Pao Ying Chub (Hammer, Paper and Scissors)

Site of Documentation
Ahka group, Tambon Mae Yao, Mueang District, Chiangrai Province, Thailand

Description

*Pao Ying Chub* is a game that is used to eliminate or select a player (or team of players) before starting an actual game. For example, if children want to play a game of “Tag” they would play *Pao Ying Chub* to pick which of them would be the ‘Catcher’. The game has exactly the same structure and rules as *Rock, Paper and Scissors* but in this game “Rock” is known as “Hammer”.

Who Plays?

This game requires a minimum of two players. Played by both boys and girls, the maximum number of players and their ages will depend on what the next game to be played is. Each game can have as many players as is needed and they can be of any age group.

Time and Place

Each round of *Pao Ying Chub* takes as little as a minute to play and can be played anywhere, at anytime.
Skill, Strategies and Qualities of a Good Player

Pao Ying Chub is very simple and for the most part only require listening and hand movement skills. The best players are those that can try to accurately guess what shape their opponent will make with their hands. One strategy used by players is to repeatedly choose the same shape to trick their opponent into thinking they can predict their move and then suddenly switching to a different one.

Popularity

This game is popular with children of all ages and is played frequently to try to determine a game starter quickly. The game is played in the same way as Lanna children’s To-Chub, Tai Yai children’s O-Chub or Western children’s Rock, Paper and Scissors.

History of the game

The name Pao Ying Chub is the same as that used by children from Central Thailand, which may indicate that the game is not an original Ahka game and was learned from children and schools in Thailand.

How is the Game Played?

Step 1: Players have to stand opposite each other and at the same time slowly say, “Pao Ying” and after that quickly say, “Chub”.

![Image of children playing Pao Ying Chub]
**Step 2:** As the players say, “Chub”, they have to form a Scissors, Paper or Hammer shape with one of their hands. If they are playing in a group of more than two participants and all three symbols are being displayed by the players, then the group repeats the game until they are each showing only one of two symbols, and a winner (or group of winners) can be identified.
Step 3: The outcome is determined by Scissors beats Paper, Paper beats Hammer and Hammer beats Scissors.

Rules

1. Once determined, the winner starts the game.