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(54) **SHUFFLEBOARD PLAYFIELD ASSEMBLY**

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A63F 7/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
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(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... 273/108, 273/118 R, 123 R, 125 R, 126, 126 A, 126 R, 273/127 B, 283; 108/19, 35; 473/3, 107, 473/116, 496
See application file for complete search history.

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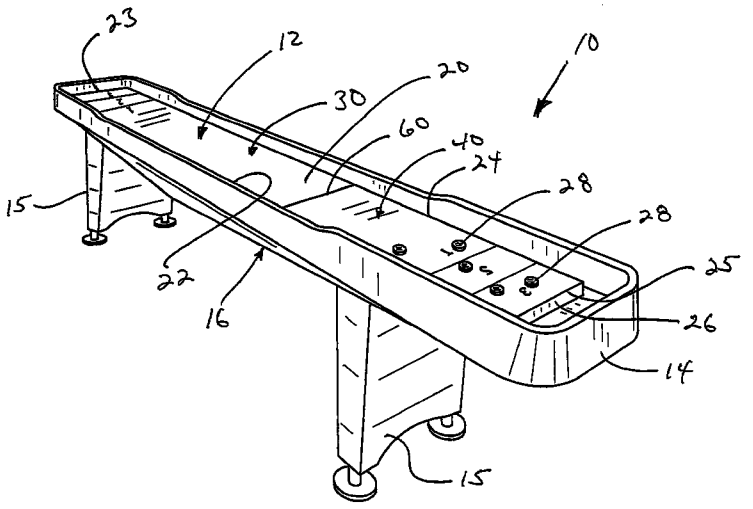
(57) **ABSTRACT**

The present invention is directed to a two-piece shuffleboard playfield having two rectangular planar members forming the overall playfield, two bracket members and adjustment members. The two elongated planar playfield members are attached to each other with the bracket members. Each bracket member is mounted to the lower surface of one of the elongated planar members at the point of joinder of the two elongated playfield members. When the playfield members are placed in abutting relationship to each other, the bracket members are likewise placed adjacent to each other for securely attaching the same to each other with a plurality of fastener members. An adjustment bolt is position at each respective end portion of each bracket member for leveling the top surface of the elongated planar members at their point of joinder. Each end portion of one rectangular planar member adjacent the point of joinder or joint edge can be moved up and down with respect to the other end portions of the rectangular planar members by adjusting the adjustment members. The adjustment bolts are used to raise one corner of each of the elongated playfield members independently of each other at the point of joinder.

