



SPORTS IN THE USA

SPORTS ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF AMERICAN CULTURE

The most popular sports in the USA are:

- **football** (outside the USA known as **American football**);
- **basketball**;
- **baseball**;
- **ice hockey**.



FOOTBALL



National Football League is a major professional football league in US.

It was founded on August 20th, 1920.

Contains 32 teams.

*Most recent champion: **Seattle Seahawks***

The most popular sport **in the USA.**

The most-played sport among high school and college athletes.

In Texas it is compared to a religion.

It manifests playing through pain and sacrificing for the better of the team.

Became rather popular outside the US, e.g. in Japan.

BASKETBALL



National Basketball Association is a major professional basketball league in US.

It was founded on June 6th, 1946.

Contains 30 teams.

Most recent champion:
San Antonio Spurs

The second-most popular team sport **in the world** (after soccer).

Played by more than 300 million people worldwide in an organized fashion.

Games might often have unpredictable finishes, that's why it's so popular.

BASEBALL



Major League Baseball is a major professional baseball league in US.

It was founded in 1869. Contains 30 teams.

*Most recent champion: **San Francisco Giants***

It is widely known as **America's pastime.**

The earliest known mention of baseball in US was in 1791 in Pittsfield, MA.

Baseball is played around the world, too.

ICE HOCKEY



National Hockey League is a major professional league in US.

Founded on January 1, 1917, in Montreal, QC, Canada.

Composed of 32 teams (25 from Canada, 23 from US).

Most recent champion: **Los Angeles Kings**

Originated in Canada, hockey became popular in US, too, but its popularity is lower than that of sports originated in US.

The **Stanley Cup** is the **oldest sports trophy** in the world.

Excellent performance of skaters and goaltenders, fast speeds and fights make hockey one the most spectacular games in the world.

TROPHIES

Larry O'Brien
Trophy (NBA)

Vince Lombardi
Trophy (NFL)



Commissioner's
Trophy (MLB)

Stanley Cup
(NHL)

RIVALRIES



Celtics–76ers rivalry (NBA).

- A **sports rivalry** is intense competition between athletic teams or athletes.
- This pressure of competition is felt by players, coaches, and management, but is **felt strongest by the fans**.

RIVALRIES

- Team **owners encourage rivalries** as they tend to improve game attendance and television ratings.
- A rivalry that gets out of control can lead to **fighting, hooliganism, rioting**, etc.
- Often the topic of sports rivalries is as heated and **controversial** as politics and religion.



Penguins–Flyers rivalry (NHL).

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

