1023-57-1754 **Tara E Brendle*** (brendle@math.lsu.edu), Mathematics Department, Lockett Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803, and **Allen Hatcher**, Mathematics Department, Malott Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853. *Wicket groups and ring groups.*

We will interpret the Hilden subgroup of the mapping class group of a surface as a group of motions of "wickets" in upper-half space, and give a finite presentation for it. (Hilden previously gave a finite generating set.) We will also use the "wicket" viewpoint to relate Hilden's group to the so-called "ring group", or the group of motions of circles in 3-space. (Received September 26, 2006)