June 30, 1925.

1,544,453

H. C. HARBISON

BASKET BALL GOAL

Filed March 19, 1925

Fig. 1

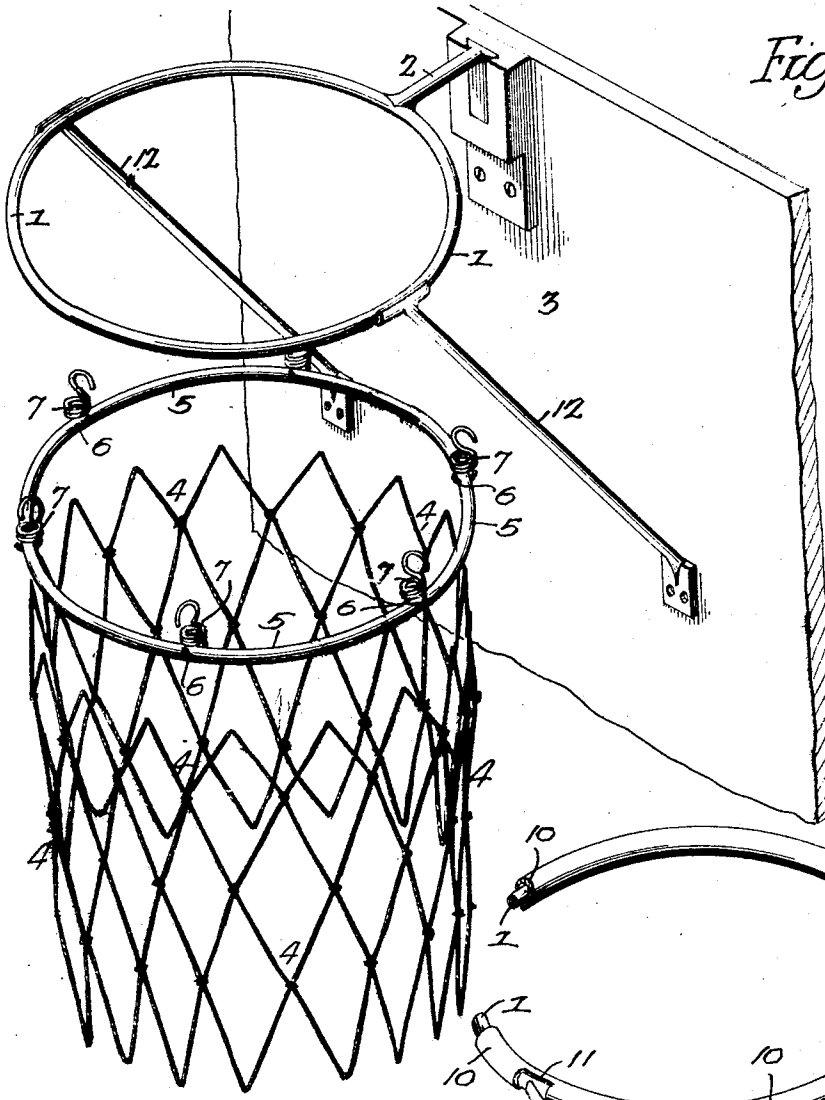


Fig. 3.

Fig. 2.

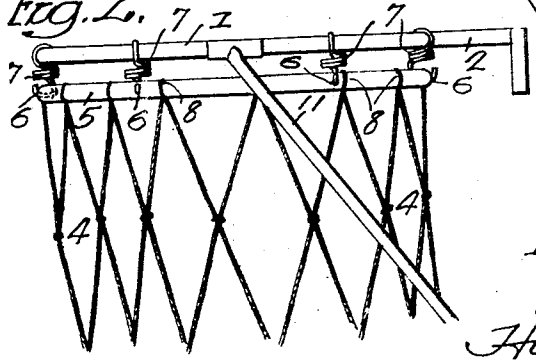
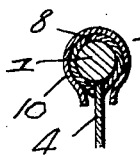


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HOWARD C. HARBISON, OF WAYNE, PENNSYLVANIA.

BASKET-BALL GOAL.

Application filed March 19, 1925. Serial No. 16,699.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HOWARD C. HARBISON, a citizen of the United States, residing in Wayne, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, have invented a Basket-Ball Goal, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in the baskets constituting the goals for basket ball, and the principal object of the invention is to provide a novel form of basket that will be more durable than those of the type now generally employed.

A more specific object of the invention is to provide means adapted for use with the present standard basket for protecting the cords by means of which the tubular nets are ordinarily attached to the supporting annular frame, thereby preventing the ball from coming in contact and eventually cutting said cords.

A further object of the invention is to provide the tubular netting forming a part of the basket with a resilient mounting whereby it may better withstand the shocks and strains placed upon it by the ball.

