

balls and throw it toward your goal, just like the men folks goal only smaller goals. There are usually one or two defenders of the goal and it is pretty hard to score early. Sometimes if there is action galore they try to pull the defenders away from the goal so they can make a score. The goals for the women are usually about 75 to 100 yards apart. It is a very exciting game as some of the women are very fast on their feet and some are very powerful, hard to handle, and the game is something to see especially when there is a challenge from some other tribe. This is when tribes are visiting each other, like an invitation to a four day war dance party. Men are not allowed to play but they can look on and see the great games played by their women folk and girls.

The Indian Hand Game is another past time of the Poncas. This game is so old it goes back to the time when even on a war path the party took time out for entertainment. Stories have come down through the ages of whole parties that were wiped out by hostiles while playing the game.

Two sides are required to play this game by clans, societies or clubs. The object of the game is to guess the bean or object that is in what hand the object (usually a beaded bone) is in. Two players hide the button and you get to guess either in the center or on the side or on the outside of the players hands. If you guess them you take the buttons and let your side hide it from the other sides guesser. If you miss you lose a point or a stick which is usually composed of 8, 10, or 12 sticks. When the sticks are all gathered on one side the drum stops as the singers or drummers sing all the time the game is played. When the first game is won the side who has won has the right to dance to their hearts content, even clowning as they dance to make fun of the other side. The singers start a give away song as the winning side is seated. The losers have goards passed out to them by the winning judge of which there are two judges one for each side who takes care of the points, and the donations. They donate for whatever the hand was played for. This is a good way to raise funds for your organization or club or some boy who has come back from the service or a boy who is just going in. It is something of a