



High Chapparal



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High Chaparral - is also known as Pope Joan, Boodle, Stops and Newmarket. The aim of the game is to get rid of your cards first, and to win stakes by playing particular cards.

The Oxford English Dictionary quotes a reference to the game from as early as 1732, though it doesn't seem to have come into its own for nearly another hundred years, first reaching the pages of Hoyle in

1826. High Chaparral soon acquired the character of a mild and homely gambling game for all the family, especially that of clergymen..

How to play

The Layout

The Ace of Hearts, King of Clubs, Queen of Diamonds and Jack of Spades are taken from another pack. These four cards are called 'Boodle' or 'money cards' and are placed in the centre of the table and remain there throughout the game.

The Ante

Before the deal, each player except the dealer places one chip on each boodle card; the dealer places two chips on each.

The Deal

Deal the cards one at a time starting to the left, face down. One extra hand is dealt immediately to the left of the dealer. No player may see the extra hand except the player, if any, who exchanges it for their own hand of cards. The cards are dealt out as far as they will go, even though all players may not receive the same number of cards.

Object of the game

To be the first player to get rid of all his/her cards and to collect chips from The Layout (Boodle or money cards) by playing any of the four boodle cards if they hold them.

The Play

Each card played is placed face up in front of the owner, separate from all other hands, and the player names its rank and suit out loud. The person to the left of the dealer plays first by leading with the lowest card in any suit, this might be the 2 of Spades or the Queen of Hearts if that is the lowest card in that suit in their hand.

The player holding the next higher card in sequence in the same suit plays it, and so on. The sequence in the suit is continued until it is stopped by a card in the dead hand or by the ace of the same suit. The player who laid the last card before the stop has the next turn. He/she must play a new suit (it must not be the same as the previous suit played) and it must be the lowest card in that suit. If the player has no new suit, the turn passes to the left.

Any time a player can play a card that duplicates one of the four boodle cards, he takes all the chips from that card. Any chips that are still on The Layout (Boodle or money cards) after the hand ends remain there until they are won in a subsequent hand.

How to keep score

Play ends as soon as any player plays his last card. The winner collects one chip from each opponent for every card remaining in that player's hand.

Ace = high, Number cards = face value, King, Queen, Jack = 10