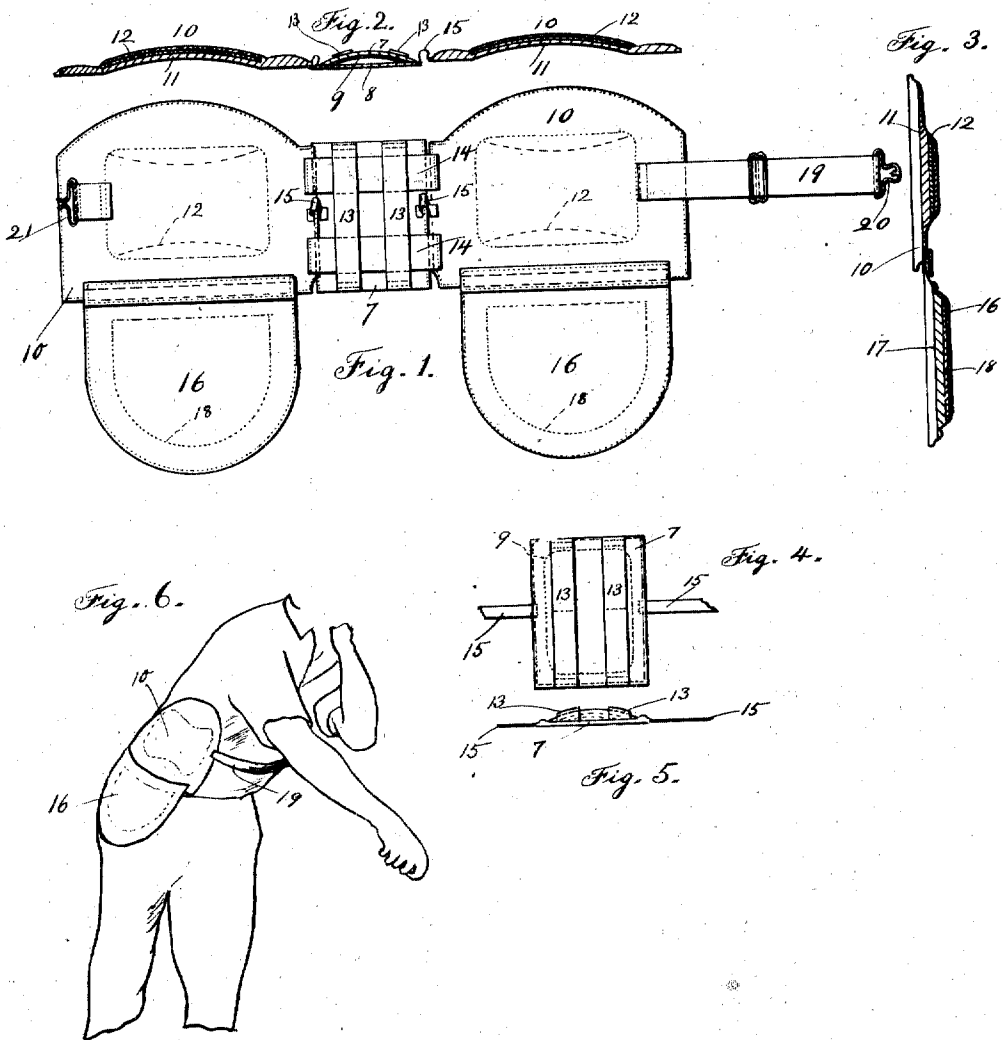


F. HAGGERTY.
ATHLETE'S GUARD.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 22, 1917.

1,229,947.

Patented June 12, 1917.



WITNESSES:
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ATHLETE'S GUARD.

1,229,947.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 12, 1917.

Application filed January 22, 1917. Serial No. 143,805.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK HAGGERTY, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of Chicago, county of Cook, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Athletes' Guards, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in athletes' guards, especially adapted for use by foot ball players, and has for its object the provision of an improved guard of this character adapted to protect the body of the wearer in the region of the kidneys and hips.

The invention consists in the combinations and arrangements of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

The invention will be best understood by reference to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, and in which,

Figure 1 is a plan view of the guard detached and laid out flat,

Fig. 2, a longitudinal section of the same,

Fig. 3, a transverse section of the same,

Fig. 4, a view of a back guard employed in the construction shown detached,

Fig. 5, a view taken at right angles to Fig. 4, and

Fig. 6, a partial perspective view illustrating the guard in position of use.

