Nov. 25, 1958 M. KISH, JR 2,861,614

ADJUSTABLE GOLF BAG

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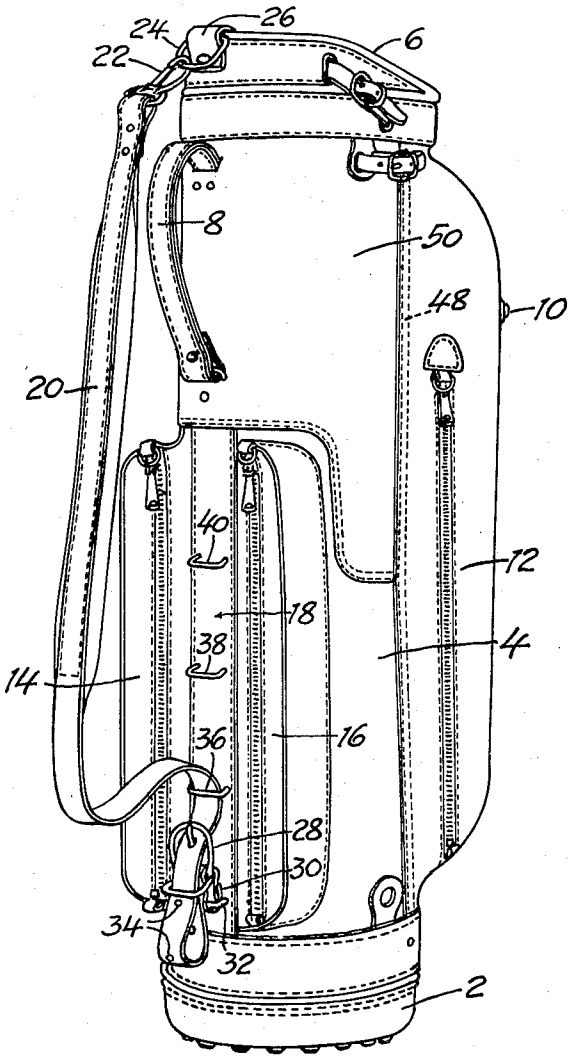


Fig. 1.

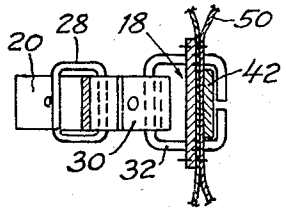


Fig. 3.

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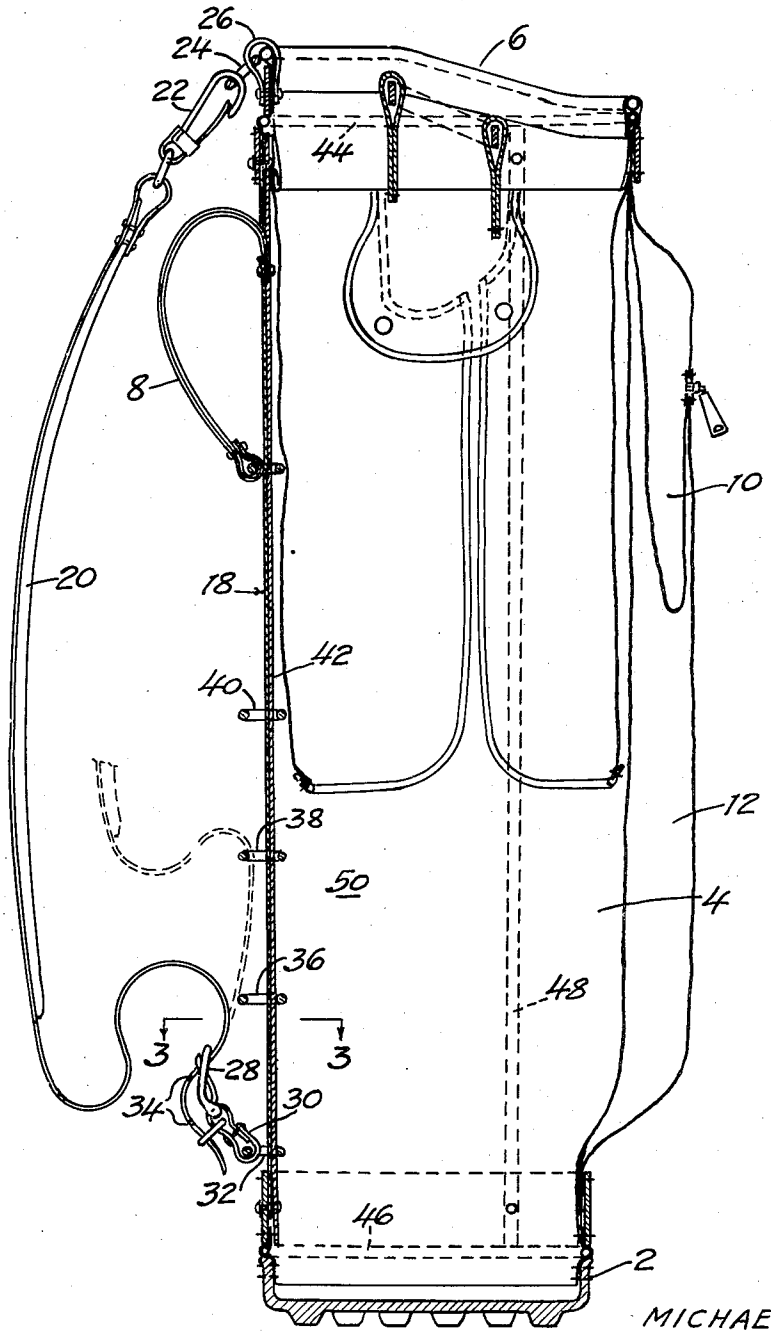


