ball on the course, the distances being obtained from the length of stroke registered by the golf machine, said scale and protractor defining the roll of the ball for the particular length of stroke.

3. In a golf game a plurality of charts, each chart having delineated thereon a golf course with the associated hazards, means embodying a scale and protractor for determining the position on said course of a golf ball after each stroke, said means defining the length of roll of the ball for the length of shot whereby hazards in the path of roll of a ball may be deemed to intercept the movement of said ball and bring the same to rest.

4. In a golf game a chart upon which is delineated a playing field representing a golf course, a scale for measuring on said course the distance travelled by a golf ball, a protractor cooperating therewith for defining the length of roll of the ball for each stroke, the hole of said course having described about the same a plurality of circles whereby areas are defined adjacent said hole in which prescribed putting rules prevail.

5. A game of the class described for use in connection with a golf machine adapted to register the length of a stroke, said game including a chart having delineated thereon a playing field representing a golf course, balls adapted to be placed in various positions on said playing field, a scale and protractor adapted to determine the position of a ball after each stroke on said machine,

the basis of calculation being the length of said stroke registered by said machine, said scale and protractor defining the length of roll of the ball for each length of stroke, each hole of said course having described thereabout a plurality of circles, one of said circles representing the minimum distance said golf machine will register, said circles defining the distance from the hole.

6. In a game of the class described a chart having delineated thereon a playing field representing a golf course, each hole of said course being delineated upon a separate chart, a plurality of balls adapted to be positioned at determinable places on said playing field, a scale drawn to the same scale as said playing field, a slidable protractor cooperating therewith, division marks on said protractor, said protractor being displaceable on said scale to cause a selected division mark to coincide with the division line on said scale representing the length of stroke, the distance between the coinciding mark on said protractor and the rear edge of the same defining the length of roll of the ball for that length of stroke whereby the topography of the golf course may be considered as intercepting the roll of the ball.

7. A game apparatus of the class described, for use in connection with a golf machine designed to register the length of a stroke and an indoor putting carpet and cup, comprising charts upon which are delineated a golf course representing the playing field, a scale and protractor corresponding to the scale of the playing field and adapted to define the position of a ball on said playing field in accordance with the distance of stroke registered by said machine, said scale and protractor cooperating to define the length of roll for each stroke, a plurality of distance defining lines described around each hole of the course of the playing field, one of said lines defining the minimum distance said golf machine will register, the remaining lines defining the distance of the ball from the hole whereby the ball may be correspondingly placed on the putting carpet.

8. A game apparatus of the class described for use in connection with a golf machine designed to register the distance of a stroke and to register "pulls" and "slices", said apparatus embodying a chart having delineated thereon a playing field representative of a golf course, a scale embodying three lines of angularly disposed graduations, two of said lines of graduations representing a pull or slice stroke, and a protractor for use in connection with said scale, the protractor being adapted to be moved along relatively to one of said lines of graduations to determine the position of the ball after each stroke on the golf machine, said protractor defining the length of roll of the ball for each stroke.

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