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| United States Patent Application Publication | 20250256178 |
| Kind Code | A1 |
| Publication Date | August 14, 2025 |
| Inventor(s) | DINAN; Esmael Hejazi |

Pickleball Racquet with Customizable Butt Cap

Abstract

An example personalizing-capable pickleball racquet comprises a striking blade, a handle connected to the striking blade, and a butt cap that includes a transparent surface. The butt cap is configured to be attached to the butt end of the handle and to have a customizable nametag inserted behind the transparent surface. An example butt cap comprises a transparent surface and is configured to be attached to a butt end of a handle of a racquet and has a customizable nametag inserted behind the transparent surface.

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| Inventors: | DINAN; Esmael Hejazi (McLean, VA) |
| Applicant: | Ofinno, LLC (Reston, VA) |
| Family ID: | 96661412 |
| Appl. No.: | 19/049469 |
| Filed: | February 10, 2025 |

Related U.S. Application Data

us-provisional-application US 63552123 20240210

Publication Classification

Int. Cl.: A63B60/16 (20150101); A63B59/42 (20150101); A63B102/08 (20150101)

U.S. Cl.:

CPC A63B60/16 (20151001); A63B59/42 (20151001); A63B2102/08 (20151001)

Background/Summary

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS [0001] This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 63/552,123 filed Feb. 10, 2024, the entire content of which is incorporated herein by reference.

FIELD

[0002] This disclosure related to pickleball, and more particularly to customizable pickleball racquets and customizable butt caps for racquets.

BACKGROUND

[0003] Pickleball has recently become very popular and is played both indoors and outdoors, as either doubles or singles. The rules are relatively simple and the game is easy for beginners to learn. Among skilled players, pickleball can develop into a quick, fast-paced, and competitive game.

[0004] In certain scenarios in the sport of pickleball such as, for example, practice sessions, training sessions, recreational games, and competitive games, many players may have arrived at the court(s) and may be waiting for court time. In such scenarios, among others, it is convenient to have a customized (e.g., personalized) racquet so that the player who owns a particular racquet can be easily identified. For example, although the different paddle shapes, different handle shapes, different paddle surface colors, racquet brand names, etc. help in the identification process, when the number of players grows courtside these usual methods of identification are sometimes not adequate.

[0005] More convenient means for efficiently identifying pickleball racquets is desirable.

SUMMARY OF EXAMPLE EMBODIMENTS

[0006] An example embodiment provides a personalizing-capable pickleball racquet comprising a striking blade, a handle connected to the striking blade, and a butt cap. The butt cap comprises a transparent surface and configured to be attached to the butt end of the handle and to have a customizable nametag inserted behind the transparent surface.

[0007] In an example, the butt cap may comprise a frame, a connector configured to be inserted into the handle and attach to one or more points of attachment in the handle, and a backplate removably attached to the frame. The nametag may be insertable between the transparent surface and the backplate.

[0008] The transparent surface may be integrated with the frame or may be removably attached to the frame.

[0009] When attached to the handle, perimeter of the frame may be flush with the perimeter of the butt end of the handle, or the frame may extend the handle.

[0010] When attached to the handle, the frame may be embedded in the handle. The frame may be fully embedded in the handle. The transparent surface may be flush with the bottom edge of the handle. The butt cap may be configured to be removable from the handle by exerting a force on a portion of the frame.

[0011] The frame may comprise the same material as the surface of the handle. The shape of the frame may be the same as the shape of the perimeter of the bottom end of the handle.

[0012] The connector may be configured to, when being attached to the handle, snap into a groove in the internal sidewall of the handle. The connector may be configured to, when attached to the handle, release the connector from the groove when one or more areas of the frame are pressed.

[0013] The points of attachment are formed on an internal sidewall of the handle.

[0014] The nametag may comprises paper.

[0015] In an example the butt cap may comprise the transparent surface, a backplate, and an opening for inserting the nametag. The nametag may be insertable between the transparent surface and the backplate.