6 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets



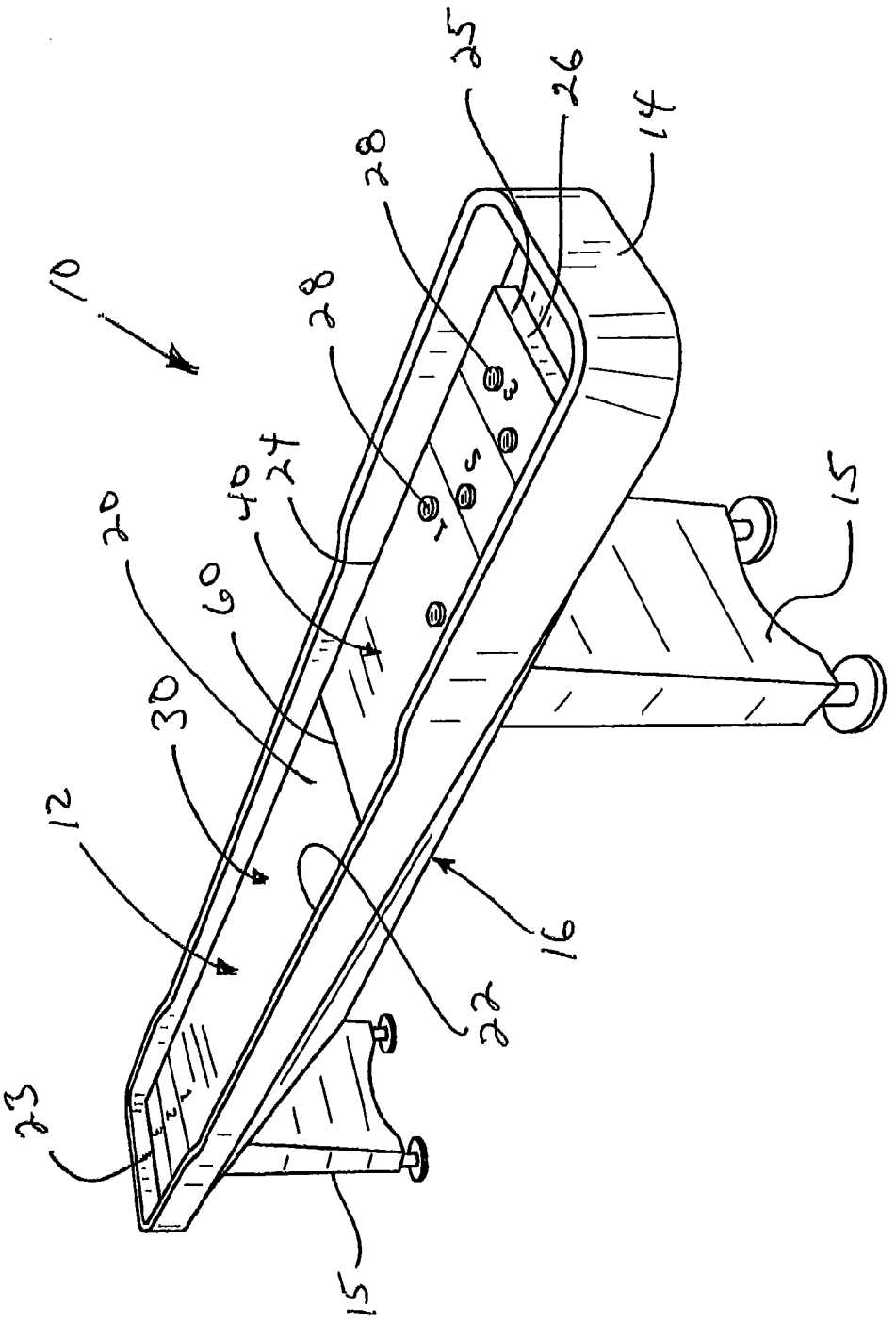


FIG. 1

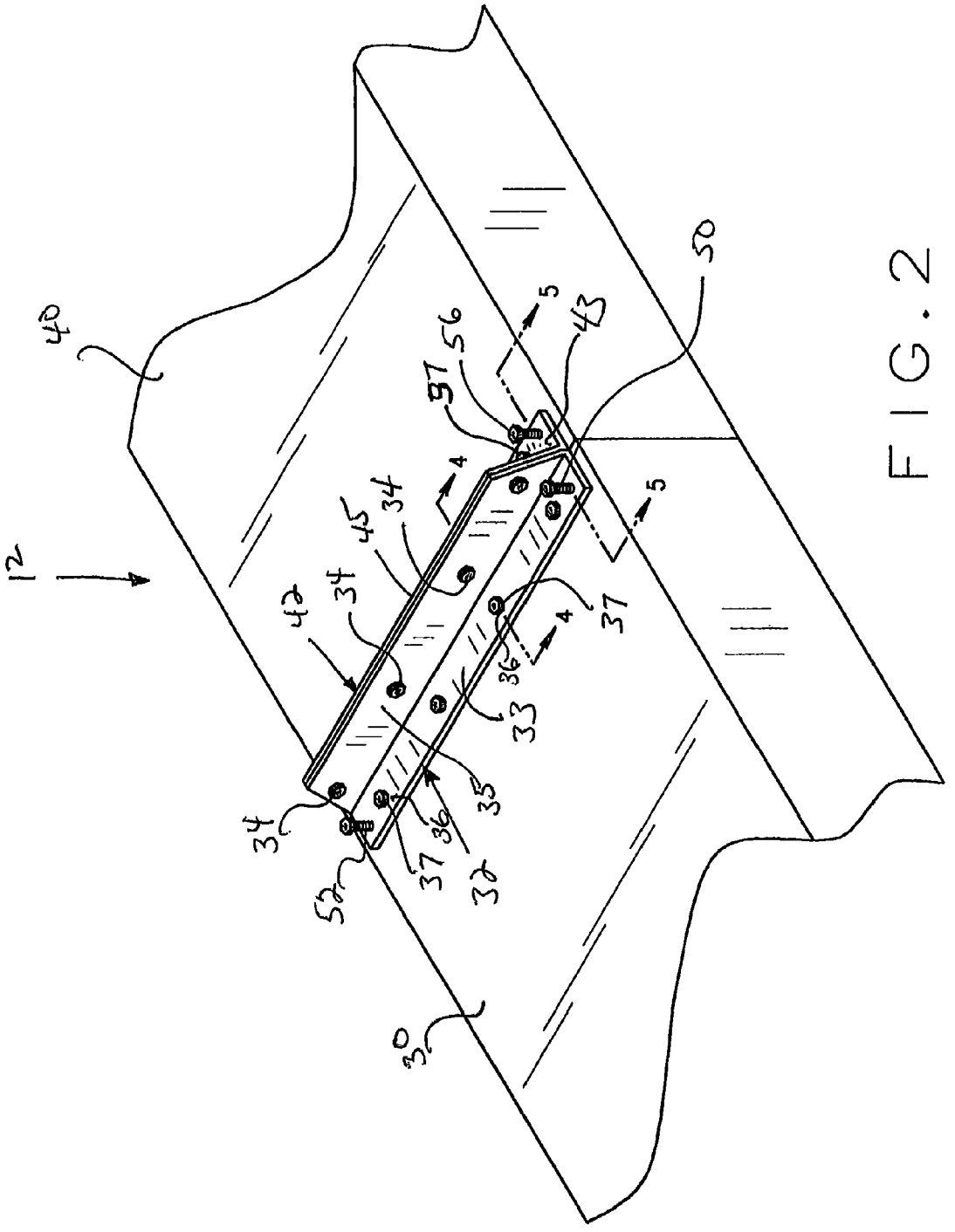


FIG. 2

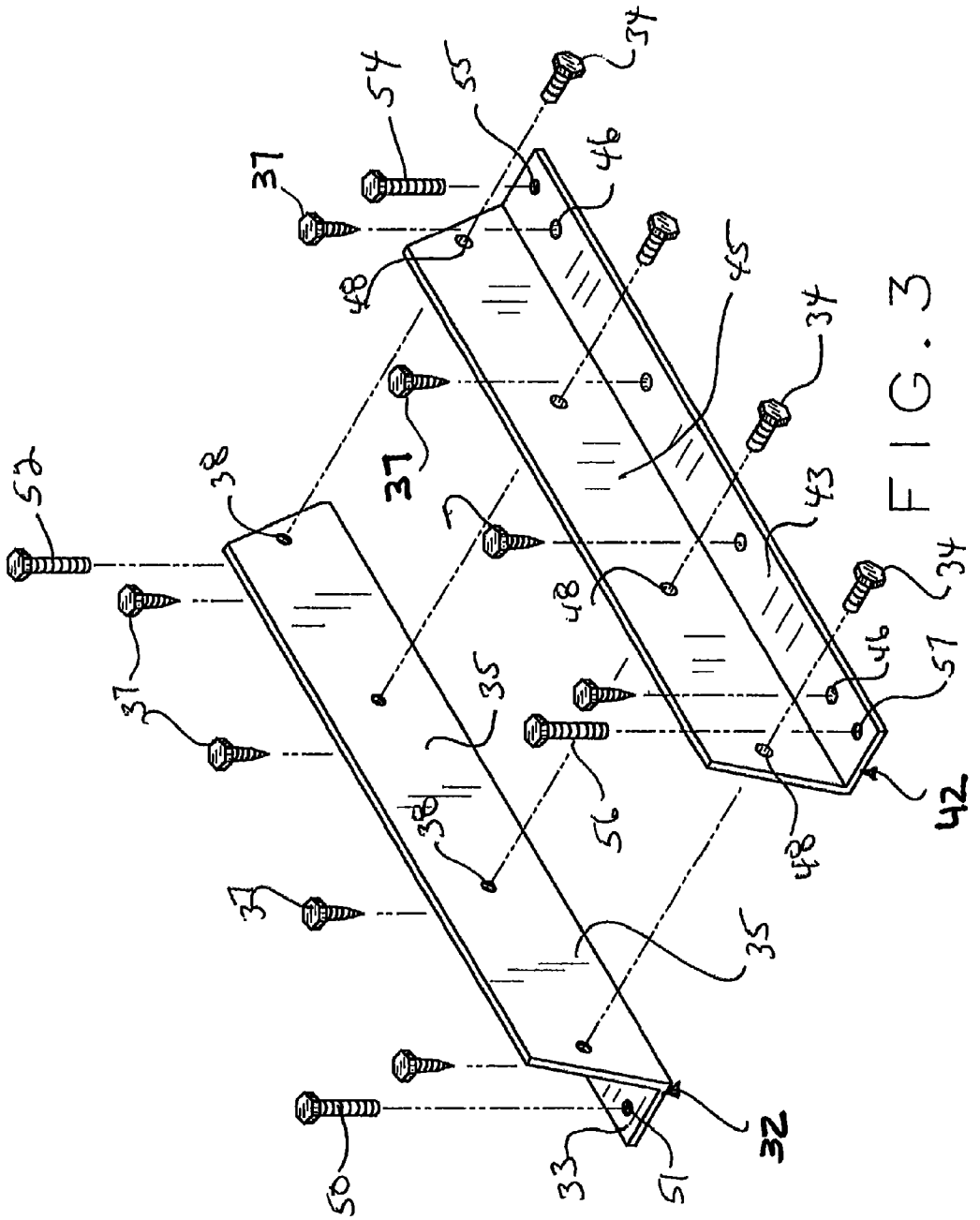

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FIG. 3

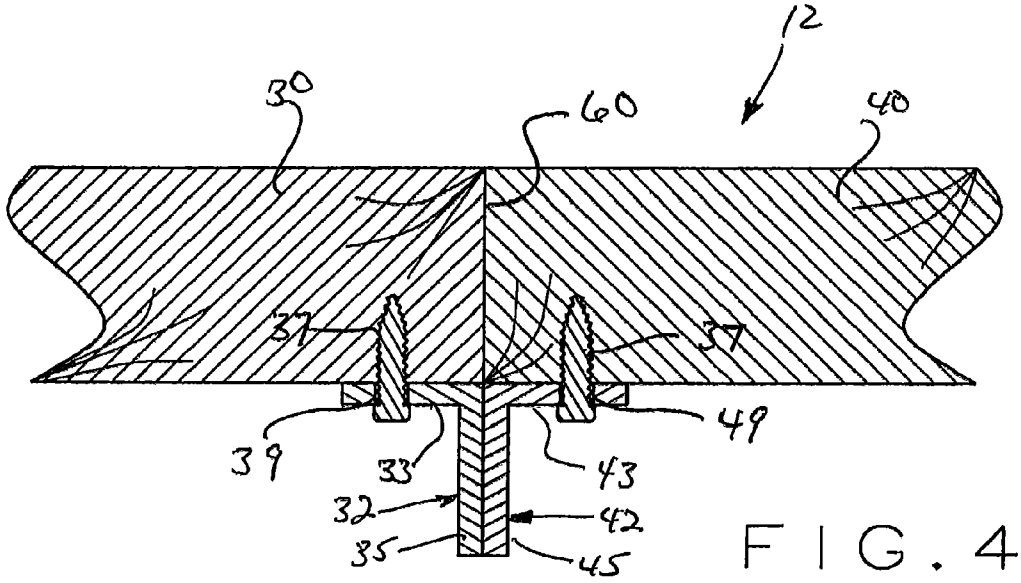

FIG. 4

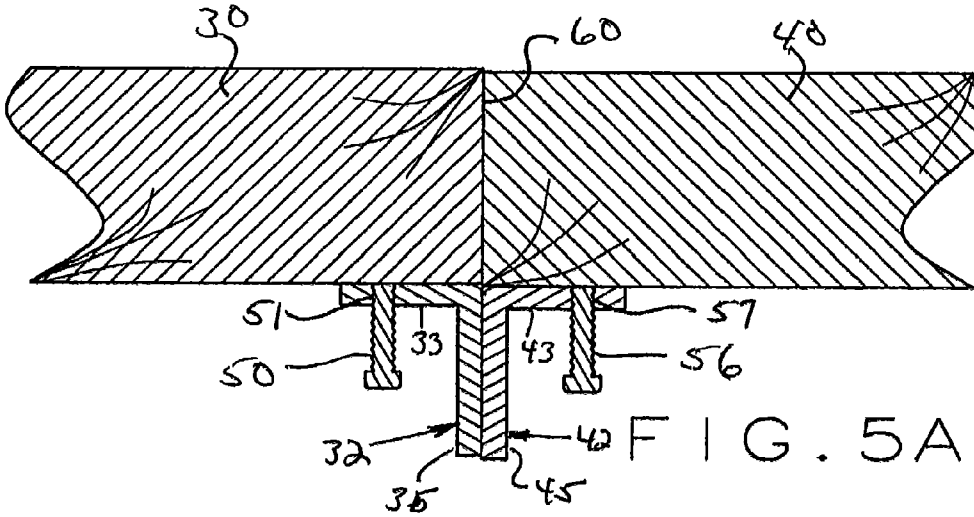

FIG. 5A

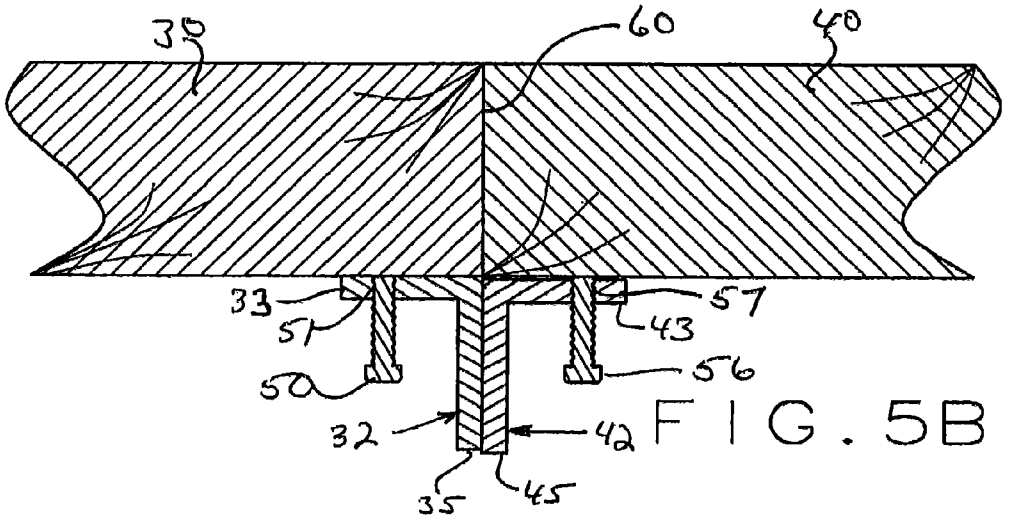

FIG. 5B

SHUFFLEBOARD PLAYFIELD ASSEMBLY

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates generally to a game board or playfield for the game of shuffleboard and, more particularly, to a shuffleboard playfield or game board wherein the playfield is cut in half for ease of mobility and includes cooperating brackets located at the joinder intersection of the two halves of the playfield for easy assembly and a leveling mechanism for leveling the playfield at the point of joinder.

The shuffleboard game employs disks or pucks which are slidably propelled on a floor surface, game board or playfield from one end of the playfield to the other. The playfield is typically made of wood and incorporated into a heavy table like structure of considerable length with a relatively massive perimeter frame to accommodate the playing disks sliding off of the playfield anywhere along its length. The disks are propelled by a player in a sliding motion on the flat