History of Soccer/Football

The cradle of football

- There is documented evidence that a game or skill building exercise, involving kicking a ball into a small net, was used by the Chinese military during the Han Dynasty - around the 2nd and 3rd centuries BC.
History of Soccer/Football

- Earlier evidence - of a field marked out to play a ball-kicking game has been found at Kyoto, in Japan.
- Both the Greeks and ancient Romans played a soccer-type game which resembled modern soccer - although in this early version, teams could consist of up to 27 players!
- It is impossible to say accurately where and when soccer started - but it is reasonable to assume that some type of ball game - from which the organized sport we know today developed - has been played somewhere on the planet for over 3000 years.

History of Soccer/Football

**Soccer in Britain**

- Britain is the birthplace of modern soccer/association football.
- Scotland and England being co-founders of the organized game. Football was a popular sport of the masses from the 8th century onwards.
- But the game at that time was a war game!
- In medieval times, towns and villages played against rival towns and villages - and kicking, punching, biting and gouging were allowed.
- Hundreds of people took part and games could last all day.

World Soccer History Timeline
Modern Soccer/Football

- Football is a ball game played between two teams of 11 players, each attempting to win by scoring more goals than their opponent.
- A goal results when the ball passes over the goal line between the goalposts and under the crossbar.
- Football is played predominantly with the feet, but players may use any part of their body except their hands and arms to propel the ball.
- The goalkeeper is the only member of the team allowed to handle the ball in the field of play.

Objective of the game

- Two teams of eleven players each compete to get a spherical ball into the other team's goal (thereby scoring a goal).
- The side which scores the most goals is the winner (usually within 90 minutes, but other ways of determining a winner may be used in case of a tie).
- The primary rule for this objective is that players, other than the goalkeepers, may not handle the ball with their hands or arms while on the field during play.
Officials

- A game is presided over by a referee, who has "full authority to enforce the Laws of the Game in connection with the match to which he has been appointed" and whose decisions regarding facts connected with play are final.
- The referee is assisted by two assistant referees (formerly called linesmen). In many games there is also a fourth official, who assists the referee and may replace another official should the need arise.

Teams

- Each team consists of a maximum of eleven players, one of whom must be the goalkeeper.
- The goalkeeper is allowed to handle the ball with his hands or arms within the penalty area (also known as the "box" or "18 yard box") in front of his own goal.
- The other players on either side are not permitted to handle the ball with their hands or arms whilst the ball is in play, however they may play it with any other part of their body. The exception to this is when the ball is kicked out of play over the touchlines and a throw in occurs to return the ball into play.
- A number of players (usually 3) may be replaced by substitutes during the course of the game. The usual reasons for a player's replacement include injury, tiredness, ineffectiveness, a tactical switch, or to waste a little time at the end of a finely poised game.
- A player who has been substituted may not take further part in the match.
Dimensions of a Soccer Field

When a team kicks-off, players from the opposing team must remain a distance of at least 10 yards (9.15 m) from the centre spot until the kick is taken which is marked by the centre circle. This is an exclusion zone for all players other than the one taking the kick in the event of a penalty being awarded.

Positions

1. Forwards (Strikers/Wingers): front line players with scoring as their major responsibility.
2. Midfielders (Halfbacks): Middle line player that help forwards and defenders.
3. Defenders (Fullbacks): back line players who play mostly defense with the goalie.
Other Essential Soccer Terms

- **Indirect Free Kick**: A goal may not be scored from an indirect free kick.
- **Direct Free Kick**: A goal may be scored by the player striking the free kick.
- **Penalty**: A penalty kick is awarded when a foul has been committed within the penalty area in front of the goal area. A penalty is taken by one player opposed only by the goal keeper.
- **Corner Kick**: A free kick taken from the corner flag by a member of the attacking team when the ball has passed over the goal line after last touching a defensive player. Taken from the corner nearest to where the ball went out of bounds.
- **Kickoff**: Start of play at the beginning of each half and after a goal has been scored.
- **Header**: Use of the head to pass or control the ball.
- **Cross**: A lofted pass, played across the face of a goal.
- **Dribble**: Controlling the ball while running.

