Bo-taoshi

2-player dexterity micro game based on the Japanese sport of pole toppling

Components

6 discs - 3 each of 2 colors 2 poles

1 ramp

Goal

The first player to directly topple their opponent's pole via air-borne strike scores a point; the first player to score twice in a row wins the game.

Setup

- Set ramp and poles aside
- Players choose disc colors and collect their 3 matching discs; white discs takes the first turn
- Note that the starting player alternates each round

- Players take turns flicking their discs into play from the edge of the table (or play surface)
- Discs start so that at least some portion is extending over the edge of the table
- Knocking another disc off the table during setup allows the other player to place the disc wherever they would like
- The 3rd disc to enter play for each player is their pole-bearer for the duration of the round
- Once it enters play place a pole on top of the disc; it cannot be flicked
- Should the black player's pole-bearer knock over the white player's pole during setup simply put the pole back

Game Play

Players take turns flicking 1 of their discs observing the following limitations in order:

1. If the player's pole-bearer was knocked off the table they must spend their turn to flick

- it back on to the table and place their pole on top
- 2. If the player's pole was knocked over they must spend their turn putting it back on top of their pole-bearer
- 3. If the player's previous shot was a foul they skip their turn as penalty
- 4. The same disc cannot be flicked 2 turns in a row; note that the previous 3 limitations clear this limit
- 5. If the disc to be flicked was knocked off the table it enters play from the edge of the table
- 6. If both of the player's attacking discs are in play they may instead attempt to score a point

Scoring

 Before attempting to score: place the ramp between the 2 attacking discs so that the taller side of the ramp is against the disc closest to the opponent's pole-bearer

- If the ramp will not fit between the 2 discs a score shot cannot be made
- The further disc is then flicked in an attempt to travel up the ramp and knock down the pole while still air-borne
- If the disc touches the table before striking the pole or the pole does not fall the ramp is removed and play continues normally
- If the attempt is successful the player scores a point, the table is cleared and the next round begins with a fresh setup
- If the same player scores 2 rounds in a row they win the game

Foul Shots

- Knocking over a player's own pole is a foul; immediately place the pole back on top of the pole-bearer
- Knocking a player's own pole-bearer off the table is a foul; the opponent immediately flicks the disc into play and places the pole on top

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