playing surface to impart a desired momentum to the disk so as to score points based upon the proximity of the disk trajectory terminus to a target location. Because of the sliding motion of the game, a flat level playfield throughout its entire length is imperative both to scoring points and to give full credit to the skill of the players.

Despite their basic appeal, shuffleboard games have generally been manufactured for commercial use in commercial establishments and as such, they are heavy in weight, relatively long in length, cumbersome to move, and generally immovable once positioned in a particular location. As a result, shuffleboard games are not widely used in non-commercial locations such as residential homes, senior citizen centers, church activity centers, office locations and similar locations due to space availability. While conventional shuffleboards are suitable for the purposes just described, the length of the playfield or game board is generally too long to be carried through narrow passageways, around corners, and up and down stairs and, as such, restricts the installation process such as in basements and upper floor locations.

The playfield or playing surface of a shuffleboard game is also impacted or affected by changes in humidity which can causes the wooden playfield to warp thereby making the playing surface upon which the disks or pucks slide uneven or not level. This means that the disks will not slide or travel true to form and will impact the play of the game. To counteract this warping problem, various types of leveling mechanisms have been proposed and are known in the art. This leveling problem is even more critical if the playing surface or playfield is cut in half as in the present invention.

U.S. Pat. No. 3,572,717 issued to Anguella discloses a miniature and portable shuffleboard game which comprises two sections capable of being quickly assembled to form a miniature shuffleboard table which can be easily assembled and disassembled for play, storage and for easy transportation. Corresponding attachment means are associated with each of the table sections for aligning and connecting the sections together in the assembled position. Pivotal legs are likewise associated with each table section for supporting each section in the assembled position. A pair of threaded members extend downwardly from one end of one of the table sections and are cooperatively received into corresponding holes associated with the other table section and are utilized in connecting the two sections together. Overlapping extension portions associated with each table section accounts for the aligning of the top surface of the two sections when joined together. No additional leveling mechanism is provided.

