GOLF TEE SET

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a golf tee to be used in playing golf. Particularly a golf tee set, which comprises a tee with concave top to support a golf ball, a shaft member to the tee top, and an adjustable disc to position the tee top at the desired elevation for various golf clubs and field conditions.

2. Description of the Related Art

Nowadays, golf has become one kind of sports to many people for recreational purpose as well as the purpose of exercise. When hitting a golf ball at the tee box, a golf tee is used to support the golf ball off the ground. The game of golf involves many factors, such as the golfer's size and physical conditions, the type and quality of the golf club used, swing habit in striking, etc. A good swing enables the golfer to hit the golf ball at the spot. Either an iron club or wooden club is used, the elevation of the golf tee has a great influence on the golfer's performance. If the golf tee is not set at a suitable elevation, it is difficult for the golfer to hit the right part of the golf ball accurately. However, when inserting a golf tee to the ground, the golfer cannot precisely control the insertion depth of the golf tee in the ground, and the elevation of the golf tee may be measured roughly by feeling. In this case, the golfer may be unstable to hit the right part of the golf ball, resulting in a wrong flying direction or distance of the golf ball and a lower performance.

Further, when practicing golf, the golfer may check one's posture and the motion of the golf ball to evaluate the performance. Conventionally, an experienced golfer will check the fallen position of the golf tee to evaluate the direction of rotation of the golf ball and the striking performance after hittin the golf ball. However, the

auto-return golf tee does not provide this function. Further, different golf tees of different heights may be used at different locations in a golf course. Therefore, when playing the game of golf, many golf tees are used, thereby increasing the playing cost.

Therefore, detachable golf tees are developed. A detachable golf tee is formed of an anchor and a receptacle. After hit the golf ball, the golfer can check the fallen position of the receptacle and judge the direction of rotation of the golf ball subject to the fallen position of the receptacle. In case the golfer hits the bottom side of the gravity center of the golf ball, the striking force of the golf club will force the receptacle to fall to the front side, and the golf ball will roll backwards. In case the golfer hits the top side of the gravity center of the golf ball, the striking force of the golf club will force the golf ball to rotate in counter-clockwise direction. Subject to the fallen position of the receptacle, the golfer can judge the striking performance. However, when the receptacle is struck away, the golfer may have to spend some time to find the displaced receptacle.

Further, conventional golf tees simply have a top recess for supporting a golf ball for hitting. When a golf ball is set in the top recess of a golf tee, the broad surface contact between the golf ball and the golf tee will produce a higher friction when the golfer hits the golf ball, resulting in a high rotation rate and short flying distance of the golf ball

Therefore, it is desirable to provide a golf tee set that reduces the aforesaid drawbacks.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention has been accomplished under the circumstances in view. According to one aspect of the present invention, the golf tee set comprises a top for supporting a golf ball, tee shaft with marked with both Metrics and Imperials length

systems for measuring the height of tee above ground, a disc member mounted on the tee controlling the tee penetration into the ground, a first fastening member provided at the tee, and a second fastening member provided at the support member for engagement with the first fastening member to secure the tee to the support member at the desired elevation so that the golfer can hit the right part of the golf ball accurately to strike the golf ball long and straight.

According to another aspect of the present invention, the disc member has a wire hole for the insertion of a cord member, and a magnetic member adjustably mounted on the cord member for securing to a metal anchoring member, so that the tee and the disc member are kept near the metal anchoring member for a repeat use after the golfer hitting the golf ball.

According to one more aspect of the present invention, the tee has a multiple raised portions equiangularly spaced around a recess thereof for supporting a golf ball to prevent direct contact of the golf ball with the periphery of the recess so that less friction is produced between the golf ball and the tee to lower the rotation rate of the golf ball when the golf ball is driven away from the tee.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is an exploded view of a golf tee set in accordance with a first embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 2 is a schematic sectional view of a part of the golf tee set according to the first embodiment of the present invention, showing the tee inserted through the center hole of the support member and the engagement ribs disengaged from the grooves.

FIG. 3 is similar to FIG. 2 but showing the engagement ribs engaged with the grooves.