...Contd. Other Essential Soccer Terms

- **Yellow Card**: A yellow card held up by a referee to signal that an infringement of the rules meriting a caution has occurred.
- **Red Card**: A red card held up by the referee signaling that a player is being 'sent off,' - ejected from the game. A player who receives a red card cannot be replaced on the field of play. A red card is issued to a player when that player has committed a serious infraction or has been issued with two yellow cards within the same game.
- **Nutmeg**: Passing or pushing a ball between another player's legs.
**Soccer Formations**

- **4-4-2** (most commonly used)
- **3-5-2**
- **4-3-3**

**Note:** 4-4-2 means 4 Defenders, 4 midfielders and 2 forwards.

Sweeper (SW), Stopper (ST), Left/Right Defenders (LD/RD), Left/Right Midfielders (LM/RM), Left/Right Centermidfielders (LC/RC), Forwards (F1/F2):

**Duration**

- **Standard durations**
  - A standard adult football match consists of two periods (known as halves) of 45 minutes each. There is usually a 15-minute break between halves, known as half-time. The end of the match is known as full-time.

- **Extra time and shootouts**
  - Most games simply end after these two halves, either with one team winning or with a draw (a tied game). However, some games, particularly knockout competition matches, provide for extra time in the event of a tied result at the end of the two halves of normal time: two further periods of 15 minutes are played.
  - If the score is still tied after extra time, some competitions allow the use of kicks from the penalty mark (colloquially known as penalty shoot-outs) to determine a winner.
Soccer Equipment

Recreational soccer needs no special equipment - only feet and some free space to kick a ball around! But to play a game of organized soccer there are several essential items of equipment which every player must have - and every game requires.

Soccer balls

- An official match ball is spherical and made of leather or other suitable material.
- It is of a circumference of not more than 70 cm (28 ins) and not less than 68 cm (27 ins).
- It is no more than 450 g (16 oz) in weight and not less than 410 g (14 oz) at the start of the match.
- It is of a pressure equal to 0.6 - 1.1 atmosphere (600 - 1100 g/cm²) at sea level (8.5 lbs/sq in 15.6 lbs/sq in).
Soccer Cleats/Boots

- Soccer Cleats are called Boots in Britain and are a soccer player's most important piece of equipment.
- Moreover it has nowadays become a fashion statement for most footballers on the color and brand they wear.

Nike Air Zoom Total 90 III FG

$160.00

Adidas Predator Pulse 2 TRX FG

$170.00

Shin Guards

Shin Guards offer excellent protection from leg injuries and players in any game of organized soccer are required to wear them.

There are many different styles from which to choose - attacking players often favor light-weight guards which don't restrict their mobility - while defenders may choose tougher duty guards to protect them in the tackles.

$35.00

$40.00
Shirts/Jerseys & Gloves for Goal-Keepers

- Authentic Soccer jerseys are made of special fiber to regulate body temperature.
- Gloves for Goal-Keepers are not obligatory - but not only do they provide the player with a better grip on the ball, they also cushion and protect fingers, palms and joints from injury.

The laws of football

Today the laws of the game are determined by the International Football Association Board (IFAB). The Board was formed in 1882 after a meeting in Manchester of The Football Association, the Scottish Football Association, the Football Association of Wales, and the Irish Football Association. The Fédération Internationale de Football Association FIFA, the international football body declared that they would adhere to the rules laid down by the IFAB.
The Offside Rule and Offside Trap in Football (Soccer)

A player is in an offside position if:
- He/she is nearer to the opponents’ goal line than both the ball and the second last opponent.

A player is not in an offside position if:
- He/she is in his own half of the field of play
- He/she is level with the second last opponent
- He/she is level with the last two opponents

Committing an Offside Offence
A player in an offside position is only penalized if, at the moment the ball touches or is played by one of his team, he/she is, in the opinion of the referee, involved in active play by:
- interfering with play
- interfering with an opponent
- gaining an advantage by being in that position

No Offence
- There is no offside offence if a player receives the ball directly from:
  - a goal kick
  - a throw-in
  - a corner kick

The Offside Rule

This is offside because the red number 10 is in front of all of the defenders, leaving only the goalkeeper back which isn't enough players to play him onside. This position may have been forced by the defenders moving forward in what is called the offside trap.

Here we can see that the blue number 3 defender has fail to move up the field with rest of his defense and played the red number 9 onside. This is a classic example of where the offside trap fails.
The Offside Rule

The offside rule exists to stop goal hanging, where a player stands next to the opposing teams goalie in the hope that someone can get the ball to him (probably using a long ball), so he can get it past the goalie. Which would make for a very boring game.

