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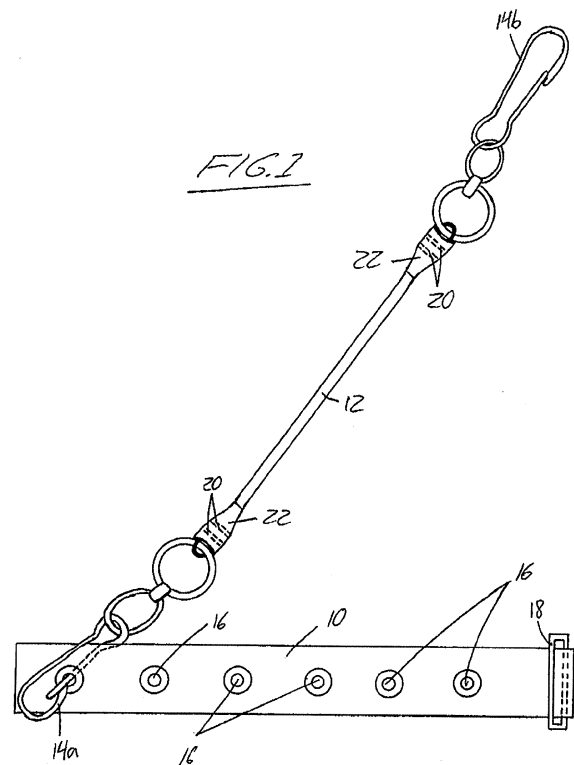
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(54) **GOALTENDER DEVICE WITH WRIST BAND AND CORD FOR RETRACTABLE SUPPORT OF A REMOVED GOALIE GLOVE**

(57) A goaltender device features a cord; a wrist strap attached or attachable to a first end of the cord; and a clip attached or attachable to a second end of the cord for selective attachment of a goalie glove thereto. During use, the goaltender temporarily removes their goalie glove to expose the glove hand for use in a two-handed grip on a goal stick, during which the goalie glove hangs on the cord from said glove arm of the goaltender. The goaltender then uses a thrusting movement of the glove hand arm to pulling the glove back up to the glove hand via the cord.



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Description

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0001] The present invention relates generally to hockey equipment, and more particularly to a goaltending device usable with a goalie glove.

BACKGROUND

[0002] In hockey, when a goalie wants to make a two-handed pass or shot, the ability to do so is hampered by goalie glove or "trapper" worn on the goalie's glove hand.

[0003] Accordingly, it would be desirable to provide a device for assisting a goalie's ability to make a confident two-handed pass or shot.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0004] According to one aspect of the invention, there is provided a goaltender device comprising a cord; a wrist strap attached or attachable to a first end of the cord; and a clip attached or attachable to a second end of the cord for selective attachment of a goalie glove to the cord via said clip.

[0005] According to another aspect of the invention, there is provided a goaltender device comprising: a cord; a wrist strap attached or attachable to a first end of the cord; and a goalie glove attached or attachable to a second end of the cord.

[0006] According to yet another aspect of the invention, there is provided a goaltending method comprising: with a first end of a cord connected to a worn item on a glove hand arm of a goaltender and a second end of said cord connected to a goalie glove worn on said glove hand, temporarily removing said goalie glove to expose the glove hand of the goaltender for use in a two-handed grip on a goalie stick, during which the goalie glove hangs on the cord from said glove arm of the goaltender, and then using a thrusting movement of the glove hand arm, pulling the glove back up to the glove hand via the cord.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0007] One embodiment of the invention will now be described in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 illustrates a goaltender device for retractably hanging of a goalie glove from the wrist of a goaltender's glove hand arm.

Figure 2 illustrates use of the goaltender device to retractably hang the goalie glove from the goaltender's wrist.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0008] The appended drawing shows a goaltender de-

vice featuring a strap 10 for securing in a worn position around the wrist of a goaltender's glove hand arm, and an elastic shock cord 12 with a pair of snap clips 14a, 14b attached the opposing first and second ends of the cord 12. The wrist strap 10 features a series of grommetted eyeholes 16 which serve as selectable attachment points for the first snap clip 14a in order to connect the shock cord 12 to the wrist strap. By selecting from the among the different eyeholes 16, one can select how far the elastic shock cord 12 will hang from the wrist. The second snap clip 14b located at the opposite end of the shock cord is clipped onto a goalie glove or "trapper" (not shown).

