

Hornussen

A typical Swiss game



About the game

Hornussen is the second well known typical Swiss sport. Besides the real version that is difficult and risky to play there exists a special scout version of the game. Instead of batting the little, nutlike ball (Hornuss) with a special Hornussen bat into the field (Ries) (see picture H1 and H2) scouts fix a short rope or a band of cloth to a tennis ball. Now you can hold the ball by this piece of rope or cloth, swing it around and finally throw it into the Ries.

The other team is spread out in the Ries and tries to get the Hornuss down (abtue) with wooden plates (Schindeln) (see picture H3). The scouts are playing with smaller wooden plates; they use for example wooden kitchen plates or something alike.

Rules

- Hornussen is played by two teams.
- One team is spread out in the Ries while the other is the throwing team. They switch roles after every X:th throw.
- The throwing team gets:
 - 1 point if the Hornuss falls into the Ries
 - 2 points if the Hornuss falls into the farther half of the Ries
 - 3 points if the Hornuss falls into the farthest forth of the Ries
- So the Ries has to be divided in 4 sectors in advance. Here they say the Ries is about half of a soccer field, but 6 to 40 Meters should do it for the scout version. If you have trouble to get a field with exact the dimensions you can adapt the game.
- Every Player throws Y times (e.g. twice).
- The catching team tries to get the Hornuss down with their wooden plates. If they succeed they get 1 point.

Risk analysis

Security advice: Be aware that Hornussen has been invented by really tough farmers of the Swiss mountains, so it's only to be played by tough scouts on their own risk. Playing the game of Hornussen you'll risk: blisters, haematomas, swellings, black eyes, torn bands, fractures, broken teeth, shaken brains, unconsciousness and if you don't mind the sun: sunburn, headache, dizziness and a lot more.

- Players can be hit by the tennis ball (e.g. in the face, nose, eye)
- Players can be hit by thrown Schindeln (wooden plates)
- Players can trip and fall while they are trying to catch the Hornuss
- Players can crash into each other while they are trying to catch the Hornuss
- Players can get blisters while swinging the Hornuss
- Players can get sunburned while playing Hornussen

Of course a lot of the risks are the same like in other games (e.g. Volleyball, Land hockey). Nevertheless a First aid-kit with some cooling spray should be held at hand. Some risks can be avoided by extra rules, e.g.: Players are not allowed to throw the Schindeln into the air.

Pictures

H1



H2



H3