The red number 9 isn't beyond the blue 4 defender but is offside because the goalie isn't back. This is one of those rare occasions where goalie is out of the goal (e.g. last minute of F.A. Cup final on a corner kick) and can't get back in time but if the attacking team play the ball as they normally would, then it would be offside because the offside rule requires two defenders to be in front the attacker and the goalie usually counts as a defender.
Major international competitions

The major international competition in football is the World Cup organized by FIFA. The World Cup competition takes place over a four year period. Over 190 national teams compete in regional qualifying tournaments for a place in the finals. The final tournament, which is held every four years, now involves 32 national teams (increased from 24 in 1998) competing over a 4 week period.

The major international competitions of the continents are:

- Europe: European Championship
- South America: Copa América
- Africa: African Nations Cup
- Asia: Asian Cup
- North America: CONCACAF Gold Cup
- Oceania: Oceania Cup

What is FIFA

Fédération Internationale de Football Association

- Is the international governing body of the sport of football.
- It is based in Zurich, Switzerland.
- FIFA was formed in Paris on March 21, 1904 and celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2004. It announced in April 2004 that it is expecting to earn $144 million profit on $1.64 billion in revenue between 2003 and 2006.
- The organization works in conjunction with regional arms that oversee football development in the different parts of the world. The six confederations that comprise FIFA (and the regions that they govern) are:
  - AFC - (Asia)
  - CAF - (Africa)
  - CONMEBOL - (South America)
  - CONCACAF - (North America, Central America and the Caribbean)
  - OFC - (Oceania)
  - UEFA - (Europe)
- FIFA organizes, amongst others, the following football competitions:
  - Football World Cup, Olympic Football Tournament, Football World Youth Championship, Football U-17 World Championship, Women's World Cup, Women's U-19 World Championship, Confederations Cup, Club World Championship.
No other sporting event captures the world's imagination like the FIFA World Cup™.
A group of visionary French football administrators, led in the 1920s by the innovative Jules Rimet, are credited with the original idea of bringing the world's strongest national football teams together to compete for the title of World Champions.
The original gold trophy bore Jules Rimet's name and was contested three times in the 1930s, before the Second World War put a 12-year stop to the competition.
When it resumed, the FIFA World Cup rapidly advanced to its undisputed status as the greatest single sporting event of the modern world.
Held since 1958 alternately in Europe and the Americas, the World Cup broke new ground with the Executive Committee's decision in May 1996 to select Korea and Japan as co-hosts for the 2002 edition.

Since 1930, the 16 tournaments have seen only seven different winners. However, the FIFA World Cup has also been punctuated by dramatic upsets that have helped create footballing history - the United States defeating England in 1950, North Korea's defeat of Italy in 1966, Cameroon's emergence in the 1980s and their opening match defeat of the Argentinean cup-holders in 1990.
Today, the FIFA World Cup holds the entire global public under its spell. An accumulated audience of over 37 billion people watched the France 98 tournament, including approximately 1.3 billion for the final alone, while over 2.7 million people flocked to watch the 64 matches in the French stadiums.
After all these years and so many changes, however, the main focus of the FIFA World Cup remains the same - the glistening golden trophy, which is the embodiment of every footballer's ambition.
French sculptor Abel Lafleur was assigned design the trophy. The little trophy had a hazardous existence.

- The Italian Vice-President of FIFA, Dr. Ottorino Barassi, hid it in a shoe-box under his bed throughout the Second World War and thus saved it from falling into the hands of occupying troops.
- Then in 1966, the cup disappeared while on display as part of the build-up to the World Cup in England and was only recovered, buried under a tree, by a little dog called Pickles.

Finally, in 1983, it was stolen again, this time in Rio de Janeiro, and apparently melted down by the thieves. The Brazilian Football Association, who had earned the right to keep the trophy after having won it three times, ordered a replica to be made.

- The original trophy was 35cm high and weighed approximately 3.8 kg. The statuette was made of sterling silver and gold plated, with a blue base made of semi-precious stone (lapis lazuli).
- There was a gold plate on each of the four sides of the base, on which were engraved the name of the trophy as well as the names of the nine winners between 1930 and 1970.
With the Jules Rimet Cup now in the permanent possession of Brazil after their third World Cup™ triumph in Mexico City in 1970, FIFA commissioned a new trophy for the tenth World Cup™ in 1974.

A total of 53 designs were submitted to FIFA by experts from seven countries, with the final choice being the work of Italian artist Silvio Gazzaniga.

