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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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PROTECTOR FOR SKATE BLADES

Edward H. Planert, Chicago, Ill., assignor to Planert Skate Company, Chicago, Ill., a corporation of Illinois

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6 Claims. (Cl. 280—11.38)

1

This invention relates to a protector for ice skate blades.

Frequently, especially on crowded rinks, skaters are injured by coming in contact with the sharp rear end of the skate blade.

One object of my invention is to provide a protector for the rear end of the skate blade, so as to prevent such injury.

Another object of my invention is to provide a protector, which may be attached to the rear and upper portion of the skate blade and remain on the skate while the skate is in use, without interfering with the normal use of the skate.

Another object of my invention is to provide a protector which may be easily attached to and removed from skates already manufactured or in use without making any alterations or changes in the skates themselves.

Another object of my invention is to provide a protector which is resilient enough so as to be easily attached by hand to the skate blade and yet stiff enough so as not to come off while the skate is in use.

Another object of my invention is to provide a simple, effective protector which will not detract from the appearance of the skate or render it cumbersome in any way.

A further object of my invention is to provide a protector of flexible rubber or other suitable yielding material to prevent injury to anyone coming in contact with it.

Other and further objects of my invention will appear from the following specification taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 shows a protector of my invention applied to the rear and upper portion of an ice skate blade.

Figure 2 is a bottom plan view of the attachable form of protector, as shown in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view through the protector shown in Figure 1, taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a bottom view of the metal sleeve.

Figure 5 shows the metal sleeve applied to the ice skate blade with the rubber sleeve in section.

The ice skate, shown in Figure 1, is of the tubular type, having a vertically disposed flat steel runner blade 1, supporting tube 2 therefor extending along the length of the blade, front and rear cups 3, 4, secured to and extending upward from the tube to support sole and heel plates 5, 6 to which the shoe 7 for use with the skate is riveted or otherwise rigidly attached. The protector for the runner blade is indicated generally

2

at 8 and is in the form of a sleeve closed at one end, which encircles the rear end portion of the tube 2 when applied to the skate. It is provided with a slot or kerf 9 extending lengthwise thereof to receive the runner blade 1 when the protector is applied to the skate. The protector is provided with a knob-like enlargement 10 near its end to provide suitable gripping means when attaching and removing it.

The outer portion of the protector 8 is made of flexible rubber or other suitable flexible material 11, which can be molded to the size and shape required. The flexible rubber 11 is reinforced and stiffened by the inner sleeve indicated generally at 12 which may be made of resilient metal or any other suitable material having sufficient resiliency so that the protector 8 can be applied by hand to the skate, as shown in Figures 1 and 5, and yet stiff enough so that it will not come off while the skate is in use. The metal sleeve 12 may be attached to the flexible rubber 11 and made an integral part thereof, by vulcanizing the rubber or by any other well-known method of attaching metal and rubber. The resilient metal sleeve 12 in combination with the flexible rubber 11 attaches the protector 8 so tightly to the skate that it does not come off when the skate is in use and yet the protector can be easily attached and removed from the skate by hand.

The slot or kerf 9^1 in the metal sleeve 12 is slightly wider than the corresponding slot of kerf 9 in the flexible rubber 11. This permits the portion of the flexible rubber 11, which is not stiffened by the metal sleeve 12, to flex easily while the protector is being applied and firmly grip the blade after the protector is attached. This feature also helps to make the protector easy to apply and remove by hand and yet adhere tightly to the skate when attached thereto.

The metal sleeve 12 also has the slot or kerf 13 into which the raised portion 14 of the skate tube fits. This acts as a locking device and also permits the sleeve 12 to fit snugly around the tube of the skate.

While the preferred embodiment of the invention has been illustrated and described, by way of example, it will be obvious that changes may be made therein within the spirit and scope of the invention and, therefore, the invention is not to be limited to the precise form herein described, except in so far as it may be limited by the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. A protector for the rear end of a skate blade

of the tubular reenforced type comprising a slotted clamping sleeve adapted to extend over the rear end of the tubular reenforcement above the skating surface of the blade, and a resilient cushion extending over the rear upper end of the blade.

2. The combination of claim 1 wherein the protector comprises a body of rubberlike material, and the sleeve comprises a resilient metallic reenforcement.