Fig. 2.

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ADJUSTABLE GOLF BAG

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Application September 27, 1956, Serial No. 612,422

2 Claims. (Cl. 150—1.5)

This invention relates to golf bags and is directed particularly to golf bags which can be carried easily and comfortably under varying conditions of use.

It is usual to provide a golf bag with a shoulder strap designed to support the bag in an inclined position when it is carried. However, the number, weight, and types of clubs used by different players varies considerably and even the same player may from time to time have more or less extra balls, sweaters, overshoes, or other paraphernalia located in the pockets or on the exterior of the bag.

While the shoulder strap is generally adjustable in length to compensate for differences in stature of the person carrying the bag, the adjustments thus effected are inadequate to insure ease and comfort for the carrier. Moreover, the points at which the strap is secured to the bag always remain the same, and as a result, little if any change in the balance of the bag can be effected to compensate for differences in loading of the bag.

In accordance with the present invention these objections and limitations in prior types of golf bags are overcome and means are provided for varying the location of the points on the bag to which the shoulder strap are secured. In this way the points of support for the bag may be adjusted as desired so that it will be suitably balanced to insure ease and comfort in carrying under all conditions of use. The adjustments are preferably effected by providing the shoulder strap with a connection at on end which may be located near the top of the bag, and with a series of alternative supporting points for the opposite end of the shoulder strap which may be located at spaced intervals farther down the bag. The bag preferably is also provided with a rigid longitudinally extending member which prevents sagging of the bag and aids in the balance thereof in all adjusted positions of the shoulder strap. The shoulder strap may, of course, be adjustable in length but such adjustments are less necessary when the supporting points are variable in accordance with the present invention.

The principal object of the present invention is to provide for adjustment of the shoulder strap of a golf bag in a manner to insure comfort and ease in carrying the bag by any individual and under all conditions of use.

A specific object of the invention is to provide a golf bag with a shoulder strap and means for varying the points of support of such strap on the bag to secure the desired balance for any user.

A further object of the invention is to provide a golf bag with rigid means to which the shoulder strap may be secured to aid in balancing the bag and preventing sagging thereof.

These and other objects and features of the present invention will appear from the following description thereof wherein reference is made to the figures of the accompanying drawing.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective showing a typical form of golf bag embodying the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the golf bag shown in Fig. 1; and

Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

In that form of the invention chosen for purposes of illustration in the drawing, the golf bag is provided with a base **2**, a body **4** and an open upper end **6** for receiving the handles of the clubs. The bag may be provided with a carrying handle **8** and with suitable pockets **10** and **12** for holding gloves, sweaters, overshoes and any other equipment the user may need. In addition, if desired, the bag may have two ball pockets **14** and **16** of the type described in my copending application Serial No. 612,383, filed September 27, 1956, arranged on either side of a vertically extending panel **18**.

In accordance with the present invention the bag further is provided with a shoulder strap **20** which is provided at its upper end with a snap **22** or other suitable means adapted to engage a ring **24** secured by the fitting **26** at the upper end of the bag. At the lower end of the bag the shoulder strap is provided with means such as the buckle **28** carried by a strap **30** secured to the link **32** located at the lower end of the central panel **18**. The shoulder strap may be of any desired length and may have the usual openings **34** therein for varying the effective length of the strap as desired.

The panel **18** is provided with a plurality of additional links indicated at **36**, **38** and **40** which are arranged in a series and positioned at spaced points along the panel, say 4 or 5 inches apart, between the upper and lower ends of the bag. These links are preferably of such size and shape that the shoulder strap **20** is adapted to be passed selectively through any one or more of the links **36**, **38** and **40** to the buckle **28**. When thus threaded through any of the links, the lower end portion of the shoulder strap is held adjacent the panel **18** by the uppermost link through which it is passed. The latter link therefore serves as the point of support for the lower end of the shoulder strap, and it is therefore possible to vary the location of the point of support as desired to insure comfort and ease of carrying by any individual and under any conditions of loading of the bag.