He described his creation thus: “The lines spring out from the base, rising in spirals, stretching out to receive the world. From the remarkable dynamic tensions of the compact body of the sculpture rise the figures of two athletes at the stirring moment of victory”.

The current FIFA World Cup™ Trophy cannot be won outright, as the regulations state that it shall remain FIFA's own possession. The World Cup™ winners retain it until the next tournament and are awarded a replica, gold-plated rather than solid gold.

The new trophy is 36 cm high, made of solid 18-carat gold and weighs 4,970 grams. The base contains two layers of semi-precious malachite and has room for 17 small plaques bearing the name of the winners - space enough for the World Champions up to the year 2038.
**World Cup Winners**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Runner Up</th>
<th>Host</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>Uruguay</td>
<td>4-2</td>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>Uruguay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1934</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>2-1</td>
<td>Czechoslovakia</td>
<td>Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>4-2</td>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>Uruguay</td>
<td>2-1</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>3-2</td>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>5-2</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1962</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>3-1</td>
<td>Czechoslovakia</td>
<td>Chile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>England</td>
<td>4-2</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>4-1</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>2-1</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>3-1</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>Argentina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>3-1</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>3-2</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>1-0</td>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>3-2</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>3-0</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>2-0</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Korea/Japan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Evolution of the World Cup soccer ball—**

- **Adidas**
  - Telstar: Mexico, 1970
  - Telstar Durlast: West Germany, 1974
  - Tango Durlast, Argentina 1978
  - Tango Espana: Spain, 1982
  - Azteca: México, 1986
  - Etrusco: Italy, 1990
  - Questra: USA, 1994
  - Tricolore: France, 1998
  - Teamgeist
    - Germany, 2006
  - Fevernova TM
    - Korea Japan, 2002
World Cup soccer ball

Telstar: Mexico, 1970
Adidas started to make soccer balls in 1963 but made the first official FIFA World Cup ball in 1970. The first ball with 32 black and white panels. The TELSTAR (Star of Television) was more visible on black and white televisions (1970 FIFA World Cup Mexico™ was the first to be broadcast live on television).

Telstar Durlast R: West Germany, 1974
The TELSTAR was again used. Another version was the Chile Durlast ball which did not have the black panels.

Tango Durlast, Argentina
1978: Soccer ball design experienced another revolution in 1978 with the introduction of the Adidas Tango. Adidas had created what would become a ‘football design classic’. Twenty panels with ‘triads’ created the impression of 12 identical circles. For the following five FIFA World Cup tournaments, the Match Ball design was based on this design. Tango featured improved weather resistance qualities, and took its inspiration from the deep passion, emotion and elegance of Argentina.

Tango Espana: Spain, 1982
Adidas introduced a new ball which had rubber inlaid over the seams to prevent water from seeping through. The first ball with water-resistant qualities. General wear from kicking however meant the rubber began to wear after a short time and needed to be replaced during the game. The last genuine leather world cup ball.

Azteca: México, 1986
The FIFA World Cup Mexico, saw the introduction of the first polyurethane coated ball which was rain-resistant. The first synthetic match ball, with good qualities on hard and wet surfaces.

Etrusco: Italy, 1990
This ball was a high-tech product which was manufactured entirely from quality synthetic fibers. The lowest covering consisted of textiles impregnated with latex for form stability and resistance to tearing, the neoprene layer made the ball water-tight and the outer skin made of polyurethane layers was used for abrasion resistance and good rebound properties. The name and intricate design took their inspiration from Italy’s magnificent, ancient history and the contributions and fine art of the Etruscans. Three Etruscan lion heads decorate each of the 20 Tango triads.
The technical development for the Questra took place in the adidas center for ball development in France, followed by test games in France, Germany and the USA with professional players, amateurs and youth teams. The design embodied adidas’s theme for the World Cup: innovation and “the quest for the stars”. The ball was manufactured from five different materials with a flexible but durable outer layer made from polyurethane. Inspired by space technology, high velocity rockets and America’s “quest for the stars”, Questra set new performance standards.

By 1998, FIFA World Cup France was played with a ball which sported the French red-white-blue tri-color. A complete departure from the old traditional black and white pattern. The first official World Cup soccer ball that was in color. The TRICOLORE used underglass print technology with a thin layer of syntactic foam.

