

# Referat-angleščina (English)-Košarka (basketball)

## **The Game of Basketball**

Basketball is a very popular sport all around the world, particularly in the United States. There are ten players on each basketball team and maximum five of the players are on the court at the same time.

The object of the game is to score the most points by throwing the basketball through the hoop, also called a basket, scoring two points for each basket shot from the field. Three points are awarded for field goals made beyond a specified distance from the basket.

The sport is played on all levels such as schools, colleges, professional and other groups.

Basketball is a ball game between two teams of five players, played on both indoor and outdoor courts. Players move the ball by passing it or by dribbling it (bouncing it on the floor) while running.

In the US the standard court is 94-ft long and 54-ft wide, with a backboard at the center of each end of the court, with a metal hoop 10-ft from the floor attached to each backboard.

## **The History of basketball**

A game that started with 18 men in a YMCA gymnasium in Springfield, Mass., has grown into a game that more than 300 million people play worldwide. The man who created this instantly successful sport was Dr. James Naismith.

Under orders from the head of Physical Education at the School for Christian Workers, Naismith had 14 days to create an indoor game that would provide an "athletic distraction" for a rowdy class through the brutal New England winter. Naismith's invention didn't come easily. His first intention was to bring outdoor games indoors such as soccer and lacrosse. These games proved too physical and cumbersome.

After brainstorming some new ideas, Naismith developed basketball's original 13 rules and consequently, the game of basketball. The new game was played with a soccer ball, peach baskets and nine to a side. This first contest is believed to have been played Dec. 21, 1891.

But perhaps what is most amazing about Naismith's creation, other than the fact that few sports that are purposely invented actually stand the test of time, is that the essence of basketball-throwing a ball into an elevated goal-has remained the focus from day one.

Today, Naismith would be universally recognized as a genius, a Bill Gates of sport. And in all likelihood, the opportunity would exist for him to become a multi-millionaire.

But if Naismith was The Basketball Man, he was not The Money Man, and life in 1891 was far different than now.

## **Basketball of Today**

Around the world millions of people play basketball, and many of them have basketball rims on their driveways and in their neighborhood parks.

Basketball is used for means of physical activity just as well as for a stress reliever. Many kids in the United States and across the World have the dream of being a professional basketball player. Every kid look up to and wants to be like the players Michael Jordan or whoever they're star is. They practice religiously in hopes of becoming the best. Basketball has provided much more than a game that is watched and played. It has given many young people and children a hope and dream.

Today, the professional league in America is the NBA (National Basketball Association), formed in 1949. The NBA is more than basketball it is also a multi-million dollars industry.

In the Summer Olympic Games basketball has been on the program since 1936.

## **Women's Basketball**

Basketball was incredibly popular among women in the early 1900s.

But in 1923 the first lady, Mrs. Herbert Hoover was SHOCKED that young women athletes were playing in front of male audiences??!! SCANDALOUS! The practice was stopped.

Soon after states began to close women's sports programs. It was believed that women were too dainty for vigorous physical activity!

In 1970-71 294,000 girls played high school sports. In 1976-77 that number increased to 1,645,000. This day and age anyone can play sports, from short and petite to large plus size women. Today over 13.5 million females play basketball!

And maybe the best basketball? The WNBA. There are 12 teams in the WNBA. The Minnesota Lynx and the Orlando Miracle are the newest teams. The WNBA's been around for 3 years. There was once another league, the ABL, but in December 1998, they checked out. They also use a different ball. It's one size smaller than the NBA's ball, and distinctively striped in orange and white.

Here are some NBA teams:

Phoenix Suns, Miami Heat, Chicago Bulls, New York Knicks, Los Angeles Lakers, Washington Wizards and more,...

Here are some NBA players:

Radmanovic, Vladimir

O'Neal, Shaquille

Nesterovic, Rasho

Anthony, Carmelo

Vujacic, Sasha

Here are some Slovenian teams:

Helios

Zlatorog

Geoplin Slovan

Krka

Alpos

Šentjur Zagorje

Triglav

Union Olimpija

And here are some Slovenian players:

Sani Bečirovič Saša Dončić Nebojša Joksimović Marko Milič Jure Močnik

Rašo Nesterović Sašo Ožbolt Aleksandar Vujačić

Basketball is the great game and like the McGrady say I love this game.

