March 12, 1968 W. S. MURZYN 3,372,933

BASEBALL GAME APPARATUS

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FIG. 1.

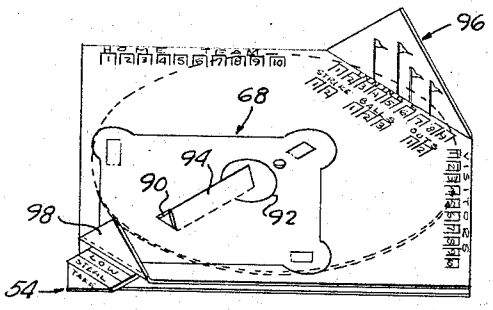
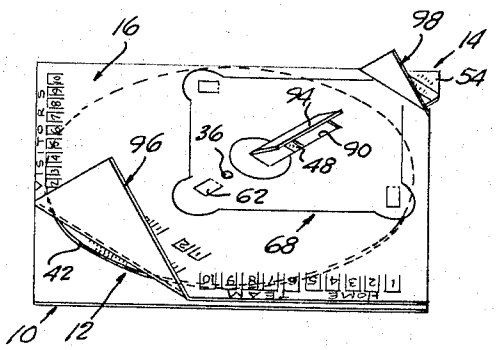


FIG. 2.



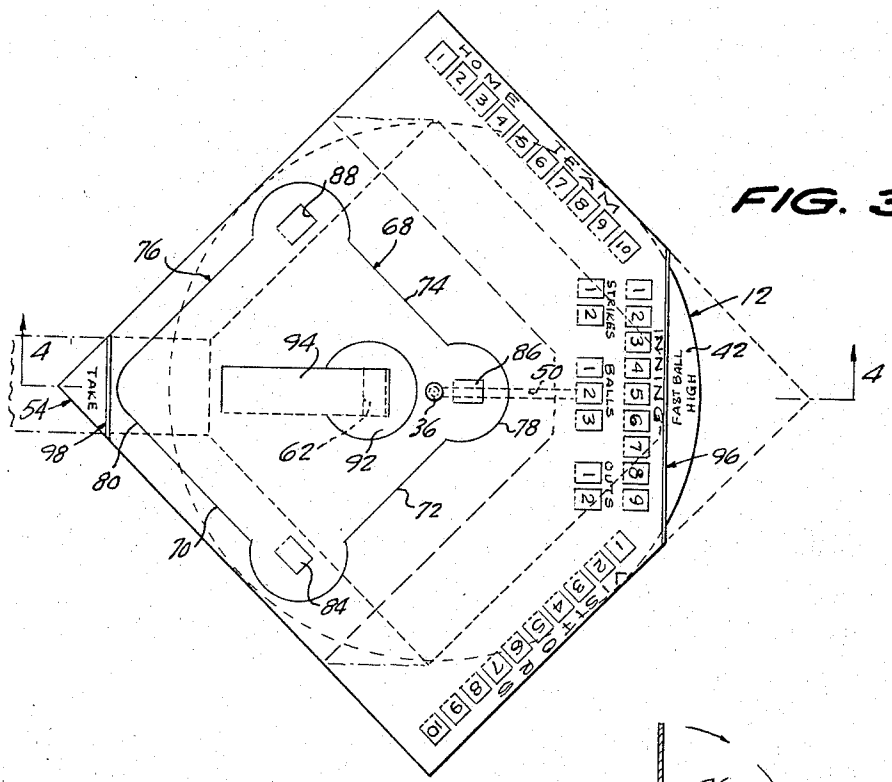


FIG. 3.

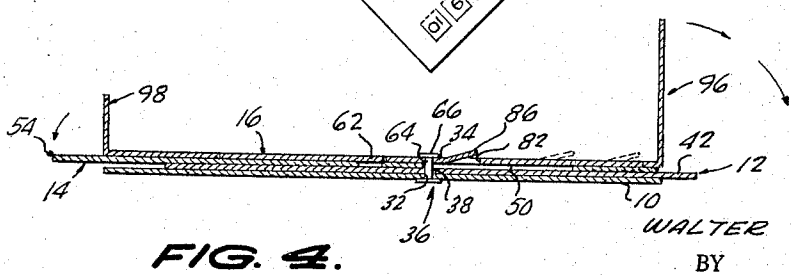


FIG. 4.

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FIG. 7.