[0016] In an example, the butt cap may comprise the transparent surface, and a backplate. The nametag may be insertable between the transparent surface and the backplate.

[0017] In an example, the butt cap may comprise the transparent surface, and a frame.

[0018] In an example, the butt cap may comprise the transparent surface, a connector configured to be inserted into the handle and attach to one or more points of attachment in the handle, and a backplate partially removably attached to the frame, such that the nametag is insertable between the transparent surface and the backplate.

[0019] The customizable nametag may be removed or changed without damaging butt cap.

[0020] An example embodiment provides a butt cap comprising a transparent surface and configured to be attached to a butt end of a handle of a racquet and to have a customizable nametag inserted behind the transparent surface.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0021] Some features are shown by way of example, and not by limitation, in the accompanying drawings. In the drawings, like numerals may reference similar elements.

[0022] FIG. 1A shows an example pickleball court, in which embodiments of the present disclosure may be applied.

[0023] FIG. 1B shows another view of a pickleball court.

[0024] FIG. 2A shows an example pickleball racquet holder that may be used for holding pickleball racquets described in this disclosure.

[0025] FIG. 2B shows an example pickleball racquet with a customizable and changeable butt cap in accordance with some embodiments of this disclosure.

[0026] FIGS. 3A-3C illustrate a pickleball racquet handle and a customizable and changeable butt cap in accordance with some embodiments of this disclosure.

[0027] FIG. 4 illustrates another example pickleball racquet handle with a customizable and changeable butt cap in accordance with some embodiments of this disclosure.

[0028] FIGS. 5A-5C illustrate another pickleball racquet handle and a customizable and changeable butt cap in accordance with some embodiments of this disclosure.

[0029] FIG. 6 illustrates another pickleball racquet handle with a customizable and changeable butt cap in accordance with some embodiments of this disclosure.

[0030] FIG. 7 illustrates another pickleball racquet handle with a customizable and changeable butt cap in accordance with some embodiments of this disclosure.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EXAMPLE EMBODIMENTS

[0031] In the following description, numerous specific details are set forth in order to provide a thorough understanding of the disclosure. However, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that the disclosure, including structures, systems, and methods, may be practiced without these specific details. The description and representation herein are the common means used by those experienced or skilled in the art to most effectively convey the substance of their work to others skilled in the art. In other instances, well-known methods, procedures, components, and circuitry have not been described in detail to avoid unnecessarily obscuring aspects of the disclosure.

[0032] References in the specification to “one embodiment,” “an embodiment,” “an example embodiment,” etc., indicate that the embodiment described may include a particular feature, structure, or characteristic, but every embodiment may not necessarily include the particular feature, structure, or characteristic. Moreover, such phrases are not necessarily referring to the same embodiment. Further, when a particular feature, structure, or characteristic is described in connection with an embodiment, it is submitted that it is within the knowledge of one skilled in the art to affect such feature, structure, or characteristic in connection with other embodiments whether or not explicitly described.

[0033] This disclosure relates to “Pickleball,” a game that has in recent years seen a massive

increase in popularity among all age groups of players, including among senior citizens. Pickleball is a game that can be described as combining aspects of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong. It is played on a badminton-sized court, with paddles and a ball similar to a wiffle ball, but slightly smaller in size. The net used in pickleball is similar to a tennis net in some ways, but is lowered at the center.

[0034] Pickleball has recently become very popular and is played both indoors and outdoors, as either doubles or singles. The rules are relatively simple and the game is easy for beginners to learn. However, among skilled players, pickleball can develop into a quick, fast-paced, and competitive game.

