



Sport and leisure in Great Britain





The British and sport



Britain does not often produce sportsmen or sportswomen who are successful in world sporting championships, but it has been good at inventing sports and writing the rules of games. Golf was first played in Scotland in the fifteenth century and the most famous golf club, Saint Andrews in Scotland, is still the most respected authority on golf in the world.



Cricket



Cricket is a popular summer sport in England. It is not played much in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, but it is played in the Commonwealth countries of Australia, India, New Zealand, Pakistan and the West Indies. Every year there are Test Matches between all these countries. A Test Match can last for up to five days. Usually the Commonwealth countries play much better and faster cricket than England



Rugby

Rugby is a type of football. It is played with an oval ball and players can both kick or run with it. There are two types of rugby: in Rugby Union there are teams of 15 players, who are amateurs, and it is played by England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland (a joint team from both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland), France, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. There are regular matches between these countries. In Rugby League there are 13 players in a team, the players are all professionals and it is mostly played





Football crazy



Britain's national sport is football.

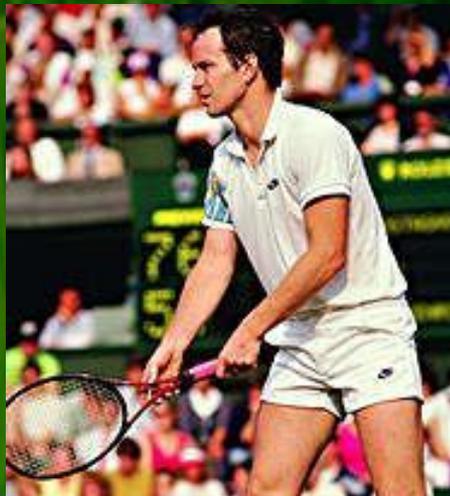
The 22 best English teams play in the Premier League, run by the Football Association (the FA). Liverpool is the most successful team and have won the most games and tournaments.

The most exciting games are often between teams from the same city: Manchester United and Manchester City. The highlight of the football season is the FA Cup Final at Wembley Stadium in London. The most successful FA Cup team is Tottenham Hotspur. They have won the cup eight





Tennis



People all over the world know Wimbledon as the centre of lawn tennis. The Wimbledon championship, in which the leading rackets of the world compete, is held annually in a southern suburb of London.

Tennis is played by both men and women either in exclusive tennis clubs or on public tennis courts.



Aerobics

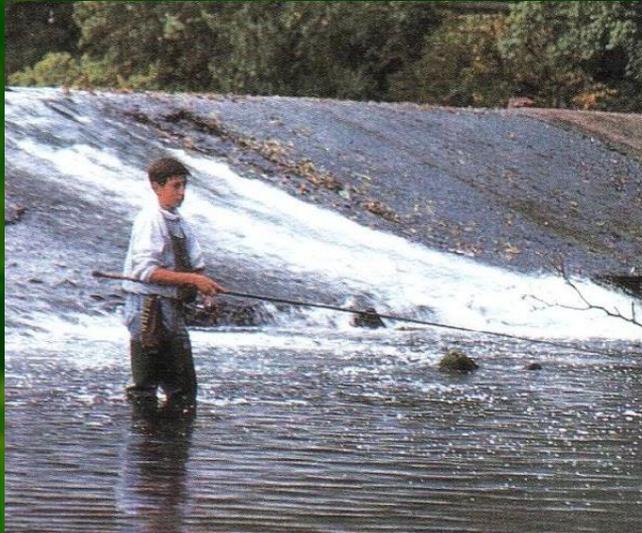
The majority of people live in towns and cities, where space for team sports is limited. To keep fit, most people take part in individual sports.



They usually go walking, swimming, cycling, or do aerobics. sports club. Taking part in all of these sports is informal and casual. Most people just want to relax. If they do aerobics or go swimming, they usually go to the sports centre, but not many people join a



Fishing



One of the most popular individual sports for men in Britain is fishing, also called angling. The most expensive type of fishing is for salmon and trout: these fish are only found in private rivers and

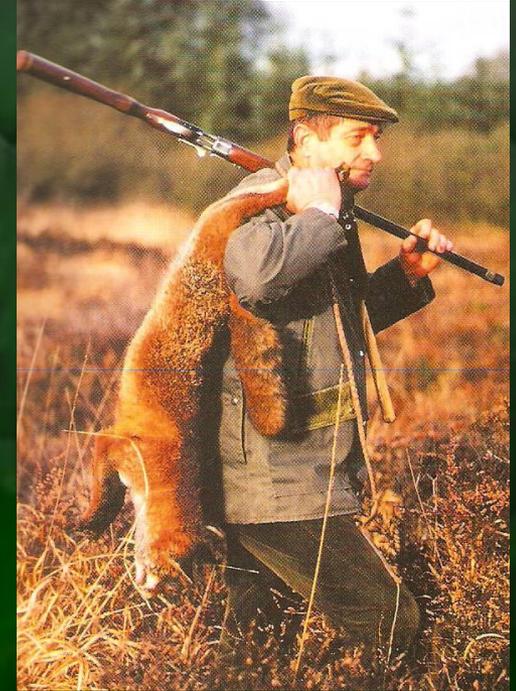
lakes. Nearly 4 million anglers in Britain wait hours beside canals, rivers and lakes to catch a fish. Then they weigh it and usually throw it back into the water again.



Foxhunting



The foxes in England are hunted three centuries. It is a traditional entertainment of the British aristocrats. From several hunters to several



ten persons take riding hunting with dogs was always popular in Europe including Russian hunting.

Ascot



Ascot is the most known hippodrome in the world which history goes back to the beginning of XVIII century. Annually in the middle of June

the horse racing is held here under the name Royal Ascot. It is not only a well known sport competition but also a significant event in high life.

