













The History of Soccer

- Soccer, is a sport played between two teams with eleven players and a soccer ball. It is played by 200 million players, making it the world's most popular sport. The game is played on a rectangular field with a goal on each side. The object is to score by getting the ball into the other team's goal.
- There are many soccer stadiums around the world. Some of those stadiums include Camp Nou in Spain, which is the biggest stadium in Europe, the Louis IIMonaco, Portugal, which is known as the most comfortable stadium in the world, and the Yokohama Stadium in Japan, which is considered the most high-tech stadium in the world because of its movable roof and lots of lights.
- The English wrote the first rules for the sport. As the sport developed, more rules were made. For example, the penalty kick was made in 1891. FIFA became a part of the International Football Association in 1913. Red and yellow cards were made during the 1970 World Cup finals. More recent changes include tackles from behind becoming red-card penalties in 1998.
- One early type of soccer was an Chinese game called cuju. The game was played with 2-10 players. The players were allowed to touch the ball with any part of the body except their hands. They would shoot a ball at a small hole to score. The team who had the more points won.
- As soccer began to move toward Europe, it began to look a more like modern soccer. After a few centuries had gone, soccer became more popular. Schools in England began to make teams that would play each other. The idea of tournaments started to spread outside of the schools. However, tournaments were still hard to have as rules varied wherever you were.
- Finally, in 1863 a man from England named Ebenezer Cobb Morley called a meeting to decide the official rules of soccer. On December 8 of 1863 the official rules of soccer were established.

- From there soccer continued to gain popularity and now is the most popular sport in the world. In 1904 the first match outside of England in the history of soccer was played in Paris between France and Belgium. The founding of FIFA, the Federal International football association organization was made on May 22, 1904. Soccer had recently been established as an Olympic sport. They set the first World Cup in Uruguay in 1930. The World Cup is every 4 years.
- In soccer, a professional goal size offers 96 square feet and that is big. You'd imagine that you can easily score on that big goal but it isn't that easy if you include the fact that there are 11 players on the other team including their goalie, that are trying to stop you from scoring!!!