[0035] FIG. 1A shows an example pickleball court **100** that includes a pickleball playing surface **130** and a pickleball net **132**. The playing surface **130** comprises two left serve areas **102** and **108**, two right serve areas **104** and **106**, and two non-volley areas **110** and **112**, with one of the left serve areas, one of the right serve areas, and one of the non-volley areas being on each side of the pickleball net **132**. The net is 36 inches tall at the edges, and lowered to 34 inches in the middle. The areas **102-112** are defined by baselines **118** and **120** each 20 feet, sidelines **114** and **116** each 44 feet, center lines **122** and **124** each 15 feet, and non-volley lines **126** and **128** each the same size as a baseline. Each of the lines may be 2 inches wide. The term “court line” is used in this disclosure to refer to any sideline, baseline, centerline or non-volley line on the pickleball court. Non-volley areas **110** and **112**, each extending 7 feet from the net, are also referred to as the “kitchen”.

[0036] The game of pickleball is played with a pickleball paddle **134** and pickleball ball **136**. The ball **136** is typically made of plastic and has a 3-inch diameter. Similar to a wiffleball, the ball **136** has through holes throughout the surface. Different types (e.g., with different levels of hardness and different sizes of the through holes) may be used for playing the game on the various types of pickleball courts (e.g., indoor, outdoor, hard surface, soft surface etc.).

[0037] Pickleball can be played as singles or doubles, and is most commonly played as doubles. Each point begins with an underarm serve. The serve is performed diagonally beginning at the right-hand service square. A valid serve sends the ball from one left serve area to the other left serve area or from one right serve area to the other right serve area. The serve must clear the non-volley-zone. The serve must bounce before being hit by the receiver. The return of serve must also bounce before being hit (this is known as the 2 bounce rule). After the serve and the return of the serve, the ball can land anywhere on the opposite side of the playing surface **130**. Volleys can only be performed outside of the non-volley zone. Volleys, that is, hitting the ball in the air without first letting it bounce, can only be made after the 2 bounce rule has been followed. However, if the ball is hit from within the kitchen, then it cannot land in the kitchen on the other side of the net.

[0038] A fault is any action that stops play due to a rule violation. A fault by the receiving team results in the servers earning a point. A fault by the serving team results in the server's loss of service and/or side out. A fault is committed when the serve touches any part of the non-volley zone (including the line) or the ball is hit out of bounds.

[0039] Pickleball games are typically played without a referee and are self-judged. Each player makes the line calls as to whether the ball is in or out when the ball contacts the playing surface on that player's side. The game continues to at least 11 points and requires a 2-point difference for a win. FIG. 1B shows another view of a pickleball court.

[0040] In certain scenarios in the sport of pickleball such as, for example, practice sessions, training sessions, recreational games, and competitive games, many players may have arrived at the court(s) and may be waiting for court time. In such scenarios, among others, it is convenient to have a customized (e.g., personalized) racquet so that the player who owns a particular racquet can be easily identified. For example, although the different paddle shapes, different handle shapes, different paddle surface colors, racquet brand names, etc. help in the identification process, when the number of players grows courtside these usual methods of identification are sometimes not adequate.

[0041] FIG. 2A shows an example pickleball racquet holding station that is often seen courtside during busy playing times. Sometimes players may place their racquet in slots according to an expected ordering for playing on a particular court or set of courts. Starting from one end, at intervals a set of racquets are retrieved and the player owners play one or more games. Meanwhile, the other racquets are moved up in sequential order to occupy the recently vacated slots, thereby freeing slots at the opposite end which are then open to be occupied by the racquets of more players waiting for playing time on the one or more courts.

[0042] As can be seen in the example scenario of FIG. 2A, if the owners of respective racquets are easily identified, the process of game progression among the many sets of players and negotiations among players to trade slots can be made more convenient. Also, any mixup of one player accidentally using another player's racquet can be avoided. This may be important in situations such as, for example, players who are highly sensitive to their racquet being only for their own use.

[0043] Butt caps (end caps) that slip on the butt end of tennis racquets and those that can be inserted into the butt end of the racquet are available. However, they are not customizable by the players for their identification. Customization beyond whatever that is performed by the manufacturer is limited to pasting a sticker or the like on the end cap. Such stickers on the end cap may not be a durable form of identification and may require to be changed or replaced too often in scenarios of high use.

