



Professors & Drinking Games

Michael Steel, Kyle Carlos



Prof. Cynthia Monroe (Writing Department)

- **Game:** Quarters
- **Context:** Dartmouth undergraduate 1984-86 Sigma Phi Epsilon
- **Rules:** Bounce a quarter off the table into a cup, if it misses, then one takes a drink of beer (water optional)
- **Intent/interpretation:**
 - “It’s like the undrinking game...”
 - Or “a way for people who wanted to get intoxicated quickly, to get intoxicated quickly with a point”



Jane Doe (Art Department)

- **Game:** Beer Pong
- **Context:** Dartmouth Undergrad 1996-2000
- **Rules:** Played on 4x8 plywood, with cups lined up as a V, paddle handles optional
- **Intent/interpretation:**
 - Continuation of tradition
 - “It was harmless fun and a way not to talk in a loud basement and socialize”
 - “Looking back it creates problems such as sexual assault and alcohol abuse which is very concerning”



Prof. Steven Swain (Music Department)

- **Ritual:** Booting & Rallying
- **Context:** Told to by undergraduate students 1999-2005
- **Rules:** Drink quickly, forcefully vomit, keep drinking...
- **Intent/interpretation:**
 - “Why climb Mt. Everest? Because it’s there”
 - Encourage other people to drink
 - Competition
 - Social lubricant



John Doe (Writing Department)

- **Ritual:** Shotgunning
- **Context:** Undergraduate years
- **Rules:** Use key to pierce beer can, open it so it shoots into the mouth, people around them respond with “Woop’s and Hooray” (variation; drinking from tap of a keg)
- **Intent/interpretation:**
 - “People have no respect for beer” because
 - “They want to get drunk quick so they buy cheap stuff”



Prof. Nicolay Ostrau (German Department)

- **Games:** Boßeln, Fingerhakeln, Komasaufen
- **Context:** Northern Germany
- **Rules:**
 - **Boßeln:** Similar to mini golf, but played with a bowling ball, rolling it along the ground outside, towing a wagon full of liquor & taking shots after each throw.
 - **Fingerhakeln:** Two people link fingers and try to pull each other across a table.
 - **Komasaufen:** Groups of German teenagers get together and drink as much and as fast as they can... “winner” is the first one to fall into a coma.
- **Intent/Interpretation:**
 - “Deeply rooted in tradition, the landscape, the food, and also the village community.”
 - Fingerhakeln isn’t explicitly a drinking game, but is most often played after drinking several rounds with friends at a pub
 - Komasaufen is played by younger audiences; Away from adult eyes, partially for pride and accomplishment



Jane Doe (Math Department)

- **Game:** Beer Pong
- **Context:** University of Texas: Undergraduate ~ 2009
- **Rules:**
 - Variant: Take turns throwing by hand (instead of hitting with paddle)
 - If the thrower misses, they are punished and have to take a sip.
- **Intent/Interpretation:**
 - “It’s played for fun, but also mostly to get drunk.”
 - “It adds to the legitimacy of drinking, because the drinking is just a side effect of the game, which is played for competitions sake.”
 - “[As a game though], it’s not very fun, because unless you are very good, you always lose...”

John Doe (Math Department)

- **Games:** Reversed Pong, Slap Cup
- **Context:** Vanderbilt University
- **Rules:**
 - Reversed Pong: Two teams, with each partner standing across the table from the other. You have to bounce the ball against first the table, then your partner, and they use their chest to redirect the ball into the cups in front of them. If they bounce it in a cup, the opponent on their side has to drink.
 - Slap Cup: Many drinks in the center of a table. People circle around the table. Two active cups and two balls. The cups move around and when the cup is in front of you, you have to bounce your ball into it. If the person next to you gets their ball in first, they slap your cup away and you have to drink from the center.
- **Intent/Interpretation:**
 - “A different variant of pong that creates excitement by using one’s body as a significant part of the game”
 - It’s very quick, so it ends up being very intense due to the high amount of alcohol drunk in a short time. Because of the intensity, it is very fun, and there are many subrules that make it feel more like a game rather than just an excuse to drink a lot.





John Doe (Art History Department)



- **Games:** Power Hour, Cornhole
- **Context:** Learned in the military, from colleagues & friends
- **Rules:**
 - Power Hour: Find a good playlist and play each song for one minute. At each minute mark, take shots of beer. Do this for a full hour.
 - Cornhole: Throw beanbags at a hole in a wooden stand. You get points every time you get the beanbag in the hole. Whoever gets the fewest points each round has to take a shot
- **Intent/Interpretation:**
 - “Even a game such as cornhole can become a drinking game if you add stakes to it (loser takes shots, buys next time, etc).”
 - “Played for validation [of drinking habits], but also mostly for the social aspect - Drinking games are just one part of the ritual of being around friends with food and games, having a good time.”

Conclusions

- Large number (Beer) Pong Stories
 - Originates from Dartmouth College
 - Developed between 50's and 60's
 - First mention of the game 1972, New York Times
- Recurring Themes:
 - To get intoxicated
 - To socialize



Mail: About Beer-Pong

To the Editor:

I am a Dartmouth College senior and, along with a few of my friends, would like to know what the world's record is for the longest game of beer-pong. Maybe a word of explanation is necessary.

Beer-pong is played on a regular ping-pong table with the same equipment, but with one addition—a cup of beer is included. In a singles match, one beer is placed in the middle of the table on each side, approximately 10 inches from the back edge. In doubles, there are two beers on each side, 10 inches from the back edge, but in front of each player. The game is played by trying to hit the opponent's cup, and if done, he must drink from the beer.

A double fault or hitting the opposite cup on the serve forces the server to drink. We usually play five drinks to a cup, with the winner staying on the table to play challengers. What evolves many times is a great time had by all for a very long time. Therefore, a few of us thought to enter competition and try to set an endurance record for the longest beer-pong game.

We would like to know if there is such a record, and exactly what rules and regulations we would have to follow in order to try to break it. We would like to try for the record by early June of this year, so a quick response would be appreciated.

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Questions?