For FIFA World Cup Korea Japan, 2002 Adidas created a new ball made up of thicker inner layers to increase the accuracy of the ball in flight. The new panel shape harmonizes the energy displacement and minimizes the amount of corners, while the larger panels allow for a cleaner kicking area. The radiant lines of the graphics surrounding the propeller shape symbolize movement and energy.

The more perfect the sphere is, the more balanced it will be, offering greater accuracy due to the predictability of its flight. The new panel shape harmonizes the energy displacement and minimizes the amount of corners, while the larger panels allow for a cleaner kicking area. Perhaps the biggest difference the players will find with the new balls will be how they play in the wet. Normally, a wet and heavy ball behaves quite differently from a dry one. It flies slower through the air, has a lower bounce and is more difficult to curl. A patented Thermal Bonding technology makes the new ball virtually waterproof with identical performance characteristics wet or dry. The FIFA Approved Standard for water absorption stipulates no more than a 10% weight increase – the Teamgeist’s has less than 0.1% weight increase. Similarly, it has significantly improved on all standards for uniformity of rebound and pressure retention and shape and size retention. Clever design and technologies has enabled Adidas to reduce manufacturing tolerances to a new level.

Traditional 32 panel hand stitched balls have a wider target zone meaning accuracy is hard to consistently achieve. The new 14-panel design has resulted in a ball with the most consistent performance characteristics ever, enabling the players to show their true skills. There are fewer seams, so the ball is rounder and performs more uniformly, regardless of where it is hit.

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$129.99!
**World Cup**

- The 2006 FIFA World Cup™ (officially titled 2006 FIFA World Cup Germany™), finals are scheduled to take place in Germany between 9 June and 9 July 2006. Qualification for the tournament is now complete, with all 32 competing teams confirmed.

**Sri Lanka in World Cup Qualifying**

- Sri Lanka reached the final qualifying round of the 2004 Asian Cup
- However was quickly extinguished as they fell to six straight defeats against Turkmenistan, the United Arab Emirates and Syria with 5-0 and 8-0 victories.
- The side suffered a similar embarrassment in the qualifying campaign for the 2002 FIFA World Cup Korea/Japan, beaten twice each by both Thailand and Lebanon, while securing the only points in a draw and victory over Pakistan.
- Recover well however from their Asian Cup exit, storming to a 3-0 second-leg victory in Colombo over Laos after a battling scoreless draw in the away leg of the Germany 2006 preliminary.
- But fighting spirit was not enough to make up for their lack of power in the Asian Zone’s second round of qualifying for the 2006 FIFA World Cup™ Germany.
- Team Sri Lanka were no match alongside Asian powerhouses Saudi Arabia, Indonesia and Turkmenistan. With four defeats and two draws, Sri Lanka finished bottom of their group.
Venues for World Cup 2006

A total of 12 German cities have been selected to host the World Cup final tournament. The stadium capacities shown are all seated capacities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Original stadium</th>
<th>World Cup 2006 stadium names¹</th>
<th>Investment</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>Olympiastadion</td>
<td>Olympiastadion</td>
<td>242 million Euro</td>
<td>77,176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dortmund</td>
<td>Signal Iduna Park</td>
<td>FIFA World Cup Stadium, Dortmund</td>
<td>46 million Euro</td>
<td>64,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frankfurt</td>
<td>Commerzbank-Arena</td>
<td>FIFA World Cup Stadium, Frankfurt</td>
<td>128 million Euro</td>
<td>50,132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gelsenkirchen</td>
<td>Veltins-Arena</td>
<td>FIFA World Cup Stadium, Gelsenkirchen</td>
<td>191 million Euro</td>
<td>53,804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamburg</td>
<td>AOL Arena</td>
<td>FIFA World Cup Stadium, Hamburg</td>
<td>97 million Euro</td>
<td>51,055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hannover (Hanover)</td>
<td>AWD-Arena</td>
<td>FIFA World Cup Stadium, Hannover</td>
<td>64 million Euro</td>
<td>44,652</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaiserslautern</td>
<td>Fritz-Walter-Stadion</td>
<td>Fritz-Walter-Stadion</td>
<td>48.3 million Euro</td>
<td>41,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Köln (Köln)</td>
<td>RheinEnergieStadion</td>
<td>FIFA World Cup Stadium, Cologne</td>
<td>119 million Euro</td>
<td>46,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leipzig</td>
<td>Zentralstadion</td>
<td>Zentralstadion</td>
<td>90.6 million Euro</td>
<td>44,199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>München (München)</td>
<td>Allianz Arena</td>
<td>FIFA World Cup Stadium, Munich</td>
<td>280 million Euro</td>
<td>66,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nürnberg (Nürnberg)</td>
<td>Franken-Stadion</td>
<td>Franken-Stadion</td>
<td>56 million Euro</td>
<td>41,026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stuttgart</td>
<td>Gottlieb-Daimler-Stadion</td>
<td>Gottlieb-Daimler-Stadion</td>
<td>51.5 million Euro</td>
<td>54,267</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Includes 1 Viewing and 1 TV-Monitoring Centre.