FIG. 4 is an exploded view of a golf tee set in accordance with a second embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 5 is a schematic drawing showing an application example of the golf tee set according to the first embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 6 is a schematic drawing showing a status of the golf tee set after use according to the first embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 7 is an exploded view of a golf tee set in accordance with a third embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 8 is a schematic drawing showing an application example of the golf tee set according to the third embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Referring to FIG. 1, a golf tee set in accordance with a first embodiment of the present invention is shown comprised of a tee **1**, a disc member for adjusting the tee height **2,** and fastening means **3**.

The tee **1** has a head **11** at the top and a point **12** at the bottom thereof, and at least two different systems of length **13** (for example, the Metrics Units and the Imperial Units) marked on the tee body for measuring the height. The head **11** has a recess **111** formed on the top for receiving a golf ball, and multiple, for example, three raised portions **112** protruded from the top surface and equiangularly spaced around the recess **111** to support the golf ball in the recess **111**. The head **11** has a specially designed contour so that a golfer can hold positively and rotate the head **11** with the hand.

The disc member **2** is adjustably mounted on the tee shaft of the tee **1**, having a center hole **21** for the passing of the tee **1**, at least one wire hole **22** for the insertion of a cord member **4**. The cord member **4** is inserted through one wire hole **22** of the

disc member **2** and a through hole **51** of a magnetic member **5**, having two ends respectively securely mounted with a respective end piece **41** that has an outer diameter greater than the diameter of the wire holes **22** of the disc member **2** and the diameter of the through hole **51** of the magnetic member **5**. Therefore, the end pieces **41** stop the disc member **2** and the magnetic member **5** from slipping out of the cord member **4**.

The fastening means **3** is adapted to secure the disc member **2** to the tee **1**, consisting a first fastening member **31** formed on the periphery of the tee shaft of the tee **1**, and a second fastening member **32** formed on the inside wall of the disc member **2** around the center hole **21** for engagement with the first fastening member **31**. According to this embodiment, the first fastening member **31** consists of multiple grooves **311**; the second fastening member **32** consists a protruding block **322** formed integral with the disc member **2** around the center hole **21**, and multiple engagement ribs **321** protruding from one side of the protruding block **322** at different elevations for engaging the grooves **311** of the first fastening member **31**. When in use, the golfer can insert the tee **1** through the center hole **21** of the disc member **2**. When the grooves **331** of the first fastening member **31** and the protruding block **322** of the second fastening member **32** are disposed at two different vertical axes, the golfer can move the disc member **2** vertically along the tee **1** to the desired elevation (see FIG. 2). Further, the golfer can rotate the disc member **2** relative to the tee **1** 90 degree horizontally to have the grooves **331** of the first fastening member **31** and the protruding block **322** of the second fastening member **32** be aligned_at the same vertical axis and to interlocke the engagement ribs **321** into the grooves **311** of the first fastening member **31**

FIG. 4 shows a golf tee set in accordance with a second embodiment of the

present invention. This embodiment is substantially similar to the aforesaid first embodiment with the exception of the design of the fastening means **3**. According to this second embodiment, the first fastening member **31** is a male thread (or female thread) formed on the periphery of the tee body of the tee **1**, and the second fastening member **32** is a female thread (or male thread) formed on the inside wall of the disc member **2** around the center hole **21** for engagement with the first fastening member **31**.

Referring to FIGS. 5 and 6, when in use, the tee **1** is fastened to the ground, and the disc member **2** is stopped at the ground to limit an insertion depth **D** of the tee **1** at a preselected elevation **H** of the head **11** above the ground. By means of the disc member **2**, the tee **1** is positively positioned in the ground at the desired elevation to support a golf ball **7** for striking so that the golfer can solidly hit the right part of the golf ball **7** to strike the golf ball **7** long and straight.

Further, a metal anchoring member **6** is placed on the ground to secure the magnetic member **5** by means of magnetic attraction so that the golfer aim the cord member **4** at the target hole (not shown) to guide the striking direction accordingly. Further, the metal anchoring member **6** can be a heavy iron plate or iron member that can be anchored to the ground. After the golfer hit the golf ball **7**, the disc member **2** and the tee **1** is kept secured to the cord member **4** for a further use.