U.S. Pat. No. 2,493,620 issued to Cusano discloses a shuffled board table having a leveling mechanism which includes a pair of brackets fixedly secured by screws to the board adjacent the outer portions thereof and a third bracket positioned centrally therebetween. A rigid beam is secured to the end brackets and a bolt extends through a central opening in the beam for mating with the third centrally located bracket. Movement of a pair of nuts associated with a bolt which mates with the central bracket allows the center portion of the table to be moved up or down to adjust for warping of the table at its center due to humidity or other atmospheric conditions. This adjustment mechanism only corrects for warping of a one-piece playing surface at the center of the table as shown in FIGS. 5 and 6 and does not function to level two half sections of a playing surface at or adjacent to the point of joinder where the half sections are connected together.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,865,681 issued to Tudek discloses a ball game table vaguely similar to shuffleboard wherein the playing surface is completely covered with a fabric such as grass carpeting along its longitudinal dimension. More particularly, the playing board is cut in half and a nut, bolt and washer assembly is used for securing two cross members together thereby resulting in joining the two halves of the game board. It further discloses the use of adjustment levelers which are screwed into cross members at a plurality of locations along the length of the game board. These cross member levelers are described as being a short piece of round pipe filled with cement after an all-threaded hexagon head bolt is centered and extended within the pipe to be hand screwed into the cross members at weight bearing points to level the table. None of the adjustment levelers are positioned at or adjacent to the joint intersection where the two halves of the board are connected together. In addition, these adjustment levelers do not adjust the height level of the carpet which is layered on the top surface of the game board playing surface.

It is therefore desirable to provide an improved standard full length shuffleboard playfield wherein the shuffleboard playfield is cut in half and includes two elongated planar members which can be easily assembled on location and adjusted at the point of joinder to yield a level flat playing surface at the joinder point.

Specific advantages and features of the present invention will be apparent from the attached drawings and description of an illustrative embodiment of the invention.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention overcomes many of the shortcomings and limitations of the prior art devices discussed above and teaches the construction and operation of several embodiments of a shuffleboard playfield adapted for use with a shuffleboard game of different sizes. In one aspect of the present invention, a standard full length shuffleboard playfield is cut in half and includes two elongated rectangular planar members which are assembled on location with brackets and leveling bolts to yield a level flat and smooth playing surface at the point of joinder of the two planar members. The shuffleboard playfield includes a base of hard wood and a smooth polymer finish on the top playing surface.

The present two-piece shuffleboard playfield will be used when the length of the playfield of a conventional one-piece shuffleboard game is too long to be carried and/or maneuvered through narrow passageways or up or down stairs and its overall length restricts the installation process such as in basements and upper floor locations. With the unassembled rectangular planar members of the present playfield, the

present shuffleboard can be easily delivered through narrow passageways so as to be installed at the desired location. The two elongated planar members of the present shuffleboard playfield are attached to each other through the use of bracket members mounted to the lower surface of each elongated planar member at the terminal end portion thereof or at the point of joinder between the two planar members. When the two planar members are placed in abutting relationship to each other at their point of joinder, the corresponding bracket members mate with each other and can be securely connected to each other through the use of a plurality of spaced apart bolts or other suitable connecting means. An adjustment or leveling bolt is positioned at each respective end of each bracket member. Adjustment of the leveling bolts is made to level the top surface of the elongated planar members at the joint edge, or at their point of joinder. Each side portion of one rectangular planar member adjacent the joint edge can be adjusted up and/or down with respect to the other rectangular planar member by merely adjusting the appropriate leveling bolt. The adjustment bolts are used to raise one corner of the playfield independently of the other corners. Once the playfield is assembled, it is placed in the associated cradle in its playing position.

The present shuffleboard playfield comprises two elongated planar members, each having an upper surface and a lower surface wherein one elongated planar member is coupled to the other elongated planar member in the same plane at a joint edge with bracket members. In a preferred embodiment, two L-shaped brackets, each having a mount panel and a flange portion extending downwardly from one side of the mount panel in substantially perpendicular relationship thereto, are used to attach the two elongated planar members to each other. Each bracket member mounted on the lower surface of the respective first and second elongated planar members at their respective points of joinder includes at least one threaded aperture located adjacent to the joint edge at each respective end thereof for receiving an adjustment or leveling bolt which is engaged therewith to level the upper surfaces of the first and second elongated planar members at the joint edge, or at their point of joinder.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

FIG. **1** is a perspective view of the present shuffleboard playfield used with a conventional shuffleboard game table constructed in accordance with the teachings of the present invention.

FIG. **2** is a bottom perspective view of the present shuffleboard playfield constructed in accordance with the teachings of the present invention.

FIG. **3** is an exploded view of the connecting brackets shown in FIG. **2**.

FIG. **4** is a vertical cross-sectional view through the present shuffleboard playfield taken along line **4-4** of FIG. **2**.

FIG. **5**A is a vertical cross-sectional view through the present shuffleboard playfield taken along line **5-5** of FIG. **2**, showing the uneven top surface of the assembled shuffleboard playfield.

FIG. **5**B is a vertical cross-sectional view through the present shuffleboard playfield taken along line **5-5** of FIG. **2** showing the leveling of the top surface of the playfield using a leveling bolt.

It should be understood that the drawings are not necessarily to scale and that the embodiments illustrated herein are sometimes illustrated by graphic symbols, phantom lines, diagrammatic representations and fragmentary views. In certain instances, details which are not necessary for an understanding of the present invention or which render other details difficult to perceive may have been omitted. It should be understood, of course, that the invention is not necessarily limited to the particular embodiments illustrated herein. Like numbers utilized throughout the various Figures designate like or similar parts or structure.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is generally embodied in a shuffleboard game. Referring to the drawings, FIGS. **1-4** are various views of one embodiment of a shuffleboard game **10** constructed in accordance with the teachings of the present invention. FIG. **1** illustrates a perspective view of the shuffleboard playfield **12** made in accordance with the present invention and shown mounted on the top recessed area of a cradle **14** which is the cabinet or table structure that the shuffleboard playfield **12** lays in. The shuffleboard game further includes legs **15** which support the cradle **14**. The number of legs depends on the size of the playfield **12**. The shuffleboard game **10** may optionally include climatic adjusters and leg adjustment bolts (not shown) to level the overall table assembly **16** of the shuffleboard game **10** with respect to the supporting surface.

