

The Fifa World Cup

THE World Cup (The Golden Nike) was founded in 1930 by Frenchman Jules Rimet, the creator of the world championship games.

The cup was designed and made by a French sculptor, Abel Lafleur. Thirty cm in height, weighing 1,82 kg and made of pure gold, the sculpture depicted Nike of Samothrace (Winged Victory).

In 1950 the statue was named the Jules Rimet Cup after its founder. It was a trophy passed on to each winner and the team to win the tournament three times got to keep it (Brazil achieved this in 1970).

In 1983 the Cup was stolen and it has never been found. The tournament using Jules Rimet Cup was organized for a total of 9 times from 1930 to 1970. The tournament is being organized once in every four years.

The FIFA World Cup was founded in 1971. It was designed by Silvio Gazzanigi of Italy. Made of 18-carat gold and malachite, the cup is 36 cm tall and weighs 5 kg.

The sculpture depicts two triumphant football players holding a globe in their raised hands.

The trophy is passed on to each winning team that gets to keep an identical

(but gold-plated) replica.

The making of the statue cost about \$50,000, today its value is estimated to over \$10,000,000. The World Cup trophy that being used today has been staged for 8 times from 1974 until now.

First World Cup (Uruguay, 1930): At the 1929 FIFA congress, Uruguay was chosen to arrange the first ever World Cup to honor its achievements in sports.

Uruguay, the reigning Olympic Champions, was chosen ahead of a quartet of European countries including Italy and Spain.

Even though Uruguay offers to pay all team



World Cup match schedule

- Group 'A': Germany, Costa Rica, Poland, Ecuador.
- Group 'B': England, Paraguay, Trinidad & Tobago, Sweden.
- Group 'C': Argentina, Ivory Coast, Serbia & Montenegro, Netherlands.
- Group 'D': Mexico, Iran, Angola, Portugal.
- Group 'E': Italy, Ghana, United States, Czech Republic.
- Group 'F': Brazil, Croatia, Australia, Japan.
- Group 'G': France, Switzerland, South Korea, Togo.
- Group 'H': Spain, Ukraine, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia.

GROUP STAGE

Date	Match No	Venue	Teams	Kick-off time (GMT)
June 9	1	Munich	Germany v Costa Rica	1600
June 9	2	Gelsenkirchen	Poland v Ecuador	1900
June 10	3	Frankfurt	England v Paraguay	1300
June 10	4	Dortmund	Trinidad & Tobago v Sweden	1600
June 10	5	Hamburg	Argentina v Ivory Coast	1900
June 11	6	Leipzig	Serbia & Montenegro v Netherlands	1300
June 11	7	Nuremberg	Mexico v Iran	1600
June 11	8	Cologne	Angola v Portugal	1900
June 12	9	Kaiserslautern	Australia v Japan	1300
June 12	10	Gelsenkirchen	United States v Czech Republic	1600
June 12	11	Hanover	Italy v Ghana	1900
June 13	12	Frankfurt	South Korea v Togo	1300
June 13	13	Stuttgart	France v Switzerland	1600
June 13	14	Berlin	Brazil v Croatia	1900
June 14	15	Leipzig	Spain v Ukraine	1300
June 14	16	Munich	Tunisia v Saudi Arabia	1600
June 14	17	Dortmund	Germany v Poland	1900
June 15	18	Hamburg	Ecuador v Costa Rica	1300
June 15	19	Nuremberg	England v Trinidad & Tobago	1600
June 15	20	Berlin	Sweden v Paraguay	1900
June 16	21	Gelsenkirchen	Argentina v Serbia & Montenegro	1300
June 16	22	Stuttgart	Netherlands v Ivory Coast	1600
June 16	23	Hanover	Mexico v Angola	1900
June 17	24	Frankfurt	Portugal v Iran	1300
June 17	25	Cologne	Czech Republic v Ghana	1600
June 17	26	Kaiserslautern	Italy v USA	1900
June 18	27	Nuremberg	Japan v Croatia	1300
June 18	28	Munich	Brazil v Australia	1600
June 18	29	Leipzig	France v South Korea	1900
June 19	30	Dortmund	Togo v Switzerland	1300
June 19	31	Hamburg	Saudi Arabia v Ukraine	1600

June 19	32	Stuttgart	Spain v Tunisia	1900
June 20	33	Berlin	Germany v Ecuador	1400
June 20	34	Hanover	Costa Rica v Poland	1400
June 20	35	Kaiserslautern	Paraguay v Trinidad & Tobago	1900
June 20	36	Cologne	Sweden v England	1900
June 21	37	Leipzig	Iran v Angola	1400
June 21	38	Gelsenkirchen	Portugal v Mexico	1400
June 21	39	Frankfurt	Netherlands v Argentina	1900
June 21	40	Munich	Ivory Coast v Serbia & Montenegro	1900
June 22	41	Hamburg	Czech Republic v Italy	1400
June 22	42	Nuremberg	Ghana v USA	1400
June 22	43	Dortmund	Japan v Brazil	1900
June 22	44	Stuttgart	Croatia v Australia	1900
June 23	45	Berlin	Ukraine v Tunisia	1400
June 23	46	Kaiserslautern	Saudi Arabia v Spain	1400
June 23	47	Cologne	Togo v France	1900
June 23	48	Hanover	Switzerland v South Korea	1900