Investment in Euros (€).
32 Teams qualified for the world Cup Finals

**Group A**
- **Team**: Germany, Costa Rica, Poland, Ecuador
- **Team**: England, Paraguay, Trinidad and Tobago, Sweden

**Group B**
- **Team**: Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Paraguay, England
- **Team**: Argentina, Columbia, Serbia and Montenegro, Netherlands

**Group C**
- **Team**: Netherlands, Serbia and Montenegro, Côte d’Ivoire, Argentina
- **Team**: Portugal, Angola, Iran, Mexico

**Group D**
- **Team**: Czech Republic, United States, Ghana, Italy
- **Team**: Japan, Australia, Croatia, Brazil

**Group E**
- **Team**: Italy, Ghana, United States, Czech Republic
- **Team**: Brazil, Croatia, Australia, Japan

**Group F**
- **Team**: France, Switzerland, Korea Republic, Togo
- **Team**: Spain, Ukraine, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia

**Group G**
- **Team**: Togo, Korea Republic, Switzerland, France
- **Team**: Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Ukraine, Spain

**Group H**
- **Team**: Switzerland, France, Ukraine, Spain
- **Team**: Brazil, Croatia, Australia, Japan

Matches to watch in the Group Stage

- 15 June 2006, Sweden- England
- 17 June 2006, Italy- United States
- 21 June 2006, Portugal- Mexico
- 21 June 2006, Netherlands- Argentina
- 22 June 2006, Czech Republic- Italy
- 22 June 2006, Japan-Brazil
Players to Watch

Name: Freddy Adu
Team: USA
Age: 16
Position: Forward
Skill: Grate ball control and passing.
Note: Will be the youngest player to appear in a World Cup

Name: Cristiano Ronaldo
Team: Portugal
Age: 18
Position: Forward
Skill: Fast foot work, finishing

Name: David Beckham
Team: England
Age: 18
Position: Forward
Skill: Dribbling & Shooting

Players to Watch

Name: Michael Ballack
Team: Germany (Captain)
Age: 27
Position: Mid-fielder
Skill: Free kicks and passing

Name: Zinedine Zidane (Zizou)
Team: France (Captain)
Age: 33
Position: Mid-Fielder
Skill: Equally good with both feet, free kicks

Name: David Beckham (Becks, spice boy)
Team: England (Captain)
Age: 30
Position: Mid-fielder
Skill: Excellent spot kicker (“Bend it like Beckham”)
Greatest Moments of World Cup

“Hand of God” Goal

- The quarter-final match.
- Six minutes into the second half, no goals. Diego Maradona took the ball down the pitch and crossed it to his teammate Jorge Valdano, whose shot was blocked by defender Steve Hodge.
- The English goalkeeper, Peter Shilton, came out of his goalmouth to catch or punch the ball, but Maradona reached it first — with his hand. The ball landed in the back of the net. Neither the linesman nor the referee (Tunisian Ali Bin Nasser) saw Maradona’s foul play, so the goal was allowed.

The Argentines celebrated while the Englishmen protested, but to no avail. At the press conference after the game, Maradona further infuriated the English by claiming the goal was “a little bit by the Hand of God, another bit by the head of Maradona.” Decades later, Maradona admitted that the ball came off his hand; however, he maintained it was an accident, in spite of the widely shown video and photographic evidence that clearly demonstrated he touched the ball with his forearm.

