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<p>Sport in BrazilPeteca Shuttlecock</p>

<p>Peteca (Portuguese pronunciation: [peːˈtɛkɐ]) is a traditional sport in

Brazil, played with a "hand shuttlecock" from indigenous 2 , £ origins

and reputed to be as old as the country itself.</p>

<p>The same name is given to the shuttlecock-object itself.</p>

<p>Objectives [2 , £ edit]</p>

<p>The objective of the game is to hit the shuttlecock-like object (the pe) Tj T* BT /F1

the object to land inbounded on the opposite court.</p>

<p>The peteca can only be 2 , £ hit once while on each side of the net.</p>

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<p>Doubles and singles, male and/or female matches are played, both for co

mpetitive 2 , £ or leisure purposes.</p>

<p>History [edit]</p>

<p>The word peteca is derived from a Tupian word meaning hit.</p>

<p>Over time, the word found 2 , £ its way into the Portuguese language.</p>

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<p>Originally, peteca was played at times of celebration with dances and s

ongs.</p>

<p>Gradually, this play became 2 , £ more of a sporting activity.</p>

<p>The game has been passed down through several generations by the Brazil

ian ancestors and has developed 2 , £ considerably along the way.</p>

<p>Early petecas were very primitive home-made affairs consisting of stone

s wrapped in leaves tied inside an ear 2 , £ of corn.</p>

<p>A more sophisticated version was described in a Brazilian-English dicti

onary as "a leather pad with feathers stuck into it."</p>

<p>Pictures 2 , £ of the first petecas are few and far between, but on 30 M

ay 1979, Brazil issued a set of four 2 , £ postage stamps depicting children'

s toys, to commemorate the International Year of the Child.</p>

<p>When Brazil was present at the 1920 Summer 2 , £ Olympics in Antwerp, Be

lgium the Brazilian athletes took with them some shuttlecocks for amusement on t

he ship and during the 2 , £ intervals between games.</p>

<p>The game of peteca fascinated athletes from many other countries who wa

nted learn the rules of the game.</p>

<p>The 2 , £ problem was that there were no rules - it was just for pleasur

e.</p>

<p>Peteca left the streets, the grass and the 2 , £ sand to become a field

sport in Belo Horizonte in the 1940s.</p>

<p>It was in Belo Horizonte, the capital city of 2 , £ Minas Gerais state,

that the toy shape was transformed to its current format, proper for competitive

games.</p>

<p>The typical peteca has 2 , £ four white chicken feathers attached to a b

ase and connected to a bottom made with several thin layers of rubber.</p>

<p>It 2 , £ was also in Belo Horizonte that the rules of the game were firs

t written, as well as the first courts 2 , £ were built and the practice gained c