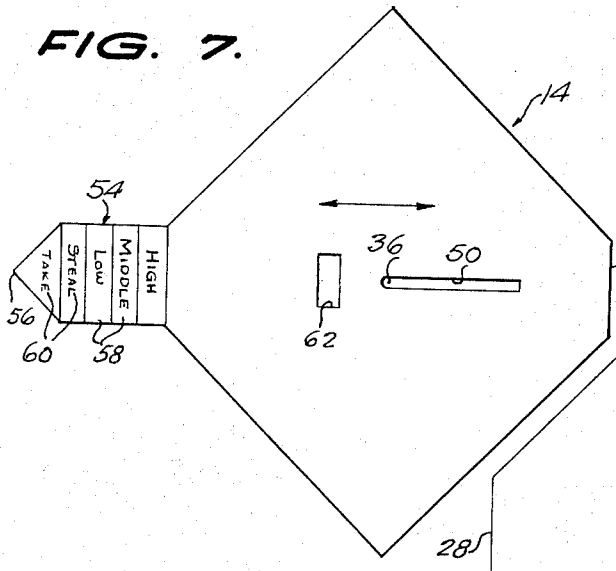


FIG. 5.

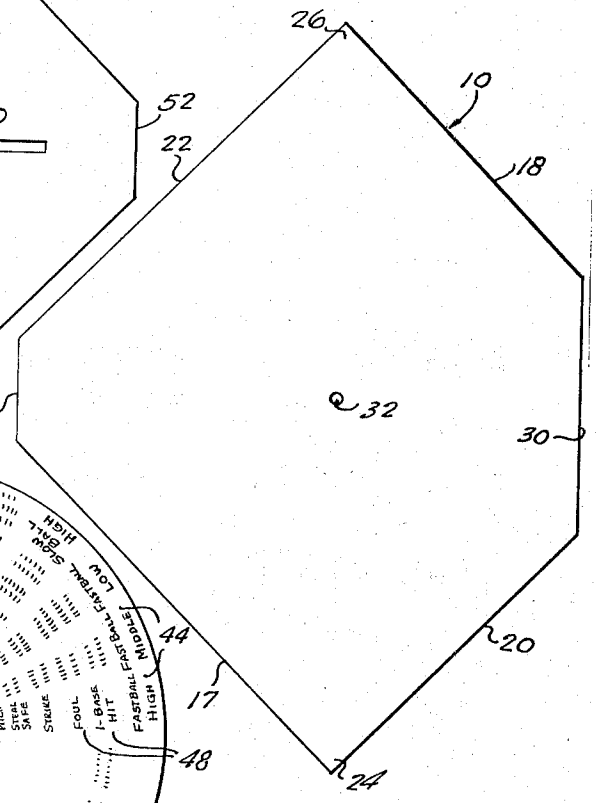


FIG. 6.

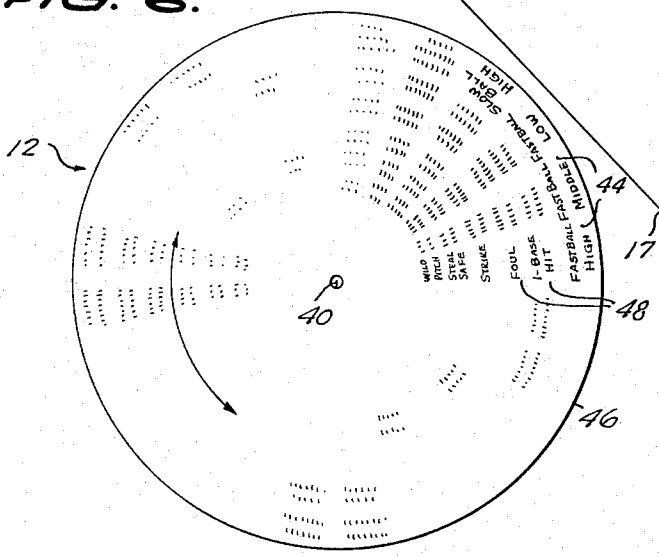
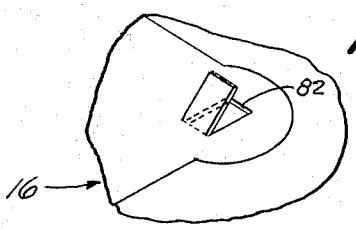


FIG. 8.



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BASEBALL GAME APPARATUS

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Filed Dec. 10, 1965, Ser. No. 512,930
7 Claims. (Cl. 273—88)

This invention relates to ball game apparatus, and more particularly to a unitized baseball game apparatus, designed for the simulated playing of baseball games, without the use of game pieces and related accessories.

