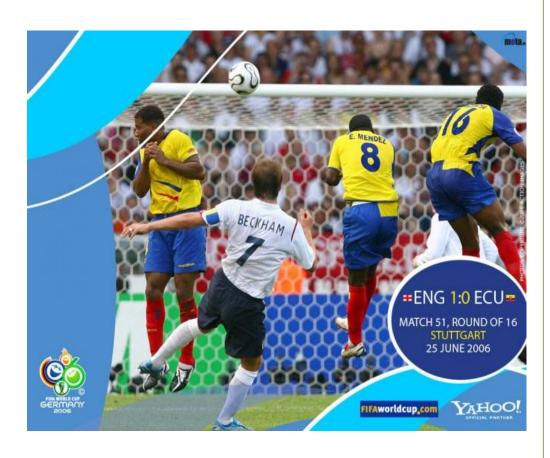


The British are the sport loving nation. Sport is a popular leisure activity.



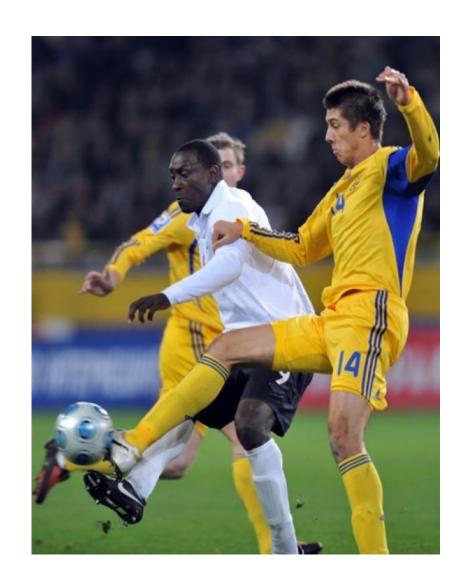
Football

Football is one of the oldest and the most popular sports in England. It has been played for hundreds of years. Since 1863 it has been played with proper rules. That year the Football Association (the FA) was started.



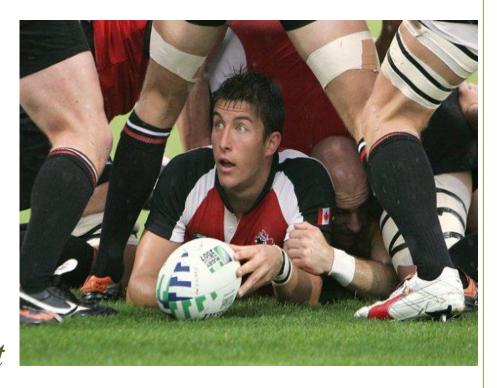
One of the main competitions of the football season is the FA Cup. It has been held every May at the famous Wembley stadium in London.





Rugby is a form of football but the ball is oval. It has an interesting and long story. It was started in 1823 and is played for almost 200 years. It has its own rules. The 15 players (Rugby Union) pass each other oval ball, trying to get it as close to a test area.

RUGBY



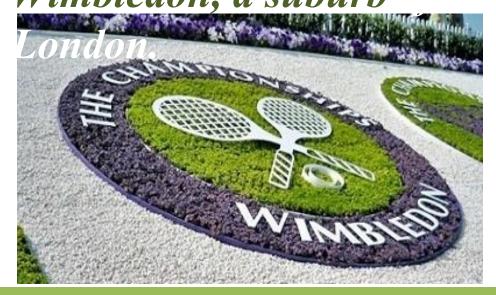
Rugby League is a different form of the game. There are 13 players and different rules.



 Капитан британско-ирландской команды «Lion» Пол О'Коннелл держит няч во вреня матча по регби против южно-африканской команды «Sharks» в Дурбане 10 июня. (STR/AFP/Getty Images)

Wimbledon tennis competition

Tennis is a very popular game in Britain. Every summer, in June, the biggest international tournament takes place at Wimbledon, a suburb





Golf

It is believed that the game of golf originated in Scotland and was invented by shepherds, who with the help of staff (the future of clubs) drives the stones into rabbit holes.





Royal Ascot Race

It is a four -day house- racing event held at Ascot, England each year in June. It is one of the most important racing occasions in Britain and is attended by members of the royal family.





House-racing, "the sport of Kings" is a very popular sport.

Sailing

Many British people who live near the sea, a lake or a river enjoy sailing. If you are really enthusiastic, and rich enough to buy your own boat, you can take part in one of the annual sailing races or regattas.



Cricket

Cricket is a typically British game. It is a very long summer game. The big international matches go on for 5 days. But in the real English way, the players always stop for tea.