As shown in Fig. 1, the lower end of the shoulder strap is connected to the buckle **28** but passes upward through link **36** so as to establish the points of support for the bag at the ring **24** adjacent the top of the bag and at the link **36** which is spaced somewhat from the bottom of the bag. However, if this adjustment should not provide the desired balance and comfort for the person carrying the bag, the end of the strap can be disconnected from the buckle **28** and threaded through one of the other links **38** or **40** as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2, or it may not be threaded through any of the links as shown in full lines in Fig. 2. When the end of the strap is then reconnected to the buckle **28**, the lower end portion of the shoulder strap will be secured to the bag at some other point of support, namely, at the lowermost link **32** to which the buckle **28** is connected or at one of the upper links **38** or **40**, as desired for ease and comfort in carrying the bag.

In order to insure adequate support for the bag throughout the length thereof so as to overcome any tendency of the bag to sag in the middle when heavily loaded or constructed of light weight material, the bag is preferably provided with a stiff metal bar **42** which extends from a point near an upper frame member **44** adjacent the top of the bag to a point near a lower frame member **46** adjacent the bottom of the bag. The bag further may be provided with other stays or reinforcing members such as the stiff wire members **48** located at circumferentially spaced points about the sides of the bag.

The adjusting links **36**, **38** and **40** as well as the lowermost link **32** to which buckle **28** is secured preferably encircle the bar **42** so as to be held securely in place with respect to the bag while providing the desired longitudinal strength to prevent buckling or sagging of the bag under any condition of loading and with any adjustment of the shoulder strap **20**. In this respect the construction and arrangement of the bar **42** and of the links **32**, **36**, **38** and **40** is preferably similar to that shown and described in my issued Patent No. 2,706,024. The links project through the cover **50** of the bag into spaced positions along the panel **18** for ease in threading of the shoulder strap thereto to the buckle **28**.

The construction described renders it possible for the bag to be loaded with any desired number of clubs and with any other equipment such as balls, gloves, sweaters, and the like, and yet when carried by any person, whether tall or short, the points of support of the bag may be varied by slipping the lower end of the shoulder strap **20** through any one or more of the links **36**, **38** and **40** in order to secure the most comfortable balancing and support of the bag or any carrier. At the same time, the length of the shoulder strap can be adjusted as desired with a minimum of delay and manipulation.

While the shoulder strap, as shown, is provided with a snap for attaching the upper end portion of the strap to the ring **24** and is shown as having a buckle **28** at the lower end of the strap, it will be apparent that either snaps or buckles may be used at either or both ends of the strap. Furthermore, if desired, the buckle **28** may be normally attached to the uppermost link **40** in which case the strap **20** may be passed downward therefrom through any one or more of the links **38**, **36** or **32** for securing the desired adjustment and balance of the bag. Although it is found desirable in practice to secure the upper end of the shoulder strap to a point adjacent the top **6** of the bag additional links can be provided as required so that both ends of the shoulder strap can be adjusted to vary the supporting points if this should be desired. The style of the bag and the type and location of the pockets for the balls and other equipment may, of course, be varied and the bag may be provided with a covering **50** formed of any suitable material such as fabric, leather, plastic sheet material, or the like. It will thus be apparent that the characteristic features of the present invention can be embodied in substantially any type of golf bag to obtain a novel type of adjustment insuring the desired balance for ease and comfort in carrying the bag. In view thereof it should be understood that the particular embodiment of the invention shown in the drawing and described above is intended to be illustrative only and is not intended to limit the scope of the invention.

I claim:

1. A golf bag having a frame member located adjacent the top of the bag, another frame member located adjacent the bottom of the bag, a metal bar extending lengthwise of the bag between said frame members, a shoulder strap for carrying the bag, means adjacent the top of the bag for attachment of one end portion of the shoulder strap to the bag, a buckle carried by the bag and located near the bottom of the bag to receive and hold the other end portion of the shoulder strap, links connected to the metal bar and located at spaced points thereon between the top and bottom frame members along a line extending from said means to said buckle, said links extending to the exterior of the bag and being of such size that the shoulder strap may be selectively threaded through any one or more of the links to said buckle, said other end portion of said shoulder strap being connected to said buckle and passing through a selected link to vary the location of the points of support of the bag by the shoulder strap.

2. A golf bag having a frame member located adjacent the top of the bag, a second frame member located adjacent the bottom of the bag, a rigid bar extending lengthwise of the bag between said frame members, a shoulder strap for carrying the bag, means for connecting one end portion of said shoulder strap to the bag near the upper end thereof, means for detachably connecting the other end portion of said shoulder strap to the bag near the lower end of the bag, and links connected to the bar at spaced points between said connecting means, each of said links having a portion projecting to the exterior of the bag and presenting an opening therethrough of sufficient size to permit the detached end portion of the shoulder strap to be passed therethrough to the connecting means near the lower end of the bag, said detached end portion of the shoulder strap being selectively passed through the openings in said links for establishing selected points of support of the bag by the shoulder strap.

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