Referring to FIG. **1**, the shuffleboard playfield **12** generally includes an elongated member having a rectangular top side **20** with two elongated longitudinally extending side edges **22** and **24**, two transversely extending end portions or edges **23** and **25**, and a thickness **26**. The rectangular top side **20** includes a series of spaced apart numbers such as the numbers "1", "2", and "3" formed adjacent to each respective end portion **23** and **25**, the numbers representing the numbers of points obtained when a puck or disk **28** lands in the numbered zone. In the embodiment illustrated in FIG. **1**, the number "3" is located closest to the end portions **23** and **25**, the number "2" is located further from the end portions **23** and **25** and the number "1" is located still further from the end portions **23** and **25** with lateral lines formed between the respective numbers identifying the respective scoring zones. The game is played with disk-like pucks **28** which are propelled across the playfield **12** in a sliding motion from one end thereof towards the scoring zones located at the opposite end of the playfield **12**. The length of the shuffleboard playfield **12** may vary.

The shuffleboard playfield **12** is typically made of wood with the numbers and lines typically painted or etched into the top surface. In a preferred embodiment, the wood material of the shuffleboard playfield **12** should be a relatively hard wood material such as solid maple and the top surface thereof is covered with a polished polymer layer to improve the sliding surface of the playfield. Those skilled in the art will recognize that other materials can likewise be used without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention.

The shuffleboard playfield **12** made in accordance with the present invention is best illustrated in FIGS. **2-4** and generally includes two rectangular planar members **30** and **40** forming the playfield **12**, two bracket members **32** and **42**, and at least four adjustment bolts **50**, **52**, **54** and **56**. As used herein, top, bottom, upper, lower and other position terms are used to describe the invention as oriented in FIG. **1**.

In one embodiment, the shuffleboard playfield **12** includes two elongated L-shaped brackets **32** and **42** positioned and located at the joint or point of joinder **60** where the two rectangular planar members **30** and **40** meet as shown in FIG. **2**. As shown in FIGS. **2-4**, the two rectangular planar members **30** and **40** forming the shuffleboard playfield **12** are attached to each other by means of the two L-shaped brackets **32** and **42**, each bracket being mounted on its respective

rectangular planar members **30** and **40** at or adjacent to the joint or point of joinder **60**. Each L-shaped bracket **32** and **42** is mounted to the lower surface of the respective rectangular planar members **30** and **40** at the respective terminal end portion thereof such that when the playfield members **30** and **40** are placed in abutting relationship to each other, the brackets **32** and **42** are likewise placed in abutting relationship with each other and securely connected together at the joint **60** with a plurality of spaced apart clamping bolts **34** or other suitable fastening means as will be hereinafter further explained.

Each bracket member **32** and **42** preferably includes a relatively rigid mount panel **33** and **43** respectively and a respective flange portion **35** and **45** extending downwardly from one side portion of the mount panel **33** and **43**. The flange portions **35** and **45** are secured in substantially perpendicular relationship to the mount panel **33** and **43**. The brackets **32** and **42** are preferably integrally formed from a rigid material such as steel or another suitable metal material, but they could likewise be formed of any other rigid material. The mount panels **33** and **43** are positioned and located on the underside of the planar playfield members **30** and **40** respectively for secure and rigid attachment thereto through a series of head bolts or other suitable fastening means **37**. Spaced about evenly along the full length of each mount panel **33** and **43** are a plurality of apertures **36** and **46** (FIGS. **2** and **3**) for receiving the mounting fasteners **37**, the fasteners **37** securing the brackets **32** and **42** to the lower surface of the respective rectangular planar members **30** and **40**. The rectangular planar members **30** and **40** also include apertures **39** and **49** (FIG. **4**) corresponding to each aperture **36** and **46** of the mount panel **33** and **43**. The mounting fasteners **37** extend through the apertures **36** and **46** associated with the mount panels **33** and **43** into a corresponding aperture **39** and **49** of the rectangular planar members **30** and **40**. Depending upon the type of fastener **37** used, the apertures **36** and **46** and/or the apertures **39** and **49** can be threaded apertures.

