

Women's soccer





Women's soccer, although having a huge popularity in the last decades of the 20th century and today, was always shadowed by the men's soccer, but the ladies are determined to change this and come to equal standards with the boys.



LADY FOOTBALLERS AT ST. ANDREW'S.



Goalkeeper "sacked" by the ladies' goalkeeper, and (right) an incident in the game. The soldiers were handicapped by having their hands fastened behind them—all except the goalkeeper, who was allowed one hand free.



Ladies versus Soldiers in a "Soccer" match at Haslemere. Watching the spin of the coin—and (left) one of the ladies has just kicked a "header." The ladies won. The match took place in aid of the Red Cross funds.



A large crowd witnessed an interesting ladies' football match at St. Andrew's, Birmingham, yesterday. Lady Agnes de Trafford is shown kicking off, while the other incident is a stern tussle between a St. Helens back and a Stoke forward.

THE HISTORY OF FEMALE FOOTBALL

One of the biggest problems in the **history of women's soccer** was that the sport was often violent, especially when played without a clear set of rules. Even today, with all the rulings and fair-play agreements going around, soccer is still not a sport for the weak.



This often made it difficult for women to play, as men would “protect” them by not allowing them to get involved.





It changed in **1863**, when the English Football Association standardized a set of rules that prohibited violence on the pitch, making it easier for women to get into soccer.



With the dust settling after the Football Association's decision, **women's soccer became more and more popular** and at some point, it was closing in to reaching the same level as men's soccer in England.

Women's football has never really taken off, but those who've formed a modern-day female league hope to change that. Women have shown interest in playing football since the 1920s, and have had several false starts in forming and promoting female football leagues. The latest evolution began in 2000.



Gimmicks and Entertainment

Women started out playing as half-time entertainment for the men's football games in the mid **1920s**. After this short-lived stunt, women's football was relegated to sandlot status.

In the mid-1960s, a semi-pro tackle football league called the Women's Professional Football League was started as a gimmick by talent agent Sid Friedman.



Football in Poland





Football is the most popular sport in **Poland**. *Over 400,000* Poles play football regularly, with millions more playing occasionally. The first professional clubs were founded in the *early 1900s*, and the Polish national football team played its first international match in 1921.



There are hundreds of professional and amateur football teams in Poland; which are organized into the national 1st league, 2nd level, 2 regional 3rd levels, 8 regional 4th levels, 19 regional 5th leagues and a variety of other lower level leagues. Additionally, there are the Polish Cup and Polish Supercup competitions.

- The **Ekstraklasa** or **T-Mobile Ekstraklasa** (for sponsorship reasons) is a Polish professional league for association football clubs. At the top of the Polish football league system, it is the country's primary football competition.
- It is contested by **16 clubs**.
- The Ekstraklasa season starts in late July, and ends in May the following year, teams play a total of 30 games each.
- The Ekstraklasa (former I liga) was formed as *Liga Piłki Nożnej* on 1 March 1927 in Warsaw.
- The Polish Football Federation PZPN had been organized on 20 December 1919 in Warsaw, a year after the independence of Poland in 1918.
- The current champions are **Wisła Kraków**, who won their 14th title in 2010–11.





- The **Ekstraliga Kobiet** (**Polish** for Extra League Women) is the top level women's **football** league of Poland.
- The women's league started out to play a champion in 1979-80.
- The second highest league is *I. Liga Kobiet* (1. League women).
- Record champion is Czarni Sosnowiec with 12 titles. The following teams are **KS AZS Wrocław** (8 titles), Checz Gdynia (4 titles), Stilon Gorzów Wielkopolski (3 titles), Unia Raciborz (2 titles).



Club	2011 position
Unia Racibórz	1st
Medyk Konin	2nd
AZS Wrocław	3rd
AZS PSW Biała Podlaska	4th
Mitech Żywiec	5th
Gryf Szczecin	1st I Liga Polnocna
ZTKKF Stilon Gorzów Wielkopolski	2nd I Liga Polnocna
GKS Górnik Łęczna	1st I Liga Poludniowa
Czarni Sosnowiec	2nd I Liga Poludniowa
1. FC Katowice	3rd I Liga Poludniowa, Playoff winner

AZS PSW BIAŁA PODLASKA





The main event of 2012...

EURO 2012



On the 18th of April 2007 the President of UEFA, Michel Platini, announced that the hosts of the 2012 UEFA European Football Championship will be Poland and Ukraine. Both countries automatically qualify for the event and are preparing for the historic event.



Stadiums in Poland





GOOD LUCK POLAND!

43 days remain..



Thank you!

