

Sports, Then And Now

You are being provided with a book chapter by chapter. I will request you to read the book for me after each chapter. After reading the chapter, 1. shorten the chapter to no less than 300 words and no more than 400 words. 2. Do not change the name, address, or any important nouns in the chapter. 3. Do not translate the original language. 4. Keep the same style as the original chapter, keep it consistent throughout the chapter. Your reply must comply with all four requirements, or it's invalid. I will provide the chapter now.

SPORTS, THEN AND NOW

? Football's rules were first codified in England in 1863 by the Football Association of England. It was shortened by many to "soccer" and an "er" was added to refer to those who play the game.

? Dragon boat racing was a popular sport in China 2,000 years ago. It involved teams paddling crew-style boats that were decorated with dragon heads. Today Dragon boat racing is carried out all over the world as a hobby sport.

? In the Canadian Football League, if the kicking team kicks or punts the ball into the end zone and the receiving team doesn't return it, the kicking team gets a "rogue," which is worth one point.

? American Thomas Hicks won the gold medal in the marathon at the 1904 Summer Olympics after taking brandy and strychnine. Apparently rat poison acts as stimulant!

? A vase from Hagia Triada, Crete, dated to about 1,550 BCE, depicts two men wrestling. The vase is important because it's one of the first classical depictions of wrestling.

? If an Australian Rules Football team has too many players on the field, they lose all the points they've scored until that point of time in the match.

? Hastilude was the term used in medieval Europe to refer to combat sports such as jousting. These athletic events were held in tournaments in celebration of royal weddings or other major events.

? Sepak Takraw is a unique sport that combines elements of volleyball and soccer, with players using their heads and legs to hit the ball over the net. The current version of the popular Asian game originated in Malaysia in the 1940s.

? Highland Games are held around the world to celebrate Scottish culture and Scottish sports. The caber toss, stone put, and hammer throw are the most popular events.

? In the International Federation of Football (FIFA) rules, the

goalkeeper is the only player on the field who can touch the ball with his/her hands and can only do so for six seconds.

? When the Major League Baseball (MLB) teams - the New York Giants and Brooklyn Dodgers left for California in 1957, the Big Apple was without a National League team until 1962.

? Basketball is now the second most popular sport in the world, with more than one billion followers. Basketball generates over \$4.75 billion in revenue in dozens of global leagues.

? Archaeologists have uncovered more than 6,000 ball courts in Mexico alone that the Maya and other pre-Columbian peoples of Mesoamerica used to play the "Ball Game."

? "Zorbing" is a "sport" that involves rolling downhill inside a plastic orb that looks like a hamster ball. It started in New Zealand in 1994.

? Soccer/Football is like a religion in Brazil, which is probably due in part to the country winning FIFA World Cups: in 1958, 1962, 1970, 1994, and 2002.

? Shin-kicking is a combat sport that began in England in the 1600s. It's performed just as the name indicates, which makes it no wonder why the "sport" has remained in England.

? When ancient Egyptian kings reached their 30-year jubilee, they would do a ritual run around the mortuary complex. The age of the king didn't matter, so luckily, they weren't timed!