[0044] FIG. 2B illustrates a pickleball racquet (sometimes also referred to as “pickleball paddle”) **200** in accordance with some embodiments. The pickleball racquet **200** comprises ball striking blade **202** and a handle **204**. The striking blade (herein also referred to as “strike blade” or “head”) **202** may have a single or multilayer construction encompassed by a blade frame **208**. The strike blade **202** has two paddle surfaces on the front and the back, both of which are suitable for striking the pickleball ball. The paddle surfaces may have identical construction (e.g., layering of materials) or different constructions. Embodiments of this disclosure are not limited to any particular construction or composition of the strike blade of a pickleball racquet.

[0045] The handle **204** is attached to the strike blade **202** and may include a grip **206** for more comfortable and/or efficient holding and handling of the racquet during play. The handle **204** may be any of a circular shape cross section, a hexagon shape cross section, an octagon shape cross section, etc. The handle **204** may be integrally formed with the strike blade **202**, or may be attached to the strike blade **202**. Embodiments of this disclosure are not limited to any particular shape or construction of the handle **204**.

[0046] Pickleball racquets may have an overall maximum length of 17”, maximum width of 8.25”, and a depth of about 1.25”. The length of the handle is 4”-5.5” with a grip circumference between 4”-4.5”. The sum of the width and length of a racquet cannot exceed 24”.

[0047] In example embodiments of the present disclosure, a butt cap (sometimes also referred to as “end cap”) **205**, is attached to the bottom end (sometimes also referred to as “butt end”) of the handle as shown in FIG. 2B. The butt cap **205** may be detachably inserted into the racquet handle and may be repeatedly customized (e.g., personalized) conveniently such that the customization is visible through a durable transparent cover. In some embodiments, the butt cap **205** may not be detachable. The butt cap **205** can be used for the owner of the racket to customize the racquet so that their ownership of the racquet is easily identified. For example, the owner's name or initials can be shown on the butt cap **205**.

[0048] FIGS. 3A-3C illustrate a pickleball racquet handle and a customizable and changeable butt cap in accordance with some embodiments of this disclosure. In contrast to butt cap options available in the market at present, the butt caps according to the present disclosure provide for repeated customization in a convenient manner and durability.

[0049] FIG. 3A shows a handle **301** of a pickleball racquet such as, for example, that shown in FIG. 2B, and a butt cap **305**. The handle **301** may have an upper portion **302** that is attached to the strike blade and a base portion **304**. The upper portion may be attached to, or may be integrated

with, the strike blade. The base portion **304**, in the illustrated embodiment, is wider than the upper portion **302**. However, embodiments may include handles in which the base portion is wider than the upper portion and also handles in which the base portion and the upper portion have the same uniform width.

[0050] The butt cap **305** includes a frame **306** that is configured to house a transparent surface/cover **312** through which a player customizable identifier **314** is visible. The butt cap **305** also includes a connector **308** that may comprise one or more attachment mechanisms that can securely and detachably attach the butt cap **305** to the base portion **304** of the handle **301**.

[0051] FIG. 3B shows the butt cap **305**, still detached from the handle **301**, in more detail than in FIG. 3A. The connector **308** includes a hook portion that is configured to tightly fit into a groove **316** that is built into the inner surface of the base portion **304**. The connector **308** may comprise at least 2 separate connectors spaced apart with hooks or other engagement structure formed on them. To attach the butt cap to the base portion **304**, the connector **308** end of the butt cap **305** is inserted into the handle **301** core until the hooks in the connector **308** snaps in or otherwise engages with the engagement structure in the handle, in the illustrated embodiment, the groove **316**. The base portion **304** core may be hollow with the internal surface having the attachment structure (e.g., groove **316**) or may be solid with openings for inserting the connector **308** and engagement structures. To detach the butt cap **305** from the handle, the ends on the frame **306** that has connectors attached may be squeezed causing the hooks on the connectors **308** to disengage from the groove **316**. In some embodiments, a slit or other opening formed on the frame **306** may have pressure applied (e.g., with a flathead of a screwdriver, the tip of a pen, etc.) to disengage the hooks.