Now I feel I am able to say what I couldn’t then. At the time I called it “the hand of God.” Bollocks was it the hand of God, it was the hand of Diego! And it felt a little bit like pickpocketing the English.
References

- www.wikipedia.com
- www.fifa.com
- www.worldsoccer.about.com

Thank You
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2500 B.C.</td>
<td>Ancient China, the earliest mention researchers have found of a soccer like game states that balls made of animal skin were kicked through a gap in a net stretched between poles 30 feet high. Records indicate that tsu chu was played as a part of the emperor’s birthday celebration.</td>
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<td>2500 B.C.</td>
<td>Ancient Egypt &amp; Near East, historians have suggested that fertility rites in Ancient Egypt and religious ceremonies in Ancient Near East may have been linked to the development of the game.</td>
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<tr>
<td>B.C.’s</td>
<td>Rome, Greece, Japan &amp; China, references to games which were remote ancestors of football were found.</td>
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<td>100-500’s A.D.</td>
<td>England, one story speaks of using the enemy’s skull as a ball. Another tells of a brave village defeating a Roman team and running them out of town in 217 AD.</td>
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<td>200</td>
<td>Italy, the Italians played a game called “harpastum” which they introduced to the British.</td>
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<tr>
<td>217</td>
<td>England, the British said that they already played a similar game. British soldiers said that they started playing the game by kicking the skulls of defeated Roman soldiers from a liberated village. Then, Britain seemed to play this so-called football game more than other countries.</td>
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<tr>
<td>600-1600</td>
<td>Mexico &amp; Central America, the creation of the rubber ball was in Mexico &amp; Central America. These people played games on a recessed court shaped like a capital “I”. The court was 40-50 feet long with vertical walls several feet high. In the middle of each wall was a mounted stone or wooden ring and the object was to project the hard rubber ball through the ring.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle Ages</td>
<td>Italy, British Isles &amp; France, records of the game were found.</td>
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<td>1100’s</td>
<td>England, by the 12th Century, the game had become a violent mob sport with no rules and any sort of behavior condoned.</td>
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<td>1314</td>
<td>England, King Edward II orders citizens to stop playing football.</td>
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<td>1369</td>
<td>England, edict of King Edward III forbids the game of football because it interfered with archery.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1500’s</td>
<td>Italy, the Italians played a game called calcio with teams of 27+ people. The game was simple: kicking, carrying or passing a ball across a goal line.</td>
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<td>1561</td>
<td>Richard Mulcaster, an English schoolmaster, mentions the game in a treatise on the education of the young, influenced by the game of calcio in Florence.</td>
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<td>1572</td>
<td>England, Queen Elizabeth I seriously bans football.</td>
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<td>1580</td>
<td>Italy, Giovanni Bardi publishes a set of rules of the game of &quot;calcio&quot;.</td>
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<td>1605</td>
<td>England, football became legal again and by the end of the 17th century it was the country's most popular sport.</td>
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<td>1609</td>
<td>USA, in the original Jamestown settlement native American Indians played a game called pasuckuakohowog, meaning &quot;they gather to play ball with the foot.&quot; Beaches, a half mile wide with goals 1 mile apart, served as playing fields for as many as 1000 people at a time. Games were often rough, resulting in broken bones, but know one could be identified because players disguised themselves with ornaments and warpaint making retaliate close to impossible. It was common for games to be carried over from one day to the next with a feast for all at the conclusion of the match.</td>
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<td>1600's</td>
<td>Pacific Islands, inhabitants were early to develop games using hands and feet. They used coconuts, oranges and pig bladders as balls.</td>
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<td>1600's?</td>
<td>Alaska &amp; Canada, the native Eskimos played aqsaqtuk or soccer on ice. Balls were stuffed with grass, caribou hair, and moss. One legend tells of 2 villages playing against each other with goals 10 miles apart. There is no known date of origin.</td>
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<td>1680</td>
<td>England, football wins royal patronage from King Charles II.</td>
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<td>1820's</td>
<td>USA, football was played among the Northeastern universities and colleges of Harvard, Princeton, Amherst and Brown.</td>
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<td>1827</td>
<td>USA, Freshman and Sophomore classes at Harvard had instituted an annual intramural football contest in 1827, played on the first Monday of the new school year. These games were evidently quite rowdy as the event was known as &quot;Bloody Monday&quot;.</td>
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<td>1830's</td>
<td>England, the modern form of soccer originated. The sport grew among working-class communities and was seen as a way of keeping young and energetic kids out of trouble at home and in the school; they could let off steam and learn the values of teamwork (rampant individualism was considered a problem at the time).</td>
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<td>1848</td>
<td>England, the first Cambridge Rules are drawn up.</td>
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<td>1862</td>
<td>USA, Oneida Football Club; formed in Boston in 1862, was the first soccer club anywhere outside of England.</td>
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<td>1863</td>
<td>England, The Football Association is founded.</td>
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<td>1871</td>
