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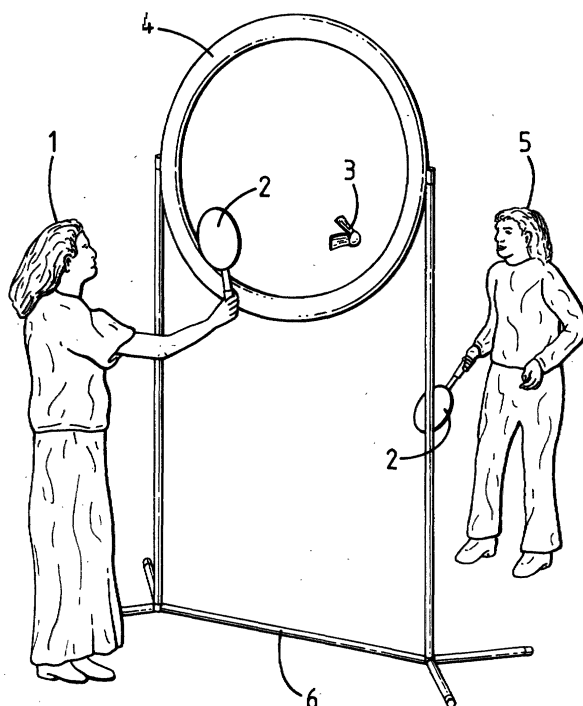
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(54) **Racket game**

(57) There is described a racket game in which a first player uses a racket to hit a projectile called a shuttleball through a vertical hoop to a second player. The

second player has a second racket with which the second player attempts to hit the shuttleball back through the vertical hoop to the first player. The vertical hoop is supported by a frame assembly.

**FIG.1**



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# PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

which under Rule 45 of the European Patent Convention shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	US 4 092 023 A (HAZEN MARY C) 30 May 1978 (1978-05-30)	1,2,4,5	A63B67/18 A63B63/00 A63B59/00
Y	* column 2, line 7 - line 68; figures 1-3	3	
A	*	6	
Y	US 5 845 697 A (ZHENG YU) 8 December 1998 (1998-12-08) * column 2, line 50 - column 3, line 26 * * column 4, line 25 - column 5, line 65; figures 1,2 *	3	
X	GB 2 295 325 A (WILLIAMS ANTHONY VIVIAN) 29 May 1996 (1996-05-29)	1,4-6	
Y	* page 3, line 5 - page 4, line 28; figure 1 *	7,8	
Y	US 4 183 526 A (BROWN DONALD K) 15 January 1980 (1980-01-15) * column 2, line 30 - column 4, line 11; figures 1-6 *	7	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			A63B
INCOMPLETE SEARCH			
<p>The Search Division considers that the present application, or one or more of its claims, does/do not comply with the EPC to such an extent that a meaningful search into the state of the art cannot be carried out, or can only be carried out partially, for these claims.</p> <p>Claims searched completely :</p> <p>1-8</p> <p>Claims searched incompletely :</p> <p>Claims not searched :</p> <p>9</p> <p>Reason for the limitation of the search:</p> <p>Article 52 (2)(c) EPC - Scheme, rules and method for playing games</p>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		28 August 2001	Levert, C
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
<p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone</p> <p>Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category</p> <p>A : technological background</p> <p>O : non-written disclosure</p> <p>P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention</p> <p>E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date</p> <p>D : document cited in the application</p> <p>L : document cited for other reasons</p> <p>&amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPC FORM 1503 03/92 (P04/C07)



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### CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

### LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☒ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☐ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:



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# PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 99 20 4228

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
Y	US 4 657 262 A (BUCKLAND ROY W) 14 April 1987 (1987-04-14) * column 1, line 58 - column 2, line 55; figures 1,2 * -----	8	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)



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**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION  
SHEET B**

Application Number  
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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1-6

Apparatus comprising at least one target frame member, which is a resilient hoop, at least one support frame member, at least two rackets and a projectile.

2. Claims: 1,6,7

Apparatus wherein the rackets have a foam surface.

3. Claims: 1,6,8

Apparatus wherein the projectile comprises a wing portion which is adjustable.

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 99 20 4228

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
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28-08-2001

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EPO FORM P0459

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82