

OH COME ON !!

by Mark Steere

Three or more people are traveling together. One is designated as the judge. The rest are contestants. The designated judge changes each round. The contestants try to identify "three of something" in their surroundings - that is, three (but not more than three) similar or identical things in close proximity.

Contestants who call out "Three!" will be given an opportunity to point out their claim on a first come first serve basis.

The judge, in his sole discretion, must decide if the claimed group qualifies. For example, a contestant might see three, but not more than three, zeros on a license plate. This is fairly unambiguous and should probably be ruled in by the judge. But if there is a cluster of three zeros, and another zero not part of the cluster, the judge would have to make a determination. If a contestant calls out a person's face with three large moles and one medium sized mole, the judge must consider the respective mole sizes and determine if there is a distinct group of exactly three. If a contestant identifies three cows huddled together in a field, but there are also other cows somewhat nearby, the judge must consider the cows' respective distances from one another and decide if the claimed group is distinct enough to qualify.

In the case of a positive ruling, the contestant is awarded a point.

If any contestants say "Oh come on !!" or in any way express disagreement with the judge's ruling, the judge must deduct a point from their scores, which can be a negative number. It's in the sole discretion of the judge to determine if there were any expressions of disagreement.

After a point has been awarded, and possibly points deducted, the next judge is appointed and a new round begins.

The first player to reach 10 points wins.

Order of judges: The first judge is selected at random, after which the most recent point winner becomes the next judge.

"Oh Come On !!" will test players' honesty, unclouded judgement, and self restraint.

The concept of this game, including the title and examples, came to me in a dream. Details such as calling out "Three!" and determining the order of judges were added in the days following.

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