

## BMYC's Youth Zone - Portugal

3 BMYC members present (one to facilitate each game)

### Description

Portuguese culture has many games centered around the throwing and aiming of discs (malhas). Traditionally, variations have been used for different ages. All the portuguese games in our youth zone are competition oriented including, JOGO DO BURRO (Game of the Donkey) (5+), JOGO DAS LATAS – CAN GAME (7-12), MALHA (12+).

### **JOGO DO BURRO (Game of the Donkey) (5+)**

Materials: a wooden box or board marked with 12 squares, each containing a number or a donkey, 10-15 disks

Aim of game: To toss the “malha” (or disk) onto a board marked with different point values. The goal is to get the highest number of points without the disk landing on the donkey.

How to play:

- Place the wooden board in a wide open area
- Draw a baseline 4 meters away from the box
- The first player throws his/her the 2 ‘malhas’ consecutively to try to score the highest number of points and avoiding to hit the donkey
- Once the score confirmed, he/she removes them from the places they landed and the points are noted
- the next player of the same or other team starts
- The order of the players must be maintained until the end of the game and everyone has thrown his/her malhas once
- The final score is defined by the greatest sum of values entered in the squares. If one player hits the donkey box, 10 points are deducted from the score.

Historical Background:

The origin of this game is unknown, but it is still played in Portugal. It is believed that in the past old and heavy coins were used as tokens and that a wooden base where numbers marked with a hole in the middle represented the highest points. This game has been adapted and is often played in western countries as “the bean bag toss”.

### **JOGO DAS LATAS – CAN GAME (7-12)**

Materials: 10 cans/cups, 3 balls

Aim of game: to knock down as many cans as possible with one throw of the ball

How to play:

- 10 cans are placed on top of each other in the formation of a pyramid
- Each player gets 3 tries to knock down all cans with one throw of the ball
- Whichever player gets the most balls knocked down wins

Historical background:

Jogo das latas (or can game) is a traditional portuguese game that has been adapted over time and adopted by various different countries. It can be found today in carnivals and fairs. The first accounts of the game were in the

### **MALHA (12+)**

Materials: 3 pins, 5-10 frisbees

Aim of game: To throw discs (or Mahla) to pins (belho) with the intention to bring them down or get as close as possible.

How to play:

- Draw a baseline where players align behind horizontally
- Place the 'belhos' vertically (2 pins or more, depending on number of players) at the end of the track
- Players alternatively try to overthrow the 'belho' with their 'malha', by throwing them from the baseline
- If the 'belho' is overthrown the player earns 3 points. If it is not, the player that threw its 'malha' the closest to the 'belho' earns 1 point
- The game lasts up to 60 points. Tournaments can have several teams but only two teams face each other on each track.

Historical Background:

The game of "malha" is a traditional Portuguese game played mostly by men but sometimes also by women. There is no certain evidence of its origin. The first reference of the game of 'Malha' dates from the beginning of 16th century and was found in the book Cancioneiro de Garcia Resende.

\* 'Jogo da Malha' has no translation to English. 'Malha' means a kind of token made of iron, wood or even stone