The primary object of the invention is the provision of skill game apparatus of the kind indicated, which enables the playing, by two players or "teams," of close simulations of actual baseball games, and the carrying out of the mental operations and thought-out moves involved therein, as made by actual batters and pitchers in the course of games, undistracted by any need to use accompanying charts, scoring or move-indicating charts, game-pieces, and other accessories; and wherein the results of batter's and pitcher's actions are immediately visually available to the players.

Another object of the invention is the provision of simple, inexpensive, compact, and easily portable game apparatus of the character indicated above, which lends itself to being manufactured in various large sizes and various materials, as well as in miniature forms suitable for inclusion in merchandising packages, as prizes or premiums, the feature of the absence of separate game pieces, scoring devices, charts, and other accessories, subject to being lost, misplaced, or damaged being an advantage over game apparatus requiring such accessories.

In the drawings:

FIGURE 1 is a top perspective view of game apparatus of the present invention, showing components thereof in operative, rather than storage positions;

FIGURE 2 is a view, like FIGURE 1, taken from the right of FIGURE 1;

FIGURE 3 is an enlarged top plan view of FIGURE 1;

FIGURE 4 is a vertical section taken on the line 4—4 of FIGURE 3;

FIGURES 5, 6 and 7 are plan views of the main components of the apparatus; and

FIGURE 8 is an enlarged fragmentary perspective view of a portion of the playing field plate.

Referring in detail to the drawings, the illustrated game apparatus comprises a relatively stationary polygonal base plate **10**, a rotary circular disc plate **12**, overlying and bearing upon the base plate **10**, a reduced area substantially square intermediate or slide plate **14**, overlying the disc **12**, and a square or diamond-shaped top or playing field plate **16**, which is relatively stationary, and which overlies the slide plate **14**.

The base plate **10**, as shown in FIGURE 5, has opposed and parallel first and third base sides **17** and **18**, respectively, and opposed and parallel second base and home base sides **20** and **22**, respectively. The sides **17** and **20** and the sides **18** and **22** meet in first and third base corners **24** and **26**, respectively. The remaining corners of the base plate are truncated to provide a relatively short home base side **28** and a longer center field side **30**, which are parallel to each other.

On a line between the corners **24** and **26**, and on the longitudinal centerline of the base plate **10**, the base plate is formed with an opening **32**, offset toward the center field side **30**, passing the shank **34** of a pivot pin **36**, having an enlarged head **38**, on its lower end, engaged with the underside of the base plate **10**.

The disc plate **21**, as shown in FIGURE 6, is slightly smaller in diameter than the maximum width of the base plate **10**, and is formed with a center opening **40**,

passing the shank **34** of the pivot pin **36**. As a result of the off-setting of the pivot pin, the disc plate **12** has a segment **42** exposed to view, beyond the center field side **30** of the base plate, as shown in FIGURE 3.

Produced in any suitable manner, on the upper surface of the rotary plate **12**, are circumferentially spaced sectors **44**, along each of which, running from the center of the plate **12**, toward its peripheral edge **46**, are divergent baseball play designations **48**, such as "steal," "safe," "strike," "foul," "fast ball," "slow ball," "1-base hit," and the like, which designations dictate the plays of the game.

The slide plate **14**, as shown in FIGURE 7, is smaller in area than and is shaped substantially conformably to the base plate **10**, and overlies the disc plate **12**. A centered longitudinal closed slot **50** is formed through the slide plate, extends from the center thereof, toward the center field side **52** of the slide plate, and passes the shank **34** of the pivot pin **36**, whereby the slide plate **14** is longitudinally slidable, relative to the disc plate **12**, and the base plate **10**. On its home base side, the slide plate **14** is formed with a parallel sided longitudinal handle extension **54**, which comes to a point **56**, at its outer end.

The upper surface of the handle extension **54** is suitably formed with outwardly succeeding, transversely elongated areas **58**, each of which contains a different play designation **60**, such as "high" pitched ball, "middle" pitched ball, "low" pitched ball, "steal," and "take" the pitch. A relatively small rectangular window **62** is formed in the slide plate **14**, in line with and disposed crosswise of the slot **50**, and at a location between the slot **50** and the handle extension **54**, and in a position to selectively exposed designations **48** in selected sectors **44** on the disc plate **12**.

The top or playing field plate **16** overlies the slide plate **14**, is of substantially the same area and shape as the base plate **10**, and is registered with the base plate **10**. The plate **16** is formed with an opening **64** passing the shank of the pivot pin **36**, and this pin has an enlarged head **66**, on its upper end, which bears upon the upper surface of the top plate **16**.

The upper surface of the top plate **16** is suitably formed with a baseball diamond **68**, which is of only a fraction of the area of the top plate **16**, and is offset toward the home base side of the top plate, on the longitudinal centerline thereof.