[0009] The device allows the hockey goalie to dislodge the trapper glove from the glove hand on which it is normally worn, so the goalie can then hold onto the goalie stick more effectively and efficiently with both hands. During this two-handed gripping of the stick, the glove is suspended by the cord that hangs from the wrist strap to which it is clipped. The glove should hang in a position just touching the ice, which requires proper adjustment of the cord's hanging length through selection from among the different grommetted attachment points on the wrist band.

[0010] After the goalie makes a two-handed pass or takes a two-handed shot, he/she can then retract the glove back up to the glove hand, where he/she can then clutch the trapper and put it back on with ease. As shown in Figure 2, this retraction of the glove is performed with a slight forward thrust and upward pull of the glove hand arm on which the wrist strap is worn, which through the shock cord, will retract the glove back in the grip of the goaltender's glove hand. The elasticized shock cord helps provide a recoil back to the goalie's glove hand. This allows the process of dislodging the glove and recoiling it back on the hand quicker and easier. It is an easy smooth action and with very little practice, one can have the glove off and back on the hand in a manner of seconds or less. Using the device correctly, the tip (end) of the trapper should be just touching the ice, just enough to take some of the pressure/weight off of the wrist. This avoids any tightening of the strap on the wrist under the weight of the trapper hanging on the cord.

[0011] One possible construction of the device is described as follows, though it will be readily appreciable that the particular sizes and materials selected may be varied without detracting from the general structure and operation of the device. In the exemplary construction, there are: two stainless-steel clips 14a, 14b, one of which is attached to the goalie's glove (not shown); one wrist strap approximately fourteen inches long, with six brass grommetted eye holes for attachment of the second clip 14b to the strap 10 through any selected one of these eye holes, and one ladder lock 18 sewn on the end of the strap so the wrist strap can loop around through it; one 6.5-inch shock cord 12 that is 0.25-inch in diameter; four one-inch hog rings 20, and two pieces of 0.25-inch diameter shrink wrap 22 each measuring 0.75-inches

long. The hog rings 20 are secured to the shock cord 12 after looping through the ring area of the stainless-steel clips 14a, 14b. There are two hog rings 22 per stainless steel clip, and they are fastened on with hog ring pliers. This ensures that when there is pressure placed on the ends of the stainless-steel clips 14a, 14b, they will remain secured. The shrink wrap pieces 22 are slipped on prior to placing the hog rings 20 on, and once the hog rings 20 are secured, the shrink wrap sleeves 22 are placed over the hog rings. The shrink wrap ensures that no material becomes caught on the ends of the hog rings, and provides an aesthetically pleasing appearance concealing the ring connections.

[0012] Potential benefits of the device include increased overall performance due to the goalie's ability to better secure/control the puck; improved goalie ability, power and accuracy in shooting and/or passing the puck; and reduction in the labour-intensive process of training goalies how to shoot, as compared to shooting with the trapper on. This valuable training time can be better spent on other skills, physical conditioning, and more team-involved aspects of practice. The device has the potential to change the dynamics of the game by making all goalies more capable of puck handling that can provide more transitional involvement in the game. It may help reduce "dump and chase" type play, or introduce additional challenges to such tactics. The goalie maintains the independent choice of whether to use the device or not, even when worn. The device also has the potential to create a more positive atmosphere in the goalie's mind because they are more involved in the play, and it adds to the new element of surprise, unpredictability, team involvement, and social contentedness.

