



EXTREME SPORTS

Nomad games

Kok boru



«Kok-Boru» is a game of nomadic peoples. A bit of history. Kok-boru is a folk game in which horsemen fight for the carcass of a goat. It is important not only to take possession of the trophy and keep it, but also to throw it into the tai-kazan (gate) of the opposing team. In ancient times, instead of the carcass of a goat, a live wolf was used – that's why the game is called «boru» (wolf).

There is an explanation for this, recorded in the 80s by the Soviet ethnographer Simakov: "Old Kyrgyz people told us a lot about one widespread type of hunting for wolves, when a group of riders on fast horses chased a wolf in deep snow, caught up with it and killed with blows of truncheons on head. This ancient way of hunting a wolf is also interesting because after one of the riders caught up and killed the wolf, he put his carcass across the saddle, and the other riders tried to take this carcass from him."



And like that, jokingly, not moving in full force towards their ail, they played “Kok-Buru”. In the village, the carcass of the wolf was taken by the one who caught up and killed him with a blow of a club. Since ancient times, Kok-Boru has been a wolf hunt of male warriors who had a fighting spirit and courage. Fighting for the carcass of a goat was considered a training and test for future warriors. In the game, the nomads practiced wrestling skills and learned how to control a horse in extreme conditions.



In the past, tens and even hundreds of people fought for the carcass of a goat at the same time, the event could last more than one day and usually took someone's life. Nowadays, the game has found the rules, however, injuries happen often, so real men go to Kok Boru.





Now, according to the rules, the kok-boru team should have no more than 12 riders. Only four of them can enter the game at a time. Of course, players can change if necessary. The game is served by one head referee and two side referees-assistants. One game lasts an hour – three periods of 20 minutes. Salym (goal) – throwing a carcass into a tai-kazan (if the goat's carcass completely falls into a tai-kazan)

The game usually involves guys from 20 years old and men up to 40 years old. Most of the participants are at the age when a man is compared to a wolf, representing strength, courage. The cost of a specially trained horse can reach 100-200 thousand soms, and not in vain, because well-trained horses are able to make their own decisions. More than 70% of the success rate depends on a trained horse.



Nowadays, there are international competitions in Kok Boru:
World Championship

Asian Championship

World Nomad Games

IV World Nomad Games to be held in Turkey in 2020





And even despite the many rules, this game remains one of the most dangerous. Playing it can seriously damage the health of not only yourself, but also the horses. In every game there is a threat to break something.

Presentation ended



Thanks for your attention!