SECOND ROUND

June 24	49	Munich	Group 'A' winners v Group 'B' runners-up	1500
June 24	50	Leipzig	Group 'C' winners v Group 'D' runners-up	1900
June 25	51	Stuttgart	Group 'B' winners v Group 'A' runners-up	1500
June 25	52	Nuremberg	Group 'D' winners v Group 'C' runners-up	1900
June 26	53	Kaiserslautern	Group 'E' winners v Group 'F' runners-up	1500
June 26	54	Cologne	Group 'G' winners v Group 'H' runners-up	1900
June 27	55	Dortmund	Group 'F' winners v Group 'E' runners-up	1500
June 27	56	Hanover	Group 'H' winners v Group 'G' runners-up	1900

QUARTERFINALS

June 30	57	Berlin	Match 49 winners v Match 50 winners	1500
June 30	58	Hamburg	Match 53 winners v Match 54 winners	1900
July 1	59	Gelsenkirchen	Match 51 winners v Match 52 winners	1500
July 1	60	Frankfurt	Match 55 winners v Match 56 winners	1900

SEMIFINALS

July 4	61	Dortmund	Match 57 winners v Match 58 winners	1900
July 5	62	Munich	Match 59 winners v Match 60 winners	1900

THIRD PLACE

July 8	63	Stuttgart	Match 61 losers v Match 62 losers	1900
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FINAL

July 9	64	Berlin	Match 61 winners v Match 62 winners	1800
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up founded in 1971



expenses, only four European countries makes the three week trip to South America. The hosts build a fantastic stadium in Montevideo that can hold 95,000. The Stadium is finished five days after the World Cup has started!

The World Cup Championships were to receive what today is known as "The Jules Rimet trophy".

Second World Cup (Italy, 1934): Italy was the hosts for the 1934 World-Cup. Uruguay, who won the previous tournament in 1930, surprisingly did not participate. So immediately one of the main attractions was missing.

This was the first and last time the previous winners did not show up for the next championships. There was 16 teams took part in the tournament. Argentina and Brazil took part, but both with average teams.

Therefore the Europeans and especially were favorites for the title. With the fascist dictator Mussolini behind his team, everything was set up for Italy.

Players such as Orsi, Monti, and De Maria from Argentina were drafted into the Italian squad after it was found they had double nationalities.

The championships was no victory for football, but Mussolini and the Italians were pleased with the outcome.

Third World Cup (France, 1938): The World-Cup grew more and more, and in the third championships, there were 36 nations involved. Norway reached the finals for the first time. The last championships were won by the hosts, but that was to change. Again were Italy the winners. This tournament the football was played in a more mature and collective way, with more speed and technical play.

Three players stood out above others, Meazza, Ferrari and Fiola. The draw for the first round was done in Paris on March 5, 1938.

Fourth World Cup (Brazil, 1950): European teams from countries most affected by World War II (among others the Polish team) didn't enter the qualifiers. The silver medalists of the last championships, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Argentina didn't participate either. Most countries in the world used the years 1945-50 to rebuild their countries.

As Usual, Brazil was the biggest favorite of the tournament. Uruguay could not

be written off, they had won three championships in a row (OL-24, OL-28, VC-30), and had since not participated in following tournaments. The final between Brazil and Uruguay was played in front of amazing 203 000 people. Brazil had impressed everyone in the early stages and took the lead 1-0. Uruguay could hardly get out of their own half, but still managed to score 2 goals. One of the biggest upsets in football history.

Fifth World Cup (Switzerland, 1954): Wankdorf stadium in Bern, 4. July 1954: Hungary's magical "Magyars", who were undefeated in 31 games over 4 years, met West-Germany in the final of the 5th World-Cup.

Just two weeks ago, Hungary had defeated West-Germany by 8-3 in a group game. Unluckily, this time they lost 3-2 to the confusion of all football lovers.

This legendary team who many regard as one of the best ever never would become world champions. After the World-Cup they continued to win and win until thousands of Russian tanks rolled into Budapest in November 1956. The end of an era.

Sixth World Cup (Sweden, 1958): Garrincha, Didi, Gilmar, Zito and Pele were just some of Brazils stars in 1958, who rewrote the history books.

Hundreds of Swedish flooded to the Brazilian training ground to catch a glimpse of their ball control and technique. This championship would be the breakthrough for a 17 year old boy from Sao-Paulo, Pele.

This young man amazed the world with his skills and goals. In the final against the hosts, Brazil won 5-2 with Pele scoring 2 of the goals.

The semi final and final together he scored 5 goals! Arguably footballs biggest

star was born.

Seventh World Cup (Chile, 1962): It was expected that Peles Brazil would defend their title. They did, but to the most without Pele. After scoring in the opening match, he was injured and did not play the rest of the tournament. Brazil met Czechoslovakia in the final and won easily.

Even without Pele, Brazil was too strong for the rest of the football world. Teams such as England and West-Germany were in the process of building new teams. Whereas Argentina, Italy and Uruguay were mostly keen on fighting than playing football.

Eighth World Cup (England, 1966): England will win the World-Cup on home soil, said the English manager Alf Ramsey. The games founders had been in 4 previous tournaments, but with disappointment.

In 66 they started slowly with a draw against Uruguay, but slowly found form as the tournament went on. At last in this tournament, they stood as winners, and Ramsey a national hero. The victory was not only popular and deserved, but also controversial. The scoring that decided the final is still discussed to this day!!!

Ninth World Cup (Mexico, 1970): Many believe that the 1970 World-Cup was the best ever played, and inspired millions of kids to start playing.

It was a championship where different styles came against each other. As proved in the final where the passing and skillful Brazilians met the tactical and physical Italians.

Football won that day as Brazil won 4-1 playing some of the best football ever seen. Again Pele was inspirational along with Jairzinho, Gerson, Felix and Carlos Alberto.

They showed the world how football should be played. 1970 proved to be the farewell to who many regard as the greatest, Pele.