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A. MOLINAR
GOLF INDICATOR APPARATUS

2,652,251

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FIG. 1

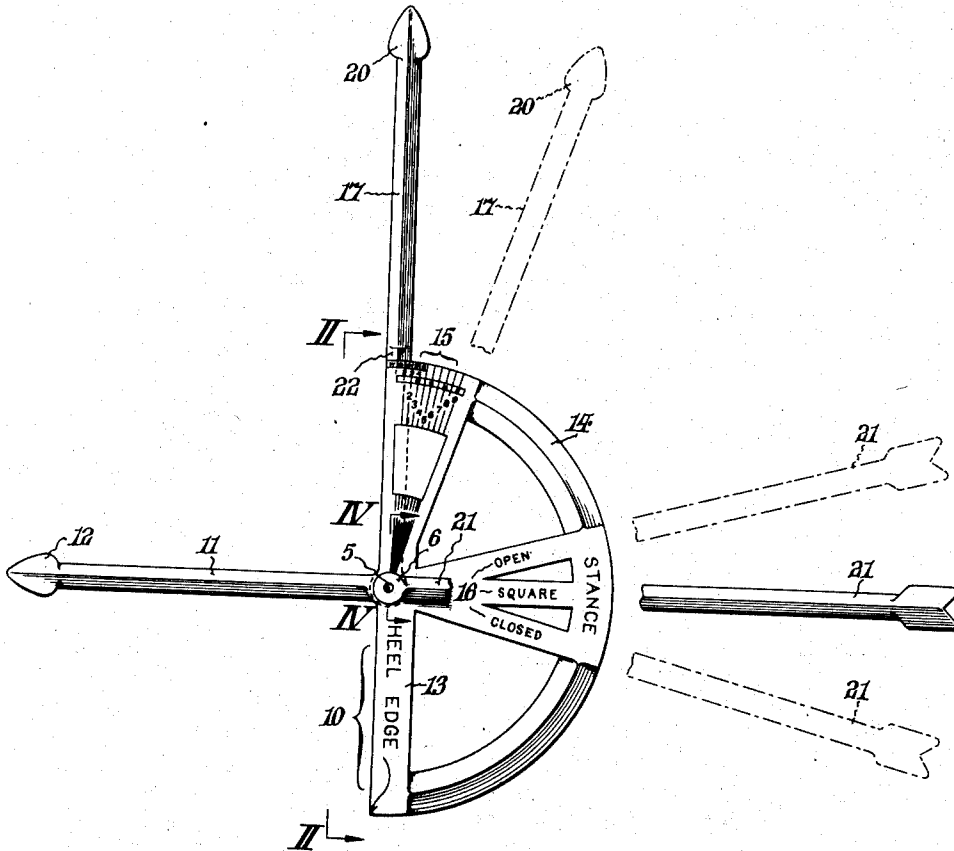


FIG. 2



FIG. 3

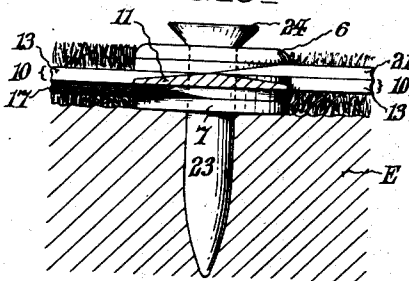
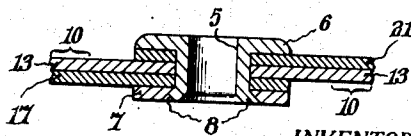


FIG. 4



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GOLF INDICATOR APPARATUS

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2 Claims. (Cl. 273—35)

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This invention relates to a device for correcting or improving the stance of a golf player, and more particularly concerns an apparatus for marking the relative positions of a golf ball and the golf player's feet with respect to the direction of intended flight of the golf ball.

It is an object of this invention to provide an improved device for indicating and recording a golfer's stance. Another object is to provide a convenient guide including frictionally adjustable indicator arms for aligning the golf club in proper relation to the feet and ball. Another object is to provide an adjustable device of this character having calibrations indicating the proper change of position of feet and ball for utilizing golf clubs of different sizes and kinds. Another object is to provide a device of this character for controlling the direction and degree of curvature of the ball's flight and thereby correcting a golf player's tendency to hook or slice or guiding the golf player in an intended hook or slice.

Golf devices having direction indicator devices have been intended exclusively for practice purposes heretofore and have not been suitable for both practice and for actual play. Such devices have been cumbersome and heavy and therefore not well adapted to be carried by a golf player and used from stroke to stroke in actual play on a golf course. In this connection it is another object of this invention to provide an apparatus of the character indicated which is readily portable in a golf bag and detachably securable in fixed position to the surface of the golf course.

Other objects and advantages of the invention, including the simplicity and economy of the same, will be further apparent hereinafter, and in the drawings, whereof:

Fig. 1 represents a plan view of a golf indicator device constituting one specific embodiment of this invention.

Fig. 2 represents a front end view partly in section, taken as indicated by the lines and arrows II—II which appear in Fig. 1, with the relative positions of certain of the parts changed.

Fig. 3 represents an enlarged view similar to Fig. 2, showing how the device may be secured to the surface of a golf course, and

Fig. 4 represents a sectional view taken as indicated by the lines and arrows IV—IV which appear in Fig. 1.

In summary, the invention relates to a golf direction and stance indicator comprising a base, a sleeve extending through said base, said sleeve having a bore of sufficient size to accommodate

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the shaft of a golf tee, a flight direction indicator fixed to said base, and position indicator arms pivoted to said sleeve above said base for indicating the position of the golf ball and the golfer's foot.

