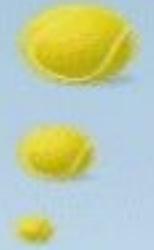




# Sport in the UK



The 2012 Summer Olympics were held in London

# Sports in the UK



# *THE BRITISH AND SPORT*

*The British are known to be sport-lovers, so when they are neither playing, nor watching games, they like to talk about them.*

*The English have a proverb, «All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.» They do not think that play is more important than work; they think that Jack will do his work better if he plays as well, so he is encouraged to do both.*



# Introduction

- Football is the most popular sport in the UK.
- Some of England's football teams are world famous, the most famous being Manchester United, Arsenal and Liverpool.
- Scotland, the home of golf has **football** as their major sport, The Welsh love their **rugby** more and Northern Ireland and Ireland share their love for **Gaelic football** and football.
- England's national sport is **cricket**.

# Football (Soccer)

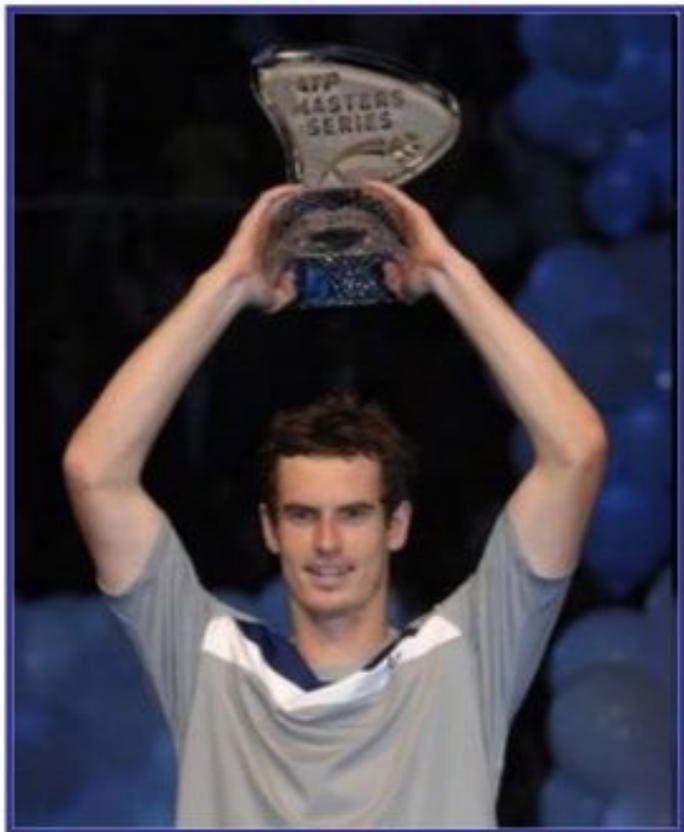
- In the English Football League there are 92 professional clubs.
- These are semi-professional, so most players have other full-time jobs.
- The highlight of the year is the FA (Football Association) Cup Final each May.
- The first unified rules for football were drawn up in Britain in 1846.

# Tennis

- It started at a small club in south London in the nineteenth century. It begins on the nearest Monday to June 22.
- It is traditional for visitors to eat strawberries and cream whilst they watch the tennis.
- Wimbledon is the oldest of all the major tennis tournaments beginning in 1877.

# Tennis

**Andy Murray**



**Fred Perry**



# Golf

- The game of Golf was invented in Scotland as early as the 15th Century.
- The first rules of the game were also laid down in 1744.
- There are over 400 golf courses in Scotland alone.
- The most important golf club in Scotland is in the seaside town of St. Andrews, near Dundee.

# Golf – Nick Faldo



# Horse racing

- Horseracing, the sport of Kings is a very popular sport with meetings being held every day throughout the year.
- The Grand National is the hardest horse race in the world. (Aintree near Liverpool)
- Ascot, a small town in the south of England, becomes the centre of horse-racing world for one week in June.
- It's called Royal Ascot because the Queen always goes to Ascot.