The flange portions **35** and **45** are generally shaped to extend downwardly a pre-determined distance (not shown). The flange portion **35** is shaped for mating with flange portion **45** as best illustrated in FIGS. **2-5**. The two flange portions **35** and **45** are securely and rigidly attached to each other through a series of clamping bolts or other suitable fasteners **34**. Each flange portion **35** and **45** defines a respective spaced apart opening **38** and **48** for receiving the clamping bolts **34** which are inserted through the aligned apertures **38** and **48** thereby locking the bracket members together. In this regard, the apertures **38** or **48** associated with one of the bracket members **32** and **42** are unthreaded and include a smooth inner peripheral wall surface while the apertures **38** or **48** associated with the other bracket member are threaded. Joinder of the flange portions **35** and **45** is accomplished by inserting the bolts **34** first through the smooth apertures **38** or **48** and then through the threaded apertures **38** or **48**. The two flange portions **35** and **45** cooperate to align and position the apertures **38** and **48** in registration with each other for receiving the clamping bolts **34**, with the diameter of the smooth apertures **38** or **48** being slightly oversized as compared to the diameter of the threaded apertures **38** or **48** to allow for adjustment as will be hereinafter explained. The bracket members **32** and **42** are used in connection with the clamping bolts **34** to attach the shuffleboard playfield members **30** and **40** to each other at the point of joinder **60**, the fasteners **34** being predeterminately fastened to the flange portions **35** and **45** of the first and second bracket members **32** and **42** as illustrated in FIG. **2**. When the clamping bolts **34** are fully inserted through and engaged with the respective apertures **38** and **48**, the two bracket members **32** and **42**, and the playfield members **30** and **40**, are drawn towards each other and securely fastened to each other. It is recognized and anticipated that the configuration of the bracket members **32** and **42** are subject to wide variations and may be sized and shaped into a variety of different sizes and configurations so as to be compatible with the size and shape of the particular shuffleboard playfield onto which the present bracket members may be mounted without impairing the teachings and practice of the present invention. It is also recognized that the apertures **38** and **48** and the fastening means **34** may likewise be sized and shaped differently and both apertures **38** and **48** may be smooth or threaded so long as the bracket members **32** and **42** are securely fastened together at the point of joinder.

Four adjustment or leveling bolts **50**, **52**, **54** and **56** are located in close vicinity to each respective end portion of each bracket member **32** and **42** at or adjacent to the point or joinder or joint **60** as illustrated in FIGS. **2**, **4** and **5**, the leveling bolts **50**, **52**, **54** and **54** engaging the bottom surface of the rectangular planar members **30** and **40** as best illustrated in FIGS. **5**A and **5**B. Each mount panel **33** and **43** includes a threaded aperture **51**, **53**, **55** and **57** positioned and located at each end portion thereof as shown in FIGS. **2**, **3** and **5**, the leveling bolts being threadedly inserted and screwed upwardly through the respective threaded apertures **51**, **53**, **55** and **57** of the bracket mount panels **33** and **43** for contact with the bottom surface of the rectangular planar members **30** and **40**. Unlike the mounting fasteners **37**, the rectangular planar members **30** and **40** include no apertures or holes corresponding to the threaded apertures **51**, **53**, **55** and **57** for receiving the adjustment bolts **50**, **52**, **54** and **56**. Instead, the adjustment or leveling bolts **50**, **52**, **54** and **56** merely push against the bottom surface of the playfield members **30** and **40** at the outer side edges of each playfield member **30** and **40** at the point of joinder of such members, or at the joint **60**. This allows one to adjust the level of the two playfield members **30** and **40** at the point of joinder so as to produce a substantially flat surface at the joint **60** so as not to interfere with or otherwise hinder the sliding motion of the pucks or disks **28** as they slide across the point of joinder **60** as illustrated in FIG. **4**.

Adjustment of the two planar playfield members **30** and **40** relative to each other can be accomplished as follows. For example, after installation, as illustrated in FIG. **5**A, the top surface of one planar member **30** or **40** could be uneven with or higher than that of the other planar member at the joint **60**. If the entire top surface of one of the planar members **30** or **40** is higher than the top surface of the other planar member, merely loosen all of the fastening members **34** joining the flange portions **35** and **45** of the playfield member **30** and **40**, push up on the low side of the appropriate playfield member to bring its top surface into alignment with the top surface of the other playfield member, and then re-tighten the clamping bolts or fastening members **34** to lock the playfield members **30** and **40** in place again. Because the apertures **38** or **48** of the smooth holes are slightly oversized as compared to the threaded apertures as previously explained, the oversized apertures allow for adjustment. If, however, only one corner of one of the planar members **30** or **40** is higher than the adjoining corner of the other planar member, adjustment of one of the adjustment bolts **50**, **52**, **54** and **56** can be made to level the top surface of the rectangular planar members **30** and **40** at or adjacent to the joint **60** at that particular corner. To raise the low corner of the appropriate playfield member merely loosen the fastening member **37** nearest to the selected adjustment bolt and turn and tighten the adjustment bolt. This will cause the top surface of the low corner to rise so as to

match the top surface of the adjoining corner of the other playfield member. You can continue this process until the respective playfield corners are aligned.

Each side edge of each rectangular planar member adjacent the joint **60** can be moved up or down independently with respect to the other side edge of the rectangular planar member by simply adjusting the appropriate leveling bolt. The leveling bolts are used individually to raise one corner of the two rectangular planar members independently of the other corners. The pressure of the adjustment bolts **50**, **52**, **54** and **56** against the lower surface of the appropriate rectangular planar member **30** and **40** will cause the top surface of the rectangular planar members **30** and **40** to be forced upwardly thus effecting leveling of the top surface of the rectangular planar members **30** and **40** at the joint **60**. Adjustments are made to level the top surface of the two rectangular planar members **30** and **40** so as to enable the user to accurately level the top surface of the two rectangular planar members at the joint **60** for competitive play.

Once the two rectangular planar members **30** and **40** are delivered to the desired location for installation, they are connected together as previously explained through the use of the bracket members **32** and **42**. If the top surfaces of the rectangular planar members **30** and **40** are not even at the point of joinder **60** as discussed above or as illustrated in FIG. **5**A, the fastening members **34** or one or more of the adjustment bolts **50**, **52**, **54** and **56** can be screwed upwardly against the lower surface of the rectangular planar members **30** and **40** to adjust the top surface of the two playfield members **30** and **40** relative to each other.

