

Cock Fighting.

Most people take part in games because of the beneficial effects of freedom and movement, which is perhaps the reason why cock fighting is not more popular than it is. The cramped position, as well as possible nasty bumps, have no appeal to those who want sport without hardship.

If two performers can be found, a "main" should be chalked upon the deck with a diameter of about 3 yards, and into this the rivals are placed when trussed.

To effectively truss a "bird" a stick is passed beneath the bend of the knees and over the elbow joints, while squatting on the deck, a position which prevents the player from rising while the stick is in place.

If the hands are bound together in front, the performer will have to be assisted to an upright

position each time he topples over, but binding is not absolutely necessary.

When ready to start, the two "cocks" are placed toe to toe, and the principal object is to get one toe placed firmly under the opponent's boot, and by means of leverage topple him over and endeavour to roll the defeated "cock" out of the circle.

If a player loses his balance while toppling his opponent over both are set up again and start off afresh.

A more modified form of the game is to stand two players facing one another on one foot, and with arms akimbo. They then hop towards each other, and the aim of each is to make his adversary place the lifted foot on the deck, the one doing this first being the loser.

Sometimes the vanquished is obliged to give the victor a ride, pick-a-back fashion, for a stated time.