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Soccer – The World's Most Popular Sport

By Peter Valentine

Soccer is perhaps the world's favorite spectator sport, popularly known as "Football" in Britain and other European countries. This game can be as frustrating as golf, as physical as football and hockey, as erratic as baseball, and as exciting as basketball. No simple word can describe the popularity of the game, with a global television audience of 49 billion people for the 2002 World Cup alone. The game is exciting and highly addictive to watch and play.

Professional game rules require 11 players per team, 10 playing the field and one goalkeeper. With the use of a round ball, the matched is player with the two teams wearing shirts of different colors with distinctive soccer patches. The game is divided into two sets, each for 45 minutes long with the referee adding "extra time" based on time being wasted or play being stopped during the original 45 minutes. Usually, the extra time will be about one-to-three minutes.

A maximum of three substitutes may be used in any match played in an official competition organized under the auspices of the World Governing body Federation International Football Association (FIFA), the confederations or the national associations. However, in other competitions the rules must state how many substitutes may be nominated, from three up to a maximum of seven.

The decision regarding a match ending with a tie score usually depends on the actual type of game being player. There are times when the just simply ends in a tie score after the regular 90 minutes game plus any added time. On the other hand, a game ending with a tie score may lead into an overtime with an allotted time of extra play leading to penalty kicks, this usually occurs during a deciding game of a tournament. Each team is given five attempts to score on the opposing goalkeeper, the team with the highest score wins the game.

During a game, players are only allowed to wear soccer equipment and are prohibited to wear anything that may harm him as well as the other. This includes any kind of jewelry and other accessories. The basic soccer equipment of a player include a jersey or shirt with their distinctive soccer patches; shorts, if thermal under shorts are worn, it has to be the same main color as the shorts; stockings; and footwear, soccer shoes, boots, cleats.

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There are instances that players may use extra equipments such as shin guards and headgears. The shin guards protect the leg below the knee and are completely covered by the stockings. These are either made of rubber, plastic, or similar substances. While the head gear are available to protect younger players when heading the ball.

For goalkeepers, they must wear a color that separates him from the other goalkeeper, players, the referee and the assistant referees.

There are four important details that one should know about the game before he is ready to play soccer. The first is that only the goalkeeper is allowed to use his hands, and this is only within the confines of the marked-off area surrounding the goal. When a player uses their hands on a ball, the opposing team gets a free kick from the spot of the violation.

The second vital information that you should remember about the game is that players are generally

penalized for rough or unfair play with the use of cards. A yellow card is considered a stern warning, while a red card signifies a serious violation. Once a player receives a red card it means that he had been ejected from the game and cannot be replaced and that leaves the player's team with less players. Meanwhile receiving two yellow cards will equal to a red card, meaning the player will receive the same penalty.

Peter Valentines's article on soccer is one of a collection of topics and interests that she explores and researches carefully. For more home improvement information visit

<http://www.zhsoccer.com>

Soccer Team Logo And Gear

By Dana Bradley

Soccer is one of the famous sports played in the United States, hence it is very demanded among every one who is the fan of Soccer. One of the exciting news is that people no longer have to spend a lot of money for the team logo and gear. Soccer team logo and Gear has many team logo and gear such as, Brandy Chastain, Galaxy, Pele, Freddy Adu, and Mia Hamm etc.

Soccer team logo and Gear are very famous around the Globe. It is said that the demand for soccer wear is much higher in the U.K when compared to other countries. Soccer team logo and gear are often used as gifted items to the loved ones, who are the lovers of Soccer.

The Young generation is crazy after the team logo and gear of Soccer. Some of the best sold Team logo and gear are:

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2005 upper deck Major League Soccer Trading cards priced at \$65.00 (This is a game for those interested)

Brandi Chastain on knees 8x10 photograph priced at \$76.00 (Brandi Chastain is known to be one of the best athletes of today)

Brazil vs Italy 1994 World cup Soccer at the Rose Bowl Framed unsigned Panoramic photograph priced at \$125.00 (the measurements for the Panoramic are 16 ½ x 42 ½) MLS Soccer Ball bag priced at \$24.00

(it is a best soccer bag to carry soccer ball to the field) Soccer 12 oz Wheaties box (Display case) priced at \$49.00 (Manufactured in U.S.A) Soccer 18 oz Wheaties box (Display case) priced at \$50.00(Manufactured in U.S.A) Soccer 22 oz Wheaties box (Display case) priced at \$56.00(Manufactured in U.S.A) Soccer cleats Display case up to size 13 priced at \$84.00

(Case accommodates size 13 shoe, Manufactured in U.S.A) Soccer cleats Display case up to size 17 priced at \$85.00 (Case accommodates size 17 shoe, Manufactured in U.S.A) Soccer cleats Display case up to size 23 priced at \$110.00 (Case accommodates size 23 shoe, Manufactured in U.S.A)

Above mentioned are some of the famous sold team logo gear products. Approximate sizes and brief description is explained to help to buy these products easily. Best of all, these products are available on the Internet. It's great being a fan of soccer or even knowing how to play the game with family and friends. But it is even greater when one can celebrate this exciting sport by wearing the latest clothing and gear available.

Dana Bradley writes about

<http://www.teamlogoandgear.com>

and

<http://www.teamlogoandgear.com/Coupons/FansEdge.com.html>



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