



TRANSCRIPT – SPORTS IN THE UK: THE VIDEO

Sports are very important in Great Britain. In fact, the British have a reputation for being mad about sports. They are a popular leisure time activity and Brits spend a lot of time not only playing sports but also watching sports on TV. Most towns have a lot of teams and sports installations to practice sport. It is no coincidence that many of the world's most popular sports came from Great Britain like: football, cricket, tennis, rugby and golf. Let's take a closer look at these sports.

Football

Football, also known as soccer, is by far the most popular sport in Great Britain. The first professional football teams began in the 19th century. Nowadays, the English Premier League is one of the best in the world and some of the best players are in the UK playing on teams like Chelsea, Arsenal, Liverpool, Manchester United or Manchester city among others. There is often a great rivalry between football clubs and their fans. But amateur football is also very popular and thousands of matches are played in local pitches all over Great Britain.

Cricket

Believe it or not, the next most popular spectator sport in Great Britain is cricket. It also originated there and is actually considered the national sport in England. Nowadays cricket is played in many countries all over the world, especially old British colonies that now form part of the Commonwealth (Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India, Pakistan etc.). Cricket in Great Britain is played from April to August in the village greens of many towns. Matches can last up to five days.

Tennis

Tennis also has its origins in Great Britain. The most prestigious tennis tournament in the world is Wimbledon, in the south of London, where people began playing tennis on grass in the 19th century. Millions of

people watch the tournament in June every year. It is traditional for people who attend the tournament to eat strawberries and cream while they watch the tennis matches.

Rugby

Another British sport that is also played all over the world is rugby. It is said that rugby began at Rugby school when a boy who was playing football decided to pick up the ball and run. For many years, rugby was only played by the upper classes and is actually considered a gentleman's game. There are two different types of professional rugby which are played in Great Britain and which have different rules: rugby union and rugby league. The most famous rugby tournament is the Six Nations Championship between England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, France and Italy.

Golf

Golf is a much older sport than the others. It began in the 15th century in Scotland. The most important golf club is in St. Andrews in Scotland and is considered the home of golf. Golf is played both socially and professionally and in Scotland there are over 400 golf courses. Every year the famous 'British Open' tournament takes place at a different golf course in Great Britain.