Further, the raised portions **112** support the golf ball **7** in the top recess **111** for hitting. Because the golf ball **7** is supported on the tee **1** at the raised portions **112** only and kept away from the periphery of the recess **111**, less friction is produced between the golf ball **7** and the tee **1** therefore the golfer can strike the golf ball **7** longer.

FIGS. 7 and 8 show a golf tee set in accordance with a third embodiment of

the present invention and its application. Similar to the aforesaid first embodiment of the present invention, this third embodiment consists of a tee **1**, a disc member **2** and fastening means **3**. The tee **1** is similar to the tee in the aforesaid first embodiment. According to this third embodiment, the disc member **2** has a hollow shaft that can be directly anchored to the ground to support the tee **1** on the ground at the desired elevation. The disc member **2** has a center hole **21** axially extending to the top side for receiving the tee **1**, and a wire hole **22** for the fastening of a cord member **4**. The fastening means **3** consists of a first fastening member **31** formed with grooves **311** on the periphery of the tee shaft of the tee **1**, and a second fastening member **32** with match grooves on the inside wall of the disc member **2** around the center hole **21** for engagement with the first fastening member **31** to hold the tee **1** in position. When installed, a insertion depth **D** of the disc member **2** in the ground and an adjustable height **H** of the head **11** of the tee **1** above the ground are controlled, i.e., a golf ball **7** is held at the desired elevation so that the golfer can hit the right part of the golf ball **7** accurately to strike the golf ball **7** long and straight.

Therefore, when this golf tee set is in use, it provides numerous benefits as follows:

1. The disc member **2** with the tee **1** mounted on top to support the tee **1** on the ground at the desired elevation so that the golfer can hit the right part of the golf ball **7** accurately and strike striking the golf ball **7** long and straight.

2. The disc member **2** is inserted with a cord member **4**, which carries a magnetic member **5** for securing to a metal anchoring member **6**. Therefore, the tee **1** and the disc member **2** are kept near the metal anchoring member **6** for a repeatitive use.

3. The tee **1** has multiple raised portions **112** equiangularly spaced around the

recess **111** for supporting a golf ball **7** to prevent direct contact of the golf ball **7** with the periphery of the recess **111** so that less friction is produced between the golf ball **7** and the tee **1** to reduce the energy loss of the golf ball **7** when the golf ball **7** is struck away from the tee **1**, and therefore the user can strike the golf ball **7** straight and long.

4. The head **11** of the tee **1** has an specially designed contour so that the golfer can hold positively and rotate the tee **1** with the hand, preventing slipping of the hand from the tee **1** during rotation.

A prototype of golf tee set has been constructed with the features of FIGS. 1~8. The gold tee set functions smoothly to provide all of the features discussed earlier.

Although particular embodiments of the invention have been described in detail for purposes of illustration, various modifications and enhancements may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. Accordingly, the invention is not to be limited except as by the appended claims.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A golf tee set comprising:

a tee, having a head at a top side of a tee shaft, a recess on said head, and multiple raised portions equiangularly spaced around said recess for supporting a golf ball for hitting;

a disc member for setting he tee on the ground at a desired elevation, said support member having a center hole for the insertion of said tee, and at least one wire hole;

fastening means for fastening said tee to said support member, said fastening means comprising a first fastening member formed integral with the tee shaft of the tee and a second fastening member formed integral with a part of the disc member around the center hole of the disc member for engagement with the first fastening member;

a cord member inserted through at least one wire hole of the disc member and secured to the disc member; and

a magnetic member mounted on the cord member and movable between one end of the cord member and the disc member.

2. The golf tee set as stated in claim 1, wherein said first fastening member is comprised of multiple grooves; said second fastening member is comprised of multiple matching engagement ribs for engaging said grooves, and a protruding block formed integral with a part of the disc member inside the center hole; the engagement ribs are connected to the protruding block at one side at different elevations.

3. The golf tee set as stated in claim 1, wherein the first fastening member is a female thread, and the second fastening member is a male thread.

4. The golf tee set as stated in claim 1, wherein the disc member is a hollow nail, and the tee has two different systems of length marking for measuring distance.