

Title:

Soccer 101

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The biggest sporting event in the world is about to begin and most in the USA are uninformed a

Welcome to Soccer 101. As the FIFA World Cup, the most popular and fervently followed sporting

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Article Body:

The biggest sporting event in the world is about to begin and most in the USA are uninformed a

Welcome to Soccer 101. As the FIFA World Cup, the most popular and fervently followed sporting

The word ^soccer~ is actually only used in the United States and Great Britain, where it has i

The earliest known game similar to soccer was played in China during the Ts'in Dynasty (255 BC)

A Native American legend depicts the game played on the beach with goals a mile apart and play

Now that you know a little bit of history of soccer, here is a quick look at the basic rules:

No Hands allowed - Only the goalie can use his hands in defense of the goal. This doesn't appl

Fouls - A player cannot hold, kick, trip, charge, jump at, strike, push, or spit at or on an o

Direct and Indirect Free Kicks ~ A direct kick is one by which you can score by kicking the ba

Throw-ins ~ When the ball goes out of bounds on the sidelines a throw-in is taken by the close

Goal Kicks / Corner Kicks - Corner kicks or goal kicks are taken when the ball leaves the field

Yellow and Red Cards ~ A yellow card is given as a warning, a red card is an ejection of a pla

Two-touch Rule ~ No player can touch the ball twice successively when putting the ball into pl

Penalty Kick ~ As a direct-kick foul, a penalty kick results from a contact infraction or hand

Offside ~ If a player is closer to the opponents goal than to the ball or ahead of the ball wi

To understand this better go to the FIFA Laws of the Game. Keep in mind that the FIFA Internat

The FIFA World Cup has held 17 tournaments. Oddly enough, there have been only seven different

The structure of the tournament can be one of the things to look closely at when trying to dec

The pools for the World Cup have been chosen and their seeding in descending order looks like

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 A: Germany is a very tough opponent, and they are on their home field, which makes them

The Underdogs: Trinidad-Tobago will pay big (~1000/1 to win), but can they make it past the fi

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