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Traditional Swiss sports

Hornussen



Hornussen is an indigenous Swiss sport which can be described as a cross between baseball and golf. The sport gets its name from the puck which is known as a "Hornuss" (hornet) or "Nuss". When hit, it can whizz through the air at up to 300 km/h and create a buzzing sound.



Hornussen in the 1950s

The sport probably developed in the seventeenth century. The earliest reference to Hornuss is found in the records of 1625 of the consistory of Lauperswil BE, in a complaint about the breaking of the Sabbath. Two men

were fined the then princely sum of 20 francs for playing Hornussen on Sunday. In the 19th century this amateur sport was very popular in the Emmental and in Entlebuch.

In 1902, the federal Hornussen association was founded, which organises a competition



Hornussen now

every three years. In 1988 there were 232 clubs in the association, with around 6,900 members. During the season inter-association and inter-cantonal events are held, as well as group and elite events.

Platzgen



In earlier centuries Platzgen was popular all over Switzerland, but is now mainly played in Bern. The Platzger Clubs have a total of 400 members. 43 of the 45 Platzger Clubs are in the canton Bern. Competitions are organised every year.

Platzgen is an old throwing sport. The platzge is a flat bit of steel, with five points, similar to a maple leaf, of 1 to 3 kg with a maximum diameter of 18 cm. The platzge has to be thrown over 17m (for women: over 11.5m) to the ries, which is a clay filled circle of 1.4m diameter, with a stick in the middle. The platzge has to be as close as possible to the stick.

As you can expect, the Platzger Clubs are organised into a Platzgerverband, with proper rules and organigram.

Maybe we could add Platzgen to the Cowbell competition?

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Cowbell Competition	2
Carolyn Lane	3
Playing cards, Nine-pin bowling	4
Schwingen	5
Sport in Switzerland	6
Children's page	7
Swiss News	8-10
Swiss Club News	11-17
Swiss News	18-19
The Eurasian Linx	20