3. The combination of claim 1 wherein the sleeve is reenforced by a metallic insert comprising a slotted tubular member having an opening for registering with a projection on the end of the blade for preventing endwise dislocation of the protector.

4. An attachable protector for the rear portion of the blade of a tubular ice skate for use while skating, comprising a flexible sleeve, said sleeve being adapted to slip over the rear portion of the skate tube and having a longitudinal slot to receive the skate blade while leaving the same free for contact with the ice.

5. An attachable protector for the rear portion of the blade of a tubular ice skate, comprising a flexible sleeve reenforced with a resilient sleeve and closed at one end, adapted to slip over and be positioned on the rear portion of the skate tube when skating and having a longitudinal slot to receive the skate blade.

6. An attachable protector for the rear portion of the blade of a tubular ice skate, comprising a flexible sleeve stiffened with a resilient sleeve and closed at one end, adapted to slip over the rear portion of the skate tube and having a longitudinal slot to receive the skate blade, said resilient sleeve also having a slot to receive the raised portion at the top and rear of the skate tube.

EDWARD H. PLANERT.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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April 5, 1949. E. H. PLANERT 2,466,475

PROTECTOR FOR SKATE BLADES

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Fig. 1.

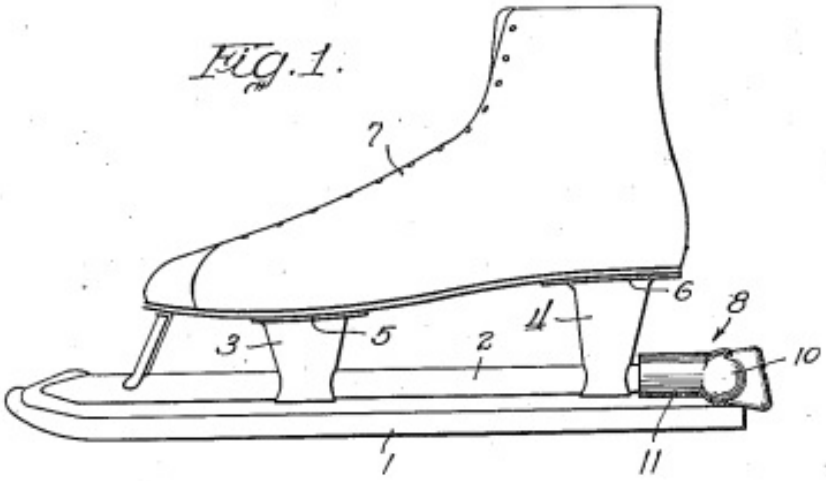


Fig. 3.

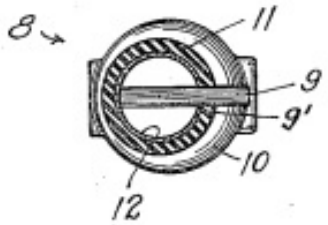


Fig. 5

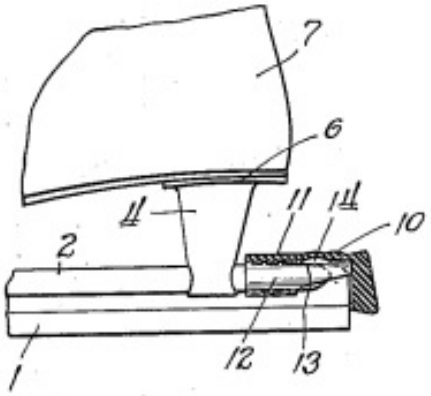


Fig. 4.

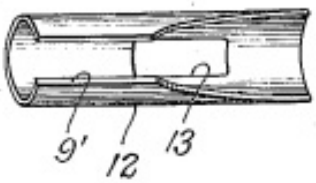
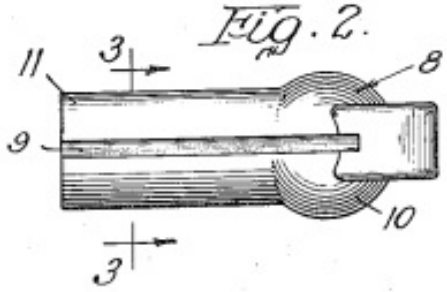


Fig. 2.



Inventor:
Edward H. Planert.
By Brown Jackson Boettcher Dennis
Attys.