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CLAIM

1. A fishing reel for a fishing rod, the fishing reel comprising:

a reel housing, said reel housing having side portions formed with an arcuate profile;

an attachment member fixed to said reel housing for attachment to a fishing rod; and

a thumbrest supported on said side portions, said thumbrest being configured for sliding movement with respect to said reel housing from a first position to a second position along a portion of said arcuate profile of said side portions.

2. The fishing reel as set forth in claim 1, wherein said thumbrest is configured to slide from the first position to the second position in a direction generally parallel to a length of the fishing rod.

3. The fishing reel as set forth in claim 1, wherein:
said side portions are configured to support a line spool therebetween, said side plates each being formed with a recess extending in a direction that is generally parallel to said arcuate profile; and

said thumbrest is formed with at least two opposing pins, each of said protrusions extending into a corresponding one of said recesses in a corresponding one

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of said side plates, and portions of said recesses defining the first position and the second position.

4. The fishing reel as set forth in claim 3, wherein said recesses are formed with first and second pairs of humps, said humps being configured to engage said protrusions of said thumbrest thus defining said first and second positions.

5. The fishing reel as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
a level winding mechanism supported on said side portions, said level winding mechanism extending between said side portions, said level winding mechanism having a line guide supported thereon; and

wherein said line guide is at least partially covered by said thumbrest with said thumbrest in said first position, and said line guide is exposed with said thumbrest in said second position.

6. The fishing reel as set forth in claim 1, wherein said attachment member is attached to a first side of said reel housing and said thumbrest is supported on said reel housing on a second side of said reel housing, generally opposite from said first side.

7 The fishing reel as set forth in claim 3, wherein said pins and said thumbrest are formed homogeneously of a single material.

8. The fishing reel as set forth in claim 3, wherein said pins are made of a stainless steel material and are inserted into apertures formed in portions of said thumbrest.