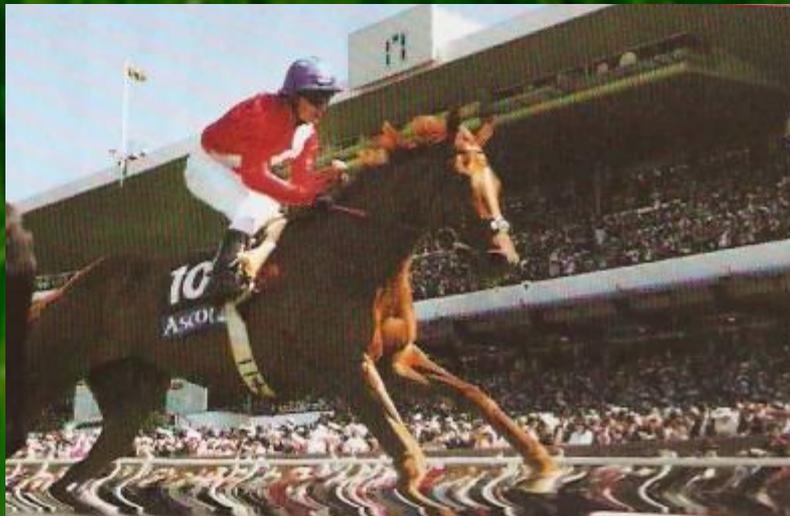




Ascot



300 thousand visitors from all over the world attend the hippodrome within several days. 15 horse racing are passed these days. The prize-winning fund makes from above 3,3 million Pounds.



Visitors can be present on secular actions with participation of members of royal family.

Horse racing always was one of the most favorite kinds of sports of royal family.



Polo is a royal sport

What is polo?

Basically, polo does not represent anything unusual. As well as in many other games, there are two teams which task is to hammer the greatest amount of balls between racks of a gate of the opponent.

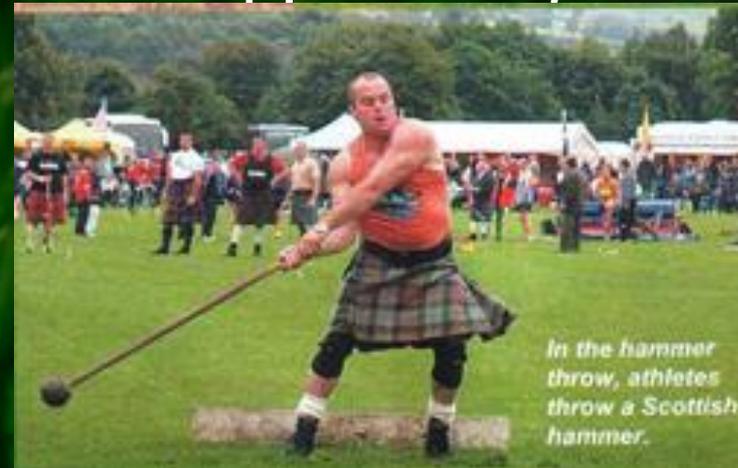
Unique makes game that circumstance that all players should be on horseback. Prince Charles plays polo with passion.





The Highland Games

All competitors wear Highland dress. There are such competitors as putting the weight, tossing the caber and others. The British are

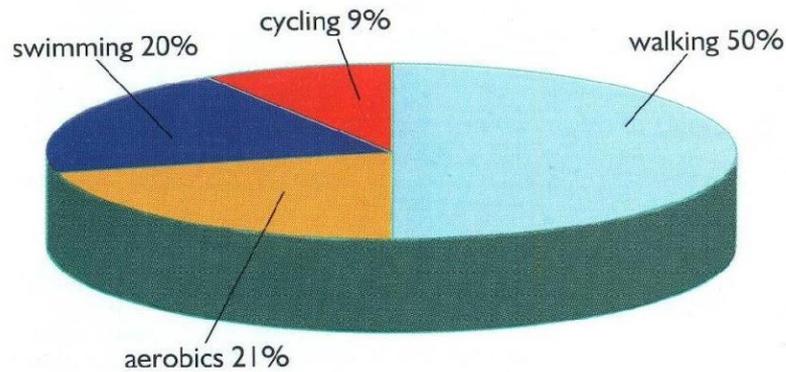




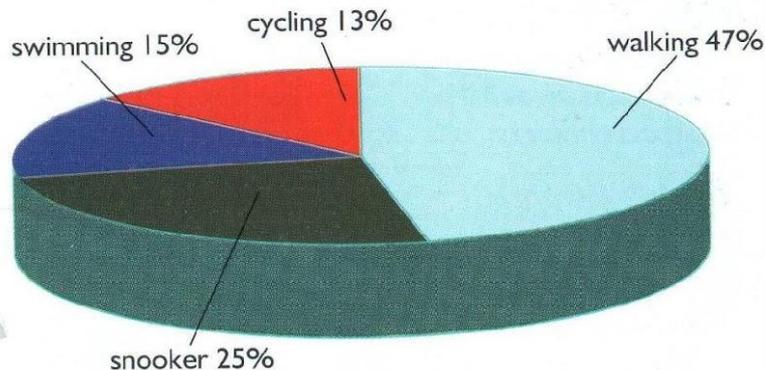
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British champions

MOST POPULAR SPORTS PLAYED BY WOMEN



MOST POPULAR SPORTS PLAYED BY MEN



- Britain has had seven World Champion motor car racing drivers.
- Chris Boardman won a gold medal for cycling at the 1992 Olympics. Graeme Obree broke the world record in 1993 by riding 52.27 kilometres in one hour.
- Sally Gunnell was the European, Commonwealth, World and Olympic 400 metre

Thank you for attention!