

chuboochuboo

'chu-boo-chu-boo'



Background

A *chuboochuboo* is a wallaby skin stuffed with grass and about the size of a football. Men, women and children played the game.

The game generated a great deal of fun and enjoyment and never any arguments. It was observed being played in parts of South Australia.

The Aboriginal people of the Lower Murray and surrounding areas played a game similar to *chuboochuboo* called *dirlk* (or ball). The ball was thrown into the air and caught. After catching the *dirlk* a player would run about with the ball before throwing it in an unexpected direction into the air.

Short description

This is a throwing and catching game during which a group of players make as many consecutive catches as they can of a ball thrown into the air.

Players

· Groups of six to ten players

Playing area

A designated area suitable for the activity

Equipment

A soccer ball, rugby football or gator skin ball

Game play and basic rules

- The players throw the chuboochuboo in the air and attempt to catch it in the hands. After catching the chuboochuboo a player throws it into the air for other players to attempt to catch.
- A player who is in position first to catch the chuboochuboo is allowed to do so without interference from other players.
- Players are allowed to jump to catch the chuboochuboo.

If a player drops the chuboochuboo, another
player nearby gathers and throws it into the air
to continue the game. Count the most number
of throws made in succession before the
chuboochuboo is dropped.

Variations

- Play a number of games in groups of six to ten players.
- Allow some limited physical contact.

Safety

There is to be no pushing while attempting to gain the *chuboochuboo*. When the *chuboochuboo* touches the ground, play stops and the turn is taken again.

Teaching points

- · Spread out. Ready.
- Throw it up.
- Call for the ball. Jump and catch it. No contact.
- Good catch. Stop play. Let them throw.
- Throw it to different places in the area.
- Hands up to catch. Reach towards the ball.
- · Keep going.