<td>Sheffield FA played London FA in one of the first regional matches.</td>
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<td>1872</td>
<td>First international football match between England and Scotland.</td>
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<td>1883</td>
<td>The four British associations agree on a uniform code and form the International Football Association Board.</td>
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<td>1885</td>
<td>USA, USA versus Canada, first international match played between teams outside of Great Britain.</td>
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<td>1885</td>
<td>The introduction of professionalism.</td>
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<td>1886</td>
<td>The Football Association starts training match officials. First meeting of the International Football Association Board.</td>
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<td>1888</td>
<td>The league system is inaugurated - professional footballers are allowed. Referees are given extensive powers of control.</td>
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<td>1888</td>
<td>Introduction of the penalty kick.</td>
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<td>1889</td>
<td>The Football Association sends its first representative team abroad. A German team visits England.</td>
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<td>1904</td>
<td>FIFA is established at a meeting in Paris on 21 May by delegates from France, Belgium, Denmark, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.</td>
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<td>1908</td>
<td>Football becomes an Olympic event.</td>
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<td>1913</td>
<td>FIFA becomes a member of the International F.A. Board.</td>
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<td>1920's</td>
<td>Professionalism comes to continental European countries.</td>
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<td>1930</td>
<td>First World Cup with 13 teams in Uruguay.</td>
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<td>1937-38</td>
<td>The Laws are set up in a new system of codification, but based on the Laws previously in force.</td>
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<td>1938</td>
<td>English FA Cup Final televised live by BBC.</td>
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<td>1954</td>
<td>Birth of Eurovision. Fifth World Cup in Switzerland.</td>
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<td>1955</td>
<td>Birth of European club competitions.</td>
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<td>1956</td>
<td>RAI begins regular Serie A transmissions.</td>
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<td>1958</td>
<td>First live world-wide TV coverage of the World Cup.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>TV rights for European Cup Final (Real Madrid v Eintracht Frankfurt) raise £8,000.</td>
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<td>1962</td>
<td>FIFA's membership reaches 100. World Cup television film flown out of Chile to Europe.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>Action replay machines and videotape used at 1966 World Cup.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>World Cup in Mexico beamed by satellite to Europe. Live league football pioneered in Spain.</td>
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<td>1979</td>
<td>75th Anniversary of FIFA and Inauguration of FIFA House.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>First FIFA U-16 World Tournament in China (renamed Under-17 World Championship in 1991).</td>
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<td>1988</td>
<td>Start of the FIFA Fair Play campaign.</td>
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<td>1989</td>
<td>First FIFA World Championship for Five-a-side Football in the Netherlands.</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>167 countries around the globe buy Italia 90 TV.</td>
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<td>1991</td>
<td>First FIFA World Championship for Women's Football in China, won by the USA.</td>
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<td>1994</td>
<td>32 billion watch USA 94 (cumulative total).</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>Major League Soccer (MLS) begins as the top USA pro-soccer league.</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>37 billion watch FRANCE 98 (cumulative total).</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>Joseph S. Blatter succeeds Joao Havelange as FIFA President.</td>
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<td>1999</td>
<td>Women's World Cup Final in the Los Angeles, USA sees the USA beat China in front of 90,185 fans. This was the largest ever attendance for a women's sporting event in world history. The tournament had over 658,000 attendees and over 1 billion television viewers worldwide, thus not only putting women's soccer but women's sport into mainstream society forever.</td>
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<td>2000</td>
<td>Brazil hosts the first FIFA Club World Championship, won by Corinthians of Brazil.</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>Korea and Japan co-host the first World Cup to be held outside Europe and the Americas.</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>FIFA celebrates its centenary.</td>
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<td>Year</td>
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<td>1930</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>South Korea &amp; Japan</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>Germany</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>South America</td>
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FIFA hasn't yet specified which continent will host the World Cup in 2018 and 2022, even though several nations have already announced their intention to bid.

1. There was no official World Cup Third Place match in 1930; USA and Yugoslavia lost in the semi-finals.
2. At their 1939 Congress, FIFA did not arrive at a decision on whether the 1942 World Cup should be held in Brazil or Germany, and decided to adjourn until their next meeting. Shortly after this, WWII broke out, and all planning was destroyed.
3. There was no official World Cup final match in 1950. The tournament was decided in a final group contested by four teams. However, Uruguay's 2-1 defeat of Brazil was the decisive match which put them ahead on points and ensured that they finished top of