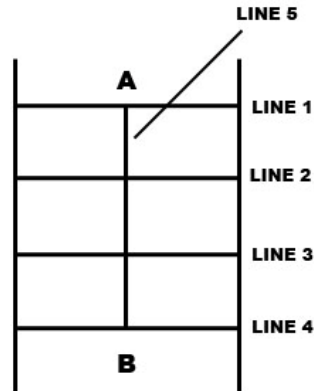


PATINTERO

Games I played as a kid were mostly some kind of physical activities. There were a lot of them but my favorite game to play is called “Patintero”. Patintero is a widely known game to the kids in the Philippines. This game can be played as an actual competition with officials and everything but also can be played just for fun, something for the kids to play in the neighborhood when boredom strikes them.

Patintero is played between two teams, the offensive or The Runners and the defensive team or The Taggers. Each team can be played with at least three to five numbers of players. The game can also be played with more players on each team, it’s just that it can complicate the flow of the game since there are more players to pay attention to. Each team has their own objective in the game, for the offensive team, their main goal is to get as much points as they can while the defensive team’s goal is to try to stop the offensive team from gathering points by tagging them. Once one of the taggers tags one of the runners, they will switch positions. So whenever the runners get tagged, the runners becomes the taggers and vice versa. That’s how the game is played. But in addition to all that, a playground is also required. The playground must be a flat rectangular surface big enough for all the players to run around inside the rectangle area. The figure in the bottom is an example of the play area.



The playground will then be divided with crossing lines. The number of lines will vary on the number of players on the team. The figure above is an example for a five player game. Once everything is laid out, the next thing is positioning the players on the playground.

Before the game starts, a coin toss or an agreement between the players will determine who will play the offense or defense first. Once it's decided, the offensive team will have to wait in the area A until the defensive team position themselves in the playground. In the figure above, as mentioned before, is an example of a five player game. So each defensive player will be positioned on the line where they're only allowed to move on. Example is if a person is positioned on line one, that person is only allowed to move on that line. Then the game can start. While playing the game, there are rules to be followed like the other games.

RULES/OBJECTIVES:

OFFENSE TEAM: In order to gather points, the player/s must cross the lines from point A to point B and then back to point A without being tagged by the defensive team.

DEFENSIVE TEAM: Each player must guard their lines they're assigned to. The defense must tag the offense while trying to pass through the lines in order to stop them. Once the tag is made, defensive team becomes the offensive team and back and forth.

With the rules applied, the game can be played smoothly until everyone gets too tired to play. In the neighborhood where kids play this game, it usually ends like that. However, before the game starts, the players can make an agreement on how to end the game. For example, it can just be setting a time limit or a certain amount of points.

In order to be successful in this game, having a good teamwork is important. Since it's played by teams, making plays is possible for this game. One good play for the offense is to try to create a diversion. While someone distracts the guard, someone else on their team can make their move to cross the line, it's one of the best ways to pick up points. On the other hand, a good defensive play is can be done by utilizing the each different talent on the team. Example is who ever has the fastest speed can be placed on the middle line since it has to cover more area than the rest of the players.

All in all, this game is really fun to play since it's a very popular game for the kids in the Philippines. The rules are easy and can be modified according to the likes of the players. It's a good activity for kids in terms of being active and learning teamwork. Although, since it's usually played in your local neighborhood, there are usually no officials to attend the game which means some of the players can cheat. Besides that, it's a fun outdoor/indoor game for everyone.