The ability to raise the rectangular planar members **30** and **40** of the playfield **12** using the bracket members **32** and **42** and the adjustment bolts **50**, **52**, **54** and **56** has the significant advantage of allowing the installer to make adjustments at the joint **60** while viewing the playfield surface to bring the playfield **12** to a level plane at the joint **60**.

It is also recognized that adjustment of the playfield members **30** and **40** at their point of joinder **60** will never yield a seamless joint. However, proper adjustment and alignment of the members **30** and **40** at joint edge **60** can yield a top surface which will not interfere with the sliding motion of the pucks **28** as such pucks pass over the joint **60**.

Further, the overall dimensions of the present shuffleboard playfield as well as the specific shape and configuration of the various connecting brackets associated therewith are also subject to wide variations and may be sized and shaped into a wide variety of different sizes and configurations so as to be compatible with the size and shape of the particular shuffleboard table onto which the present structures may be mounted, or to conform with any space limitations associated therewith out impairing the teachings and practice of the present invention.

It is also understood that various modifications may be made to all of the various embodiments without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention.

Thus, there has been shown and described several embodiments of a novel invention. As is evident from the foregoing description, certain aspects of the present invention are not limited by the particular details of the examples illustrated herein, and it is therefore contemplated that other modifications and applications, or equivalents thereof, will occur to those skilled in the art. Many changes, modifications, variations and other uses and applications of the present constructions will, however, become apparent to those skilled in the art after considering the present specification and the accompanying drawings. All such changes, modifications, variations and other uses and applications which do not depart from the spirit and scope of the invention are deemed to be covered by the invention and the scope of the present disclosure is not intended to be limited solely to the embodiments shown herein. All structural and functional equivalents to the elements of the various embodiments described throughout this disclosure that are known or later come to be known to those of ordinary skill in the art are expressly incorporated herein by reference and are intended to be encompassed by this disclosure.

What is claimed is:

1. A shuffleboard playfield comprising:

a first elongated planar member having an upper surface and a lower surface;

a second elongated planar member having an upper surface and a lower surface, the second elongated planar member being coupled to the first elongated member in the same plane with each other at a joint edge;

a first bracket member mounted on the lower surface of said first elongated planar member, said first bracket member extending along substantially the entire length of the joint edge, said first bracket member including at least one leveling aperture located adjacent to said joint edge;

a second bracket member mounted on the lower surface of said second elongated planar member, said second bracket member extending along substantially the entire length of the joint edge, said second bracket member including at least one leveling aperture located adjacent to said joint edge;

said first and second bracket members being rigidly attached to each other along substantially the entire length of the joint edge; and

a plurality of adjustment bolts, at least one of said adjustment bolts being engaged with said at least one leveling aperture associated with said first bracket member, and at least one of said adjustment bolts being engaged with said at least one leveling aperture associated with said second bracket member, said adjustment bolts being each independently adjustable to push against the lower surface of said first and second planar members respectively so as to level the upper surfaces of the first and second elongated planar members at said joint edge.

2. The shuffleboard playfield of claim **1** wherein said first and second bracket members are L-shaped, each bracket member having a mount panel and a flange portion extending downwardly from one side portion of the mount panel in substantially perpendicular relationship to the mount panel, said flange portions being positioned in abutting relationship to each other along substantially their entire length when attached to each other.

3. The shuffleboard playfield of claim **2** further including a plurality of clamping bolts for attaching the flange portions of said first and second bracket members to each other, said flange portions including a plurality of apertures for receiving each of said clamping bolts, at least some of said plurality of apertures associated with one of said first and second bracket members being unthreaded and including a smooth inner peripheral wall surface and the apertures associated with the other of said first and second bracket members being threaded.

4. The shuffleboard playfield of claim **3** wherein at least some of said plurality of unthreaded apertures are slightly oversized as compared to the diameter of the threaded apertures for allowing adjustment in the vertical direction.

5. A shuffleboard playfield comprising:

a first elongated planar member having an upper surface and a lower surface;

a second elongated planar member having an upper surface and a lower surface, said second elongated planar member being coupled to said first elongated planar member in the same plane with each other at a point of joinder;

a first bracket member mounted on the lower surface of said first elongated planar member, said first bracket member being L-shaped and extending substantially along the entire length of said point of joinder, said first bracket member including a mount panel and a flange portion extending downwardly from one side portion of the mount panel in substantially perpendicular relationship to the mount panel, said mount panel including a leveling aperture positioned and located at each end portion thereof adjacent to said point of joinder;

a second bracket member mounted on the lower surface of said second elongated planar member, said second bracket member being L-shaped and extending substantially along the entire length of said point of joinder, said second bracket member including a mount panel and a flange portion extending downwardly from one side portion of the mount panel in substantially perpendicular relationship to the mount panel, said mount panel including a leveling aperture positioned and located at each end portion thereof adjacent to said point of joinder;

the flange portions of said first and second bracket members being positioned in abutting relationship to each other and being rigidly attached to each other along substantially the entire length of said point of joinder; and

a plurality of adjustment means, one of said adjustment means being engaged with each of the leveling apertures associated with the mount panel of said first bracket member, and one of said adjustment means being engaged with each of the leveling apertures associated with the mount panel of said second bracket member, each of said plurality of adjustment means being independently adjustable to push against the lower surface of one of said first and second elongated planar members to level the upper surfaces of the first and second elongated planar members at said point of joinder.

6. The shuffleboard playfield of claim **5** further including a plurality of clamping bolts for attaching the flange portions of said first and second bracket members to each other, said flange portions each including a plurality of apertures for receiving said clamping bolts, the plurality of apertures associated with the flange portion of one of said first and second bracket members being unthreaded and the plurality of apertures associated with the flange portion of the other of said first and second bracket members being threaded.

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