

Football timeline

1866 The offside law is changed to allow players to be onside provided there are three players between the ball and the goal line.

1869 Goal kicks introduced.

1872 Corner kicks introduced.

1875 The crossbar replaces a tape.

1878 Referee's whistle used for the first time.

1891 Penalty kick and goal net introduced.

1925 Amendment of the offside rule from three to two players.


Aston Villa play Blackburn Rovers in 1910

1970 The system of red and yellow cards is introduced for the 1970 FIFA World Cup finals.

1990s Many laws designed to promote attacking football are introduced. The offside law is changed in favour of the attacker, who is now onside if level with the penultimate defender.

1992 Goalkeepers are forbidden from handling back passes.

1996 Linesmen are renamed assistant referees.





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Laws

1860 1870 1880 1890 1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010

Important events

1863 The Football Association is formed in London.

March 1872 The first FA Cup final is played.

November 1872 Scotland and England play the first international soccer fixture.

1885 The FA legalises professionalism.

1904 FIFA is formed in Paris.

1923 Wembley hosts its first FA Cup final.

1950 England enters its first FIFA World Cup.



1966 England hosts and wins the FIFA World Cup.

1992 Premier League established.

1996 England hosts the UEFA European Championships.

2010 England's bid to host the 2018 FIFA World Cup fails.

The FA Cup final was first held in 1872. In the most recent competition, Wigan Athletic beat Manchester City to lift the trophy

Test your understanding

Identify which of the following events occurred in the nineteenth century and which in the twentieth century:

- Cambridge University rules
- Sheffield FC founded/Sheffield rules created
- Football Association founded
- First international football match arranged by the FA
- FA Challenge Cup created
- Football League founded
- First FA Cup final at Wembley

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