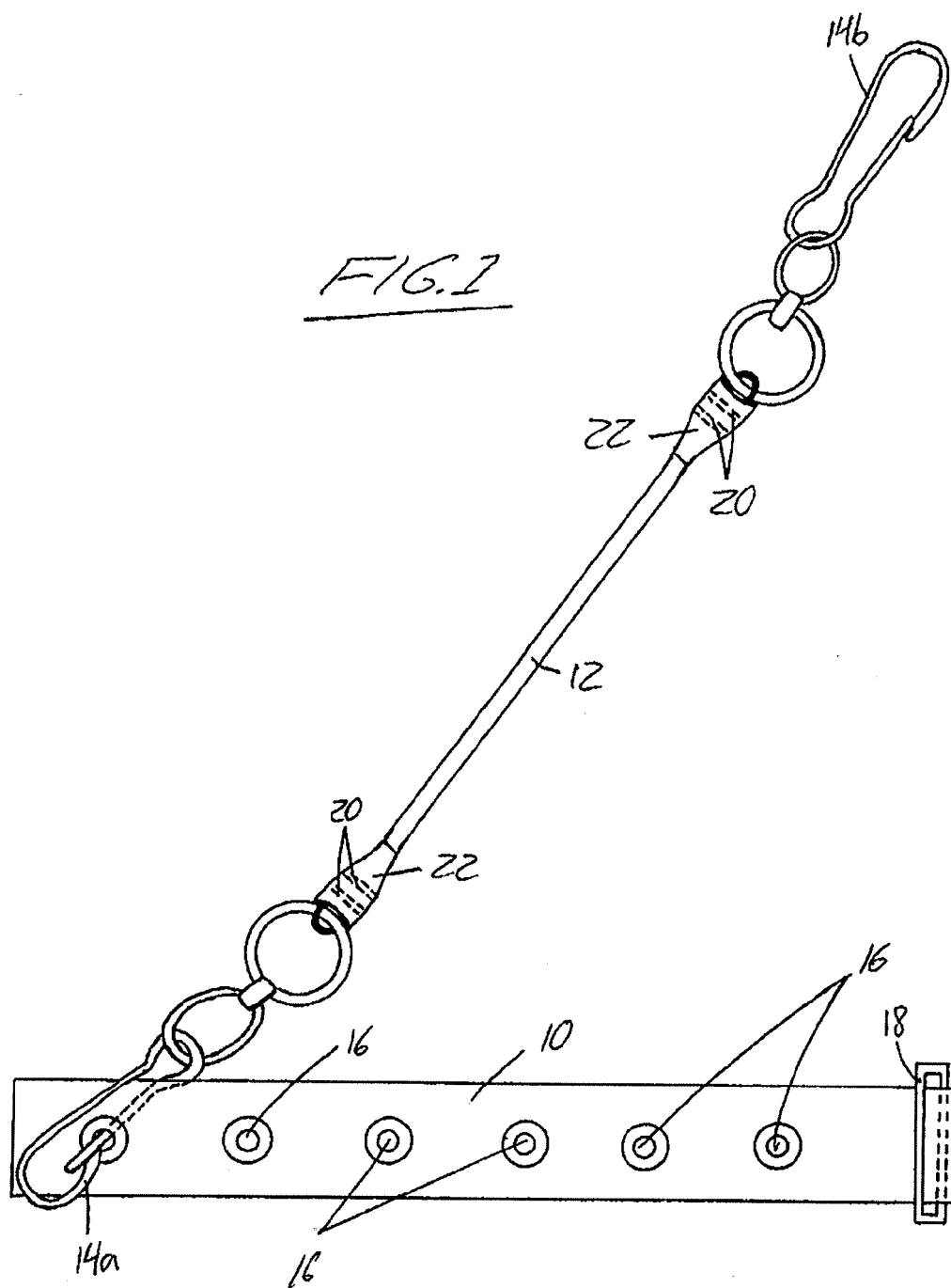
[0013] Since various modifications can be made in my invention as herein above described, and many apparently widely different embodiments of same made, it is intended that all matter contained in the accompanying specification shall be interpreted as illustrative only and not in a limiting sense.