[0052] The frame **306** of the butt cap **305** is configured to hold a stack **318** of material layers. The stack **318** comprises a transparent surface **312** at the top (e.g., facing outside when the butt cap is attached to the handle **301**), a backplate **322**, and a nametag **324**. The nametag **324** may be a paper, cardboard, or other material on which a player may write or print their name or other identifier. The name tag **324** is arranged so that the identifier provided on the nametag is visible under the transparent surface **312**. The backplate **322** functions to hold the nametag **322** in place. The frame **306** and each layer or component in the stack **318** are formed so that, when the butt cap **305** is attached to the handle **301**, each layer in the stack **318** is immovably attached in place to the frame **306**. The butt cap **305**, including the frame **306**, the connector **308** and the backplate **322** may be constructed with plastic, a rubber compound, carbon fiber, or the like, and the transparent surface **320** may be constructed with polyurethane or plastic to provide the required transparency and durability.

[0053] In some embodiments, the transparent surface **312** may be integrated with the frame **306**. That is, the transparent surface **312** is an integral part of the frame **305** and cannot be separated. The nametag **324** is then placed under the transparent surface **312**, and the backplate **322** is placed under the nametag **324** to hold the nametag **324** in place. For example, the nametag **324** and the backplate **322** may be snapped into a groove in the frame **306** as shown in FIG. 3B.

[0054] In some embodiments, the transparent surface **312** is also, like the nametag **324** and backplane **322** layers, removably held in place by the frame **306** as part of the stack **318** of layers.

[0055] FIG. 3C shows the butt cap **305** when it is attached to the handle **301**. The hook part of the connector **308** is snapped into the groove **316** formed on the surface of the inner wall of the handle **301**. In the illustrated embodiment, the butt cap **305**, or more specifically the frame **306** of the butt cap **305**, extends the length of the handle **301**. The extended length is within the length specifications for pickleball racquets.

[0056] The frame **306**, when the butt cap **305** is attached to the handle **301**, has its perimeter flush with the bottom edge perimeter of the handle **301**. That is the shape and size of the frame **306** is the same as the shape and size of the bottom end of the handle **301**.

[0057] FIG. 4 illustrates another example pickleball racquet handle **401** with a customizable and

changeable butt cap **405** in accordance with some embodiments of this disclosure.

[0058] The butt cap **405**, the frame **406**, the stack of layers including the transparent layer (e.g. **322-326**), and the nametag, a may be similar or identical to that described in relation to FIG. **3A**. The handle **401** too may be similar or identical to that described in relation to FIG. **3A** with the main difference relative to FIG. **3A** being that the width of the upper portion of the handle **402** is the same as the width of the frame **406**. Note that this aspect is different from that of FIG. **3A**, where the base portion **304** of the handle **401** has a larger width (e.g., has a larger cross-section) than the upper portion of the handle **401**. Whether a pickleball racquet has a handle **401** with base portion **404** that is wider than the upper portion **402** of the handle, or whether the base portion **404** is the same width as the handle **401** is a matter of preference of players.

[0059] The butt cap **405**, when attached to the handle extends the length of the handle, in the same or similar manner as in the embodiment of FIG. **3A-3C**.

[0060] FIGS. **5A-5C** illustrate another pickleball racquet handle and a customizable and changeable butt cap in accordance with some embodiments of this disclosure.

[0061] The handle **501** and butt cap **505** are similar to the handle **301** and butt cap **305** described in relation to FIG. **3A-3C**, with a key difference being that the frame **505** fits inside (e.g., is embedded in) the handle **501** base portion **504** such that the attached frame **506** does not extend the length of the handle **501**. In order that the butt cap **305** sits completely inside the handle **501**, the width d_2 of the butt cap **305** (more specifically, the width of the frame **506**) is configured to be less than the width d_1 of the bottom edge of the base portion **504** of the handle **501**.