Turning now to the specific embodiment of the invention selected for illustration in the drawings, the number 5 designates a sleeve having a circular flange formed integrally at the top thereof. A washer 7 is secured to the bottom of the sleeve 5 and forms a flange similar to the flange 6, extending outwardly of the bore of sleeve 5. The washer 7 is secured in position by the flared portion 8 of the sleeve 5.

The number 10 designates a semi-circular base element to which is affixed a direction indicator arm 11 having an arrow head 12 at its forward end. The base 10 includes a transverse bar 13 having a straight line forward edge which serves to indicate the line along which the heel of the golfer's forward foot should be located. Specifically, for a right handed golfer, it will be understood that the right hand edge of the golfer's left (forward) foot will be disposed against the left hand (forward) edge of the base 10 while the golfer's toe will be placed against the near edge of indicator arm 11. The heel of the golfer's forward foot may be at any point adjacent the bar 13, or beyond its end, depending upon the length of the golfer's foot. But the golfer's foot will in any case be aligned with the forward edge of base 10. A curved bar 14 in the form of a semi-circle is formed integrally with the transverse bar 13. The bars 13, 14 carry the integral plate element 15 which carries markings indicating the proper positions of the parts for using golf clubs of different sizes and kinds. The bars 13, 14 also support three arms 16 which carry markings indicating the proper relative positions of the parts for opening and closing the golfer's stance.

An adjustable indicator arm 17 is pivotally mounted on the sleeve 5 immediately above the washer 7, and in frictional contact therewith. The adjustable indicator arm 17 carries an integral arrow head 20 indicating the proper initial position of the golf ball. It also carries an indicator stud 22 adjacent the markings on the plate element 15. The transverse bar 13 of base 10 is immediately above, and in frictional contact with, the adjustable indicator arm 17. Another adjustable indicator arm 21 is pivotally mounted on the sleeve 5 immediately above the transverse bar 13. Adjustable indicator arm 21 is in frictional contact with the transverse bar 13 and

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with the flange 6. The adjustable indicator arm 21 extends rearwardly of the transverse bar 13 and has capacity to swing about the sleeve 5 to indicate the proper position of the rear foot of the golfer. It will be appreciated that the toe of the golfer's rear foot will be disposed against the back end of indicator arm 21, and that it will be disposed at the desired angle with respect to the golfer's front foot. This angle may vary with different golfers or with different stances (closed or open), but in all cases the toe of the rear foot will point at the indicator arm 21 and in many cases it will be substantially perpendicular thereto.

Means are provided for detachably securing the indicator device to the earth or other material comprising the surface of a golf course. It will be observed that the bore of sleeve 5 is of sufficient size to accommodate the shaft 23 of golf tee which has an enlarged head 24 larger than the bore of sleeve 5.

In operation, the golf indicator device is conveniently carried in a golf bag or otherwise from place to place during the course of normal play on a golf course. At each location where a golf stroke is to be played, the device is placed upon the ground and the golf tee shaft 23 driven through the bore of shaft 5 and into the earth E, Fig. 3. The golf indicator device is thereby detachably secured in fixed position to the surface of the golf course. The indicator arms 17, 21, which are frictionally held between the flange 6 and washer 7 by reason of the pressure created by the flared portion 8 of sleeve 5, are adjusted in accordance with the character of the golf club to be used and the nature of the stance desired. The golf ball is placed opposite the tip of arrow head 23, the golfer's forward foot is placed with the right side edge of the heel in line with the left side edge of the transverse bar 13, and the golfer's rear foot is placed immediately adjacent the indicator at the rear end of indicator arm 21. After completing the stroke, the golfer may remove the indicator device from the surface of the golf course by lifting it together with the golf tee.

It will be appreciated that, although the invention has been described in detail with reference to one specific embodiment thereof, it will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art that the mechanical elements of the device may be varied and that equivalent mechanisms may be employed for accomplishing the same result, all within the scope of the invention. All such changes, including reversals of parts and the use of certain features independently of other features, are considered to be within the spirit of the invention as defined in the annexed claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. A golf direction and stance indicator com-

prising a sleeve having a substantially vertical bore, substantially horizontal flanges at the top and bottom of said sleeve, said flanges extending outwardly of said bore, a lower indicator arm pivotally mounted on said sleeve in frictional contact with the flanges at the bottom of said sleeve, a base on said sleeve above said lower indicator arm, a flight indicator fixed to said base, and an upper indicator arm pivotally mounted on said sleeve in frictional contact with the flanges at the top of said sleeve, said base being formed integrally with said flight indicator and said base having a straight forward edge that extends perpendicular to said flight indicator and coacts with the flight indicator to fix the position and direction of the golfer's forward foot.

2. A golf direction and stance indicator comprising a sleeve having a substantially vertical bore, substantially horizontal flanges at the top and bottom of said sleeve, said flanges extending outwardly of said bore, a lower indicator arm pivotally mounted on said sleeve in frictional contact with the flanges at the bottom of said sleeve, a semi-circular base plate on said sleeve above said lower indicator arm, said base plate having a straight-line forward edge serving as an indicator of the proper position of the heel of the golfer's forward foot, an arm fixed to said base plate at a fixed angle to said forward edge and serving as an indicator of the direction of flight of the golf ball, and an upper indicator arm pivotally mounted on said sleeve in frictional contact with said base plate and with the flanges at the top of said sleeve, said base plate carrying a visible system of identifying marks arranged to indicate the proper positions of one of said indicator arms to indicate the different locations of a golf ball for executing strokes with different clubs, and said base plate also carrying a separate system of identifying marks arranged to indicate the proper positions of the other of said indicator arms to indicate the proper positions of the golfer's rear foot to open and close the golfer's stance, both said indicator arms being pivoted about a common center.

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