The preferred form of construction as illustrated in the drawings comprises a central back guard 7, which is provided with a padding 8 at its inner side, and a stiffening board 9, of fiber composition or similar material, embedded therein, the whole being covered with canvas or other similar material. Side guards 10 are arranged at each side of the back guard to cooperate therewith, and being considerably larger in size, as indicated. Each of the side guards 10 is provided with a padding 11 at its inner side and a stiffening board 12 embedded therein, the whole being covered with canvas or similar material, as before. At its outer face the back guard 7 is provided with two non-elastic straps 13 secured at their ends but free at their central portions and elastic straps 14 are secured at their ends to the adjoining edges of the side guards 10 and are passed loosely under the straps 13.

Supplemental elastic straps 15 are secured at their ends to the adjoining edges of the back and side guard members 7 and 10, said

straps 15 being looped, as shown, so as to permit of free movements between said guard members. By this arrangement a flexible and elastic hinged connection is effected between the guard members which adapts the same to readily fit the body of the wearer and to yield therewith when in use, but at the same time protect the same against injury. Hip guards 16 are hingedly secured to the side guards 10 depending therefrom. Each of said hip guards 16 is provided with a padding 17 at its inner face and a stiffening board 18 is embedded therein, the whole being covered with canvas or other similar material and stitched to the corresponding side guards. An adjustable elastic securing strap 19 is secured to one of the side guards 10 and is equipped with a buckle part or fastening 20 adapted to detachably engage a corresponding part or buckle fastening 21 on the other side guard 10, so as to permit of the device being secured and adjusted about the body of the wearer.

In use the guard is adjusted about the body of the wearer with the back guard 7 positioned over the small of the back and the side guards 10 against the adjoining sides of the wearer, in which position the hip guards 16 will naturally assume position over the hip joints. This will furnish protection against injury to the guarded portions of the body of the wearer and at the same time be flexible enough to permit of free movement.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred form of construction for carrying my invention into effect, this is capable of variation and modification without departing from the spirit of the invention. I, therefore, do not wish to be limited to the precise details of construction set forth, but desire to avail myself of such variations and modifications as come within the scope of the appended claims.

Having described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A device of the class described comprising a guard arranged to fit against the back of the wearer; guards hingedly connected with the opposite sides of said back guard; hip guards hingedly connected with said side guards and depending therefrom; and means for securing the device about the

body of the wearer, substantially as described.

2. A device of the class described comprising a padded guard arranged to fit
5 against the back of the wearer; padded
guards hingedly connected with the opposite
sides of said back guard; padded hip guards
hingedly connected with said side guards
and depending therefrom; stiffening boards
10 embedded in each of said guards; and means
for securing the device about the body of
the wearer, substantially as described.

3. A device of the class described comprising a guard arranged to fit against the
15 back of the wearer; guards hingedly and
elastically connected with the opposite sides
of said back guard; hip guards hingedly
connected with said side guards and depending
therefrom; and means for securing
20 the device about the body of the wearer, substantially
as described.

4. A device of the class described comprising a padded guard arranged to fit
against the back of the wearer; padded
25 guards hingedly and elastically connected
with the opposite sides of said back guard;
padded hip guards hingedly connected with
said side guards and depending therefrom;
stiffening boards embedded in each of said
30 guards; and means for securing the device
about the body of the wearer, substantially
as described.

5. A device of the class described comprising a padded back guard arranged to
35 fit against the back of the wearer; padded

side guards arranged at opposite sides of
said back guard; straps on the outer face
of said back guard; elastic straps connecting
said side guards and passing under said
back straps; supplemental looped elastic
40 connections between the adjoining edges of
said back and side guards; padded hip
guards hingedly connected with said side
guards and depending therefrom; stiffening
boards embedded in each of said guards;
45 and means for securing the device about the
body of the wearer, substantially as described.

6. A device of the class described comprising a back guard; side guards; a flexible
50 connection between said side guards slidably
connected with said back guard; and supplemental
looped flexible connections between said side
and back guards, substantially as described.
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7. A device of the class described comprising a back guard; side guards; a flexible
elastic connection between said side
guards and slidably connected with said
back guard; and supplemental looped flexible
60 elastic connections between said side and
back guards, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my
name to this specification in the presence of
two subscribing witnesses.

FRANK HAGGERTY.

Witnesses:

JOSHUA R. H. POTTS,
ELEN F. LILLIS.