[0062] The butt cap **505** includes the frame **506** and a connector **508** that includes a hook or other attachment structure that fits inside a groove **516** or other attachment structure formed on the inner surface of the handle **501** or base portion **504** of the handle **501**.

[0063] An indent or slit **511** on the surface of the frame **506** may be configured such that, a force applied on the indent or slit **511**, for example, with a flat head of a screwdriver, a pen tip, a pin, or the like, can disengage the securing hooks of the connector **508** from the point of attachment in the base portion **504** of the handle **501**.

[0064] In another embodiment, instead of fully embedding the frame **506** in the base portion **504** of the handle, the frame may have a thin top portion that sits on the bottom edge of the base portion. The thin portion of the frame may not significantly affect the length of the handle, and may provide for more convenient detaching of the butt cap from the base portion.

[0065] FIG. **6** illustrates another pickleball racquet handle **602** with a customizable and changeable butt cap **605** in accordance with some embodiments of this disclosure. The butt cap **605** provides for changing or replacing the nametag without detaching the butt cap from the handle.

[0066] The butt cap **605** includes a transparent surface **612** and a backplate **622** arranged so that a nametag **624** can be slipped in through an opening **625** to position the nametag **624** between the backplate **622** and the transparent surface **612**. In some embodiments the backplate **622** and the transparent surface **612** are arranged in a frame in a manner similar to what is described in relation to FIG. **3B**. Alternatively, in some embodiments, the butt cap **605** comprises the transparent surface **612** with it being connected to the backplate **622**. The backplate **622** and/or the frame can be attached to one or more connectors that attach to the base **604** of the handle **602**. The attaching to the handle may be in a manner that provides for detaching the butt cap, or in a permanent manner. In some embodiments the butt cap **605** is integrally formed with the base **604** of the handle **602** and cannot be detached. The opening **625** and the spacing between the backplate **622** and the transparent surface **612** are configured to enable the nametag **624**, once inserted, to be held in place. The inserted nametag **624**, however, may be retrieved and replaced, thus enabling the racket to be personalized to several owners over time, or for the same owner to change the written or typed identification on the nametag.

[0067] The material of construction of the butt cap **605** and its components may be the same or similar to that described in relation to FIGS. **3A-3C**.

[0068] FIG. 7 illustrates another pickleball racquet handle **702** with a customizable and changeable butt cap **705** in accordance with some embodiments of this disclosure. The butt cap **705** provides for changing or replacing the nametag without detaching the butt cap from the handle.

[0069] The butt cap **705** includes a transparent surface **712** and a backplate **722** arranged so that a nametag **724** can be placed to position the nametag **724** between the backplate **722** and the transparent surface **712**. The spacing between the backplate **722** and the transparent surface **712** is configured to enable the nametag **724**, once placed, to be held in place. The nametag **724**, however, may be retrieved and replaced, thus enabling the racket to be personalized to several owners over time, or for the same owner to change the written or typed identification on the nametag.

[0070] The transparent surface **712** may be connected to the backplate **722** or a frame (not shown in FIG. 7) by one or more hinges **726** and/or one or more magnets **727**. The hinges **726** and/or magnets **727** may be arranged, in respective embodiments, to enable the transparent surface **712** to be opened and closed only on one side by using a hinge on one side and magnets to release or hold in place on the other side. Alternatively multiple magnets can be arranged so that the transparent surface **712** can be opened by separating it entirely from the rest of the butt cap **705** structure. The retrieval and replacement of the nametag **724** may be performed by a player by opening and closing the transparent surface.

[0071] In some embodiments the backplate **722** and the transparent surface **712** are arranged in a frame in a manner similar to what is described in relation to FIG. 3B. Alternatively, in some embodiments, the butt cap **705** comprises the transparent surface **712** with it being connected to the backplate **722**. The backplate **722** and/or the frame can be attached to one or more connectors that attach to the base **704** of the handle **702**. The attaching to the handle may be in a manner that provides for detaching the butt cap, or in a permanent manner. In some embodiments, the butt cap **705** may be partially detachable from the handle to In some embodiments the butt cap **705** is integrally formed with the base **704** of the handle **702** and cannot be detached.

