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**Soccer The War Game! --Looking Back To Its Origin**

**By Ray Smith**

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Believe it or not, but the modern day soccer owes its origin to the barbarous war mongering nature of human beings.

There is no proper documentation that can state the date and place of origination of the most popular modern day sport—Soccer. However, depending on the socio-historical facts and data we can assume that some type of a ball game was played somewhere in this planet for at least over 3000years now.

The earliest evidence of soccer was found in Kyoto, Japan where a field marked to play a ball-kicking game was found.

There is also proper documentation that supports the fact that the Chinese military forces around 2nd and 3rd century BC (Han Dynasty) played a game that involved kicking a ball into a small net. This was then an essential skill building exercise for the armed forces.

Historical evidence also shows that some form of Soccer was played also by the Greeks and the Romans, however, the primitive form involved a larger team on each side. At times the team strength would go up even to around 27 people on each side. The Greeks were playing four different forms of the ball game, namely "Episkyros", "Ourania", "Pheninda" and "Keritizein". Episkyros was the closest to football. In this 2 equally numbered teams, would try to throw the ball over the heads of the other team. There was a white line between the teams and another white line behind each team. Teams would change the ball often until one of the team is forced behind the line at their end.

Now, how many of you would believe that the modern day soccer actually originated as a war game?

Unbelievable, but true! The first Football (as Soccer is called in Britain) game was played by the locals of east of England, where they started a game, kicking around the severed head of a Danish prince whom they have defeated in a war. That marked the origination of Football as a war game.

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After this, for a long time, football was played by rival towns and villages where the objective was to move the ball to a predetermined spot. Hundreds of people would take part in these games and a single game could last a whole day. Punching, kicking, biting, everything was allowed.

The savage nature of this form of football was not much appreciated by the rulers and the Royalty took all possible steps to stop these games. King Edward III of England, passed laws in 1331 to stop the game, he was followed by King James I of Scotland in 1424. The Queens were not far behind, rather, had a more strict approach. Queen Elizabeth I of England, enacted laws that could sentence a football player to jail for a week followed by penancing in a church.

However, in spite of all their best efforts and intentions they could not stop the game. It was too popular among the masses and they loved the game.

The first approach to regularize and give a civilized form to this game was taken by the famous Eton College of England in 1815 when they established a set of rules for the games. These rules were accepted by the other schools, colleges and universities. Later, in 1848, these rules were further standardized and a new version was adopted by all the schools, college and universities. This new set of rules was known as the Cambridge Rules.

At this stage, there were actually two set of rules that were being followed in this game. Some organizations preferred to follow the rules of the Rugby School, that allowed tripping, kicking and carrying the ball, whereas the Cambridge rules prohibited all this methods.

In October, 1863, The Football Association was formed, when eleven London schools and clubs came together to establish a single set of rules to administer any football match that were to be played among them. On 8 December 1863, Association Football and Rugby Football finally split onto two different organizations.

In 1869, these rules were further amended to exclude any handling of the ball beyond the scope of acceptability and that created the foundation for the modern day sports mania—SOCCER !

Ray Smith, by profession a marketing expert is also an authentic source of sports information. A sports enthusiast and self-motivated researcher, he is always updated with the latest happenings in the sports world. Live scores, league tables, fixtures and updated statistics available at

### **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.

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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:

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

and



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