In the attached drawings:

Figure 1 is a detached perspective view of the annular frame of a standard basket, the tubular netting forming a part of the goal, and an intermediate ring constituting the principal element of one embodiment of my invention;

Fig. 2 is a side elevation showing the assembled basket;

Fig. 3 is a view in perspective of a standard frame provided with the annular guard element constituting another embodiment of my invention, and

Fig. 4 is a sectional view illustrating the guard on the assembled basket.

With reference to the drawings, the standard basket consists of an annular frame 1, usually of metal, having at one side an arm 2 by means of which, as shown in Fig. 1, the frame may be secured to the vertical backstop 3. The basket further comprises a tubular netting 4, as shown in said figure, which ordinarily is secured to the frame 1 by means of cords passed through one end of the netting and around the frame 1. In this form of basket considerable inconvenience is caused by the rupture of the cords that secure the netting 4 due to the action of the ball striking the frame at the points where the said cords pass around the latter. The use of wire or other heavy material for securing the net in place is prohibited by the damaging effect upon the strands of the netting. I have discovered means whereby this material structural defect may be remedied without materially departing from the accepted standards of goal construction.

In one form of my invention I provide, as shown in Fig. 1, a ring 5 of the same diameter as the frame 1 and preferably of heavy wire or metal. This frame 5 is provided at predetermined spaced intervals with apertures 6 through which are passed the lower ends of small springs 7, the upper ends of the springs being made preferably in the form of a hook or loop which may be passed around the frame 1 and secured as shown in Fig. 5. A tubular netting of standard form is employed which, instead of being secured to the frame 1 as previously described, is secured by means of the usual cords 8, see Fig. 2, to the ring 5, this ring then being secured in place under the frame 1 by passing the loops of the spring around the latter. With this construction, as shown in Fig. 2, the cords 8 which secure the netting 4 to the ring 5 occupy a position underneath the frame 1 and are thereby protected from the ball. The springs 7 also act to relieve the shock of the ball in the net.

I have found that a basket constructed as described has a much longer life and period of usefulness without requiring attention of any sort than the standard basket.

Under some circumstances, it may be deemed advisable to provide additional protective means in the form of an annular split ring, such as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, and therein designated by the reference numeral 10, this member being adapted as shown to fit down closely over the frame 1, thereby providing a protective cover overlying the elements 7 where they pass around the frame 1. This not only protects the springs from the action of the ball, but also provides a smooth upper surface for the frame 1, which may be considered advisable. The member 10 may be made of thin spring metal so as to fit more or less snugly around the frame 1, and openings 11 should be provided to accommodate the arm 2 and struts 12 where they join the frame. Obviously the member 10 may be in sectional form and applied so that the junctures of the frame and the arm 2 and struts 12 lie between the ends of the sections.

Obviously the invention in its broader aspects is capable of a wide variety of embodiments. Thus as shown in Fig. 4, it may be desirable under some circumstances to eliminate the intermediate ring 5 and merely employ the member 10 to protect the guards which secure the netting to the frame 1 in the usual manner.

It will be noted that in each instance my device is applicable to the standard goal, and may be put into use without modification of the latter.

I claim:

1. A basket ball goal comprising an annular frame, a ring of substantially the same diameter resiliently suspended from the frame, and a tubular netting suspended from the ring.

2. A basket ball goal comprising an annular frame, a ring of substantially the same diameter as said frame, springs constituting means for suspending the ring from the annular frame, and a tubular netting suspended from the ring.

3. A basket ball goal comprising an annular frame, a ring of substantially the same diameter as the frame, springs constituting means for suspending the ring from the frame, means for preventing relative movement between the springs and the ring, and a tubular netting suspended from said ring.

4. A basket ball goal comprising an annular frame, a tubular netting, and a ring of substantially the same diameter as said frame adapted to support the netting and to be detachably secured on the under side of said frame.

5. A basket ball goal comprising an annular member and a tubular net adapted to be secured to said member, and means including an element adapted for detachable connection with said member for providing a protective surface overlying said member.

6. A basket ball goal comprising an annular frame, a tubular net, means for suspending the net from the annular member including elements passing over the top of the latter, and a detachable member adapted to overlie and protect said elements.

7. A basket ball goal comprising an annular frame, a tubular net, and resilient means for suspending the net from the frame.

8. A basket ball goal comprising an annular frame, a tubular net, and springs for suspending the net from the frame.

9. A basket ball goal comprising an annular frame, a tubular net suspended from the frame, and a cover element overlying the frame.

10. As a new article of manufacture, a ring-shaped member of substantially the same diameter as that of the annular frame of a standard basket ball goal and adapted to be secured beneath the said frame and to support a tubular netting, said ring when secured to the frame forming with the latter a basket ball goal substantially the same in form as the said standard goal.

HOWARD C. HARBISON.