[0072] The material of construction of the butt cap **705** and its components may be the same or similar to that described in relation to FIGS. 3A-3C.

[0073] The above described embodiments of the present disclosure provide a cost effective, durable, repeatedly customizable, personalization and identification solution for pickleball racquets. The butt cap's transparent surface/cover is constructed to provide the necessary durability and transparency. The nametag located below the transparent surface provides for numerous options of personalization. The capability provided to players to themselves detach the butt cap, or otherwise access the nametag, and change the nametag without damaging the nametag and without having to separately obtain components from various manufacturers provide a level of convenience and flexibility that is not available with the currently available solutions.

[0074] It should be noted that embodiments of the present disclosure are not limited to the shapes, lengths or construction materials of the handles, strike blades, or butt caps. Although various embodiments have been shown and described in detail, the claims are not limited to any particular embodiment or example.

Claims

1. A personalizing-capable pickleball racquet, comprising: a striking blade; a handle connected to the striking blade; and a butt cap comprising a transparent surface and configured to be attached to the butt end of the handle and to have a customizable nametag inserted behind the transparent surface.
2. The pickleball racquet according to claim 1, wherein the butt cap comprises: a frame; a connector configured to be inserted into the handle and attach to one or more points of attachment in the handle; and a backplate removably attached to the frame, wherein the nametag is insertable between the transparent surface and the backplate.

3. The pickleball racquet according to claim 2, wherein the transparent surface is integrated with the frame.
 4. The pickleball racquet according to claim 2, wherein the transparent surface is removably attached to the frame.
 5. The pickleball racquet according to claim 2, wherein, when attached to the handle, perimeter of the frame is flush with the perimeter of the butt end of the handle.
 6. The pickleball racquet according to claim 5, wherein, when attached to the handle, the frame extends the handle.
 7. The pickleball racquet according to claim 2, wherein, when attached to the handle, the frame is embedded in the handle.
 8. The pickleball racquet according to claim 7, wherein the frame is fully embedded in the handle.
 9. The pickleball racquet according to claim 8, wherein the transparent surface is flush with the bottom edge of the handle.
 10. The pickleball racquet according to claim 7, wherein the butt cap is configured to be removable from the handle by exerting a force on a portion of the frame.
 11. The pickleball racquet according to claim 2, wherein a shape of the frame is same as a shape of a perimeter of the bottom end of the handle.
 12. The pickleball racquet according to claim 2, wherein the connector is configured to, when being attached to the handle, snap into a groove in an internal sidewall of the handle.
 13. The pickleball racquet according to claim 12, wherein the connector is configured to, when attached to the handle, release the connector from the groove when one or more areas of the frame are pressed.
 14. The pickleball racquet according to claim 2, wherein the points of attachment are formed on an internal sidewall of the handle.
 15. The pickleball racquet according to claim 1, wherein the butt cap comprises: the transparent surface; a backplate; and an opening for inserting the nametag, wherein the nametag is insertable between the transparent surface and the backplate.
 16. The pickleball racquet according to claim 1, wherein the butt cap comprises: the transparent surface; and a backplate, wherein the nametag is insertable between the transparent surface and the backplate.
 17. The pickleball racquet according to claim 1, wherein the butt cap comprises: the transparent surface; and a frame.
 18. The pickleball racquet according to claim 1, wherein the butt cap comprises: the transparent surface; a connector configured to be inserted into the handle and attach to one or more points of attachment in the handle; and a backplate partially removably attached to the frame, wherein the nametag is insertable between the transparent surface and the backplate.
 19. The pickleball racquet according to claim 1, wherein the customizable nametag can be removed or changed without damaging butt cap.
 20. A butt cap comprising a transparent surface and configured to be attached to a butt end of a handle of a racquet and to have a customizable nametag inserted behind the transparent surface.
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