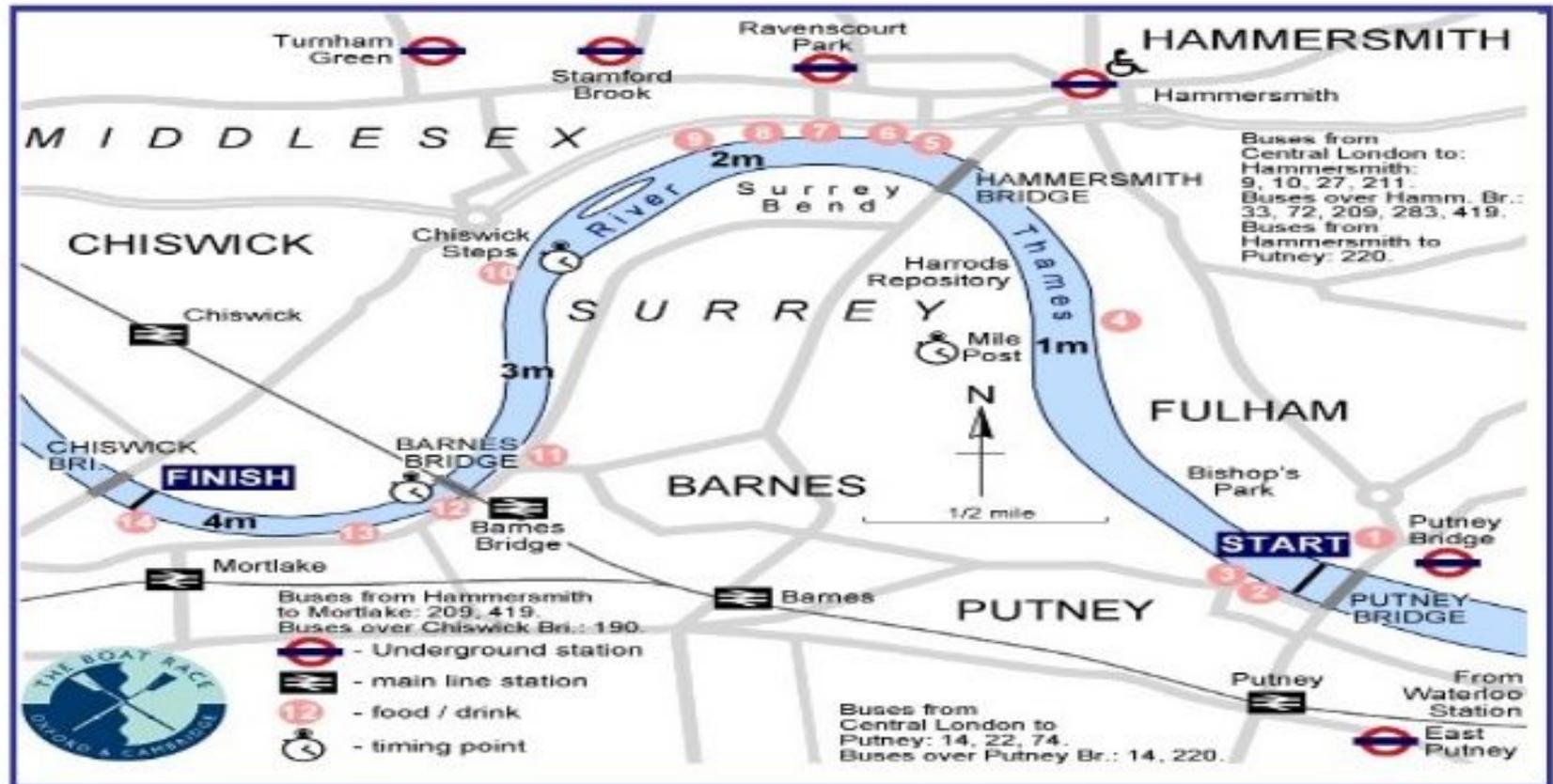
# Table Tennis (ping pong)

- **Table tennis was invented in England in 1880.**
- It began with Cambridge University students using cigar boxes and champagne corks.
- Although the game originated in England, British players don't have much luck in international championships.

# The Boat Race

- In the nineteenth century, students at Oxford and Cambridge, Britain's two oldest universities, were huge fans of rowing.
- In 1829, the two schools agreed to hold a race against each other for the first time on the Thames River.

# The Boat Race



# Rugby

- And as for rugby ... while playing football at Rugby School of England in 1823, William Webb Ellis picked up the ball in his hands and ran with it.
- This sparked an interest, leading to the creation of rugby.
- In 1871, the first Rugby Union was founded in London and firm rules of the game were established.

# Rugby



# *ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL*

*Many kinds of sport originated from Britain. Association football, or soccer is one of the most popular games in the British Isles played from late August until the beginning of May.*



# WEMBLEY

*Wembley is a stadium in north London where international football matches, the Cup Finals and other events have taken place since 1923. It can hold over 100,000 spectators.*

*The final of the football competition takes place every May here.*



# HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT SPORT IN BRITAIN?

1. Which sport do British people most enjoy watching on TV?

- A Cricket      B football      C swimming

2. Which sport do British people most enjoy taking part?

- A running      B swimming      C walking

3. What sport is played at Wimbledon?

- A tennis      B football      C cricket

4. Where is Wembley?

- A London      B Scotland      C Wales

5. What sport is played at Lord's in North London?

- A football      B cricket      C tennis

6. At what time of the year does Wimbledon take place?

- A Christmas      B autumn      C summer

7. How many people are there in a cricket team?

- A ten      B eleven      C eight

8. Which universities are in the boat race?

- A London and Oxford      B Edinburgh and London      C Oxford and Cambridge

9. Where did the 2002 Commonwealth games take place?

- A London      B Manchester      C Edinburgh

# ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON THE BRITISH AND SPORT

Give yourself 3 points for each correct answer:

**1B** Football. In 1998, 23.7 million people in the UK watched the World Cup game between England and Argentina.

**2C** Walking. This is popular with men and women.

**3A** Tennis. A tennis club was started at Wimbledon in 1868.

**4A** London. (North London)

**5B** Cricket. The 1999 World Cricket Cup was played at Lord's, and twelve countries took part. Around 476 800 people watched the games.

**6C** Summer – two weeks every June.

**7B** Eleven

**8C** Oxford and Cambridge. The Boat Race takes place every April on the River Thames in London.

**9B** Manchester.

# ***FAMOUS FOOTBALL CLUBS***

*There are plenty of professional and amateur soccer clubs all over Britain.*

*Some of the best known clubs are **Manchester United, Liverpool and the Arsenal**. In Scotland either Rangers, Celtic or Aberdeen usually win the cup or the championship.*