The diamond **68** has first base, second base, third base, and home base lines **70**, **72**, **74**, and **76**, which severally meet the ends of base area outlining arcs **78**, and a home base area **80**. At locations centered on the base areas, the top plate **16** is cut away to provide slots **82**, along one side of each of which are flexibly connected first, second, and third base flaps **84**, **86**, and **88**, respectively which are adapted to be bent up to indicate the presence of a base runner or runners holding corresponding bases. Rows of similar but other slots and indicator flaps, indicated as "Home Team," "Inning," and "Visitors" are located along the left, center, and right field sides of the playing field. Another row of such slots and flaps, indicated as "Balls," "Strikes," and "Outs," is located along the inner side of the "Inning" row.

The top plate **16** is further cut to provide a relatively wide and relatively long longitudinal slot **90**, on the longitudinal centerline of the top plate, which is located between an outlined pitcher's mound area **92**, and the home plate area **80**. A flap **94** is flexibly connected along one side of the slot **90**.

On the center field side of the top plate **16** is a relatively large triangular "background" flap **96**, which, in the storage condition of the apparatus, lies flat, but which is adapted to be bent up at right angles, to the top plate **16**. A smaller triangular flap **98** is similarly connected to the home base side of the top plate **16**.

To play a baseball game with the above-described apparatus, the person playing "pitcher" selects a pitch by rotating the disc pitcher's plate 12, until the desired designation 48 appears on the segment 42, behind the background flap 96, out of sight of the player serving as the batter and positioned behind the smaller flap 98, behind the home base area of the diamond 68.

The "batter" then decides how to bat, and moves the batter's slide plate 14, endwise; so that a corresponding designation 60 appears next to the flap 98. Neither player can see what "play" the other has thus selected.

The door 94 of the slot 90 having been lifted, such selection of position of the slide plate 14 causes the slot 62 therein to expose a correspondingly positioned designation 48, in one of the segments 44, on the selector disc 12, such designation 48 then appearing to view in the slot 90. In the event that this exposure of a designation 48 calls for the batter to reach base, the related base flap is bent up to mark the batter's position on the base.

Further and successive adjustments of the disc plate 12 and the slide plate 14 determined further plays of the game, the results of which determine the outcome of the game in accordance with real baseball rules and regulations.

What is claimed is:

1. Baseball game apparatus comprising a support, a rotary pitcher's pitch selecting plate journalled on the support, a batter's slide plate supported above the pitcher's plate and movable endwise thereacross, and a playing field plate supported over the batter's slide plate, the pitcher's plate having circumferentially arranged play designating means thereon, said pitcher's plate having a peripheral portion thereof exposed to view at a side of the playing field plate, said batter's slide plate having a tab exposed beyond another side of the playing field plate, said tab having spaced different play designations disposed there-along, the playing field plate being formed with opening means adapted to selectively cover and expose to view play designations related to the play designations on the pitcher's plate and the batter's plate, the slide plate being formed with a slot adapted to register with said opening means so as to expose through said opening means selected play designating means on the pitcher's plate according to the endwise adjustment of the slide plate relative to the other plates.

2. Baseball game apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said opening means comprises a longitudinal slot extending lengthwise between the said sides of the playing field plate.

3. Baseball game apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said opening means comprises a longitudinal slot extending lengthwise between the said sides of the playing field plate, and a bendable flap extending along a side of the slot, said flap being normally depressed to close the slot and adapted to be elevated to open the slot.

4. Baseball game apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said playing field plate has an upper surface formed with a baseball diamond having first, second, third, and home base areas, the first, second, and third base areas being formed with bendable base flaps, said flaps being adapted to be depressed in the absence of a base runner on a base area and adapted to be elevated to indicate the presence of a base runner thereon.

5. Baseball game apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said sides of the playing field plate have normally vertical flaps thereon, said flaps serving to conceal the tab of the batter's slide plate and the designations on the exposed part of the rotary pitcher's plate.

6. Baseball game apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said playing field plate has third, first, and outfield sides, rows disposed severally along said sides, each of said rows being composed of slots having upwardly bendable flaps therealong, the rows serving as home team, innings, and visitor's team identifications as to players.

7. Baseball game apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said playing field plate has third, first, and outfield sides, rows disposed severally along said sides, each of said rows being composed of slots having upwardly bendable flaps therealong, the rows serving as home team, innings, and visitor's team identifications as to players, and a further transverse row of slots and upwardly bendable flaps on the playing field plate extending along the innings row adapted to indicate existing balls, strikes, and outs.

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