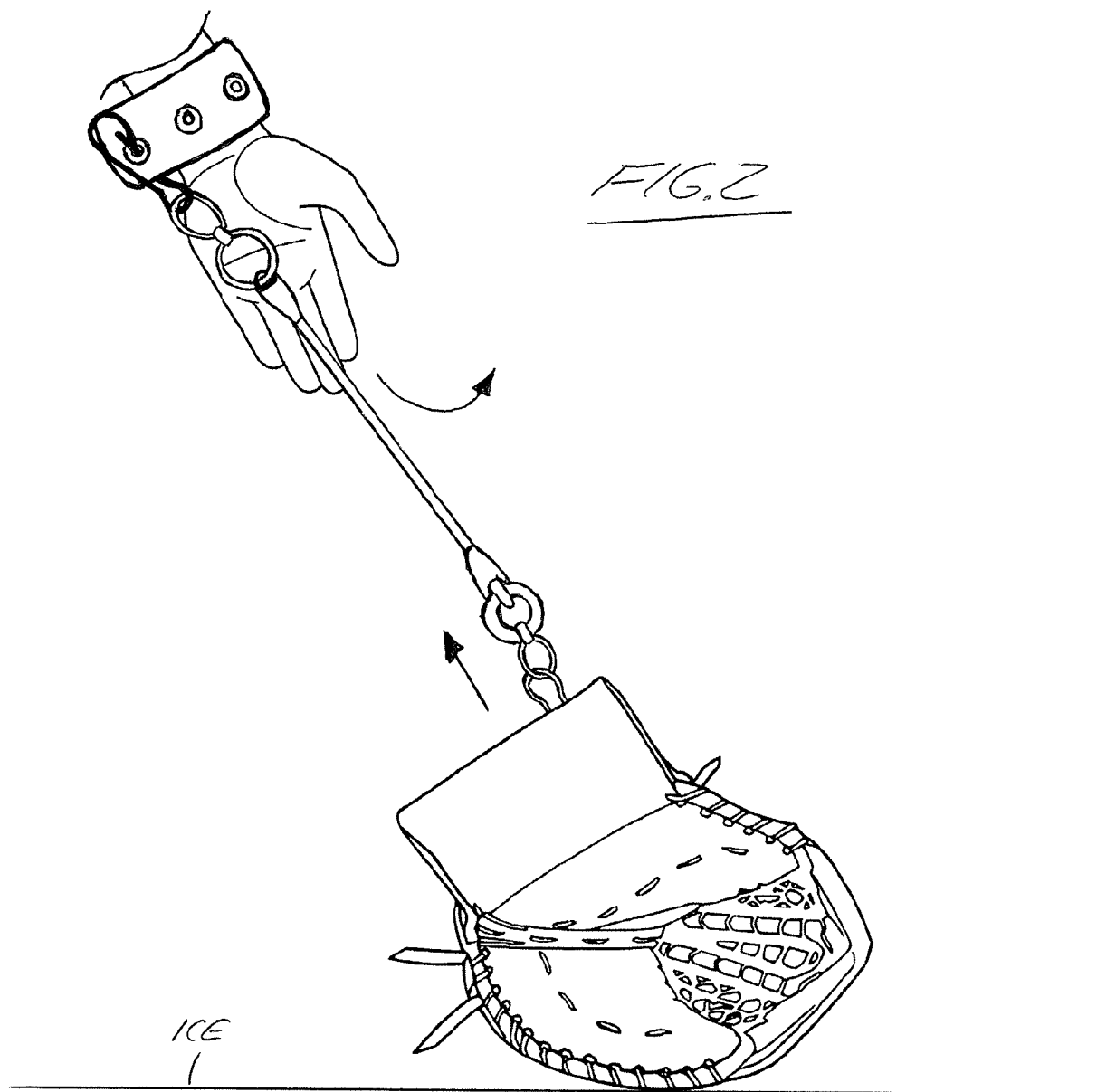
Claims

1. A goaltender device comprising a cord; a wrist strap attached or attachable to a first end of the cord; and a clip attached or attachable to a second end of the cord for selective attachment of a goalie glove thereto.
2. The device of claim 1 in combination with said goalie glove.
3. The device of claim 2 wherein said goalie glove is attached to the clip.
4. A goaltender device comprising: a cord; a wrist strap attached or attachable to a first end of the cord; and a goalie glove attached or attachable to a second

end of the cord.

5. The device of claim 4 wherein the goalie glove is attached to the second end of the cord via an openable/closeable clip.
6. The device of any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein said cord is elasticized.
7. A goaltending method comprising:
 - with a first end of a cord connected to a worn item on a glove hand arm of a goaltender and a second end of said cord connected to a goalie glove worn on said glove hand, temporarily removing said goalie glove to expose the glove hand of the goaltender for use in a two-handed grip on a goalie stick, during which the goalie glove hangs on the cord from said glove arm of the goaltender, and then using a thrusting movement of the glove hand arm, pulling the glove back up to the glove hand via the cord.
8. The method of claim 7 wherein said tether is elasticized.
9. The method of claim 7 or 8 comprising hanging the goalie glove at ice level while the goalie glove is removed from the glove hand such that at least a partial weight of the goalie glove is borne by the ice rather than the glove hand arm of the goaltender.







EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

 Application Number
 EP 18 18 4474

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		16 October 2018	Monné, Eric
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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 EPO FORM 1503 03/82 (P04C01)

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

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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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