



## **Influence of Public Schools – Rationalisation and Regulation**

# Public schools pre-sport

- » Despite being the same public schools that we have today, before the mid 1800s these schools had no real interest in their pupils' welfare, or in playing sports.
- » Behavioural standards were appalling and reputations of the schools were awful.
- » During the Industrial Revolution, things began to happen which changed all that.



# Link between Industrial Revolution and Public Schools...

» Social mobility

» Transport

» Capitalism



# Big changes...

- » Many of the key changes took place at Rugby School in Warwickshire. Although other similar changes began to follow in other schools, we have a lot of information about Rugby School.
- » From 1828 to 1842 a man called Dr Thomas Arnold became Headmaster of Rugby School.
- » Thomas Arnold had very strong beliefs about religion and education, and brought them together to change the British education system. >

# Sport as social control

- » Thomas Arnold introduced the Prefect system to the school, where order and discipline was maintained by the older boys.
- » He also realised that the boys needed to do something constructive with their free time.
- » Sport seemed ideal as it also had a number of educational values.
- » PE and Games began to be used to allow the boys time to let out their energy and aggression, rather than messing around.



# Prefects and 'Fagging'

- » Fagging was a traditional practice in British Public Schools, where younger pupils were required to act as personal servants to the most senior boys.
- » Senior pupils were given power over, and responsibility for the behaviour of younger boys. This created a progressive social structure in the house, while teaching both groups how service worked.



# Prefects and 'Fagging' 2

- » Until around 1900 a fag's duties included blacking boots, brushing clothes and cooking breakfasts, and there was no limit to hours.
- » It is now believed to be obsolete in Great Britain.
- » Nevertheless, official or unofficial relics of fagging are still quite common in some of the leading British public schools.
- » Many rites of passage and initiations come from the idea of fagging.



# Muscular Christianity

- » The changes beginning to happen in many schools were also linked to religion.
- » It was felt that sport could prepare the boys for adult life, and lead them to be individuals who would be respectable and upstanding members of society.
- » What lessons can sport teach us that are useful in life?



# How did the public schools change sport?

- » Discipline. The schools now began to be run with absolute discipline and corporal punishment, this transferred to the sports field, with the ideas of fair play and respect for authority.
- » Rationalisation. The boys at these schools came from all over the country, bringing their rules with them. In order for a fair game to be played, rules had to be agreed before playing.



# Wider links to modern sport

» Similar to traditional sports, almost all of the issues and features present in modern sport can be traced back to the effect of public schools.

- » Initiations.
- » Changing people's lives.
- » Kit.



# Universities and...

- » The boys from Public Schools then had even more of an effect.
- » A large number of them went on to be educated at the largest and most influential universities, such as Oxford and Cambridge, meaning that an even more organised form of sport and sport culture emerged there.



# ...Careers

- » Many of these young graduates then went into careers such as doctors, vicars, soldiers or teachers.
- » Doctors and vicars were important members of society, and so often set up sports clubs to help the poorer members of their village or town.
- » Teachers spread around the country, passing on their sports and values to the younger generation.



# Empire

- » Soldiers played a huge role in the spread of sport around the globe.
- » Many Oxford and Cambridge educated men went into the army as Officers, and travelled the world.
- » Everywhere they went, they took their sports with them.
- » They introduced the other soldiers (normal, working class men) to them.
- » They also introduced the indigenous population to them.





# The British Empire



**Territories in  
North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australasia**



# Empire 2

- » The role of the British Army and Empire in the spread of sport cannot be underestimated.
- » Commonwealth.
- » Explains historical development of some sports in comparison to others.



# Sport Specific - Football

- » In 1848 a set of rules were made at a meeting at Cambridge University called the 'Cambridge Rules'.
- » The meeting was attended by representatives from Eton, Harrow, Rugby, Winchester and Shrewsbury Schools.
- » A revised set of the Cambridge Rules was made in 1863, with similar representatives.
- » Later in 1863 a meeting of clubs in London ended in the forming of the FA.



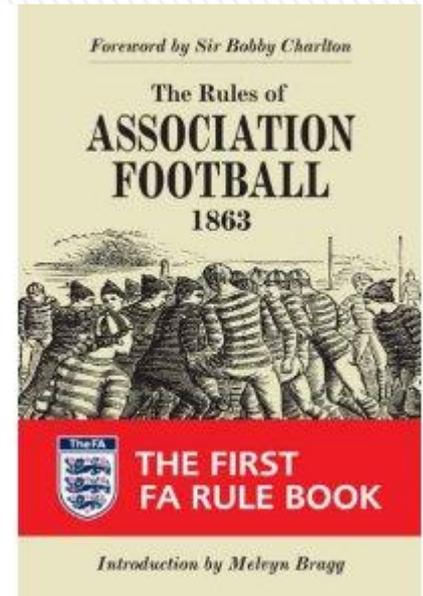
# FA Rules vs Cambridge Rules

- » The original FA rules included these 2:
- » IX. A player shall be entitled to run with the ball towards his adversaries' goal if he makes a fair catch, or catches the ball on the first bound; but in case of a fair catch, if he makes his mark he shall not run. Catch and mark.
- » X. If any player shall run with the ball towards his adversaries' goal, any player on the opposite side shall be at liberty to charge, hold, trip or hack him, or to wrest the ball from him, but no player shall be held and hacked at the same time. Tackling.



# FA Rules vs Cambridge Rules 2

- » This demonstrates the big difference in the football codes between carrying and kicking games.
- » Later in 1863 there was another meeting, and the FA agreed to drop the previous 2 rules and base them much more on the Cambridge Rules.
- » These remain very similar to the ones used today.



# Sport Specific - Rugby

- » The idea that William Webb-Ellis, a school boy at Rugby School, was playing football and decided to pick the ball up and start running with it, is a MYTH.
- » Many schools and areas had their own forms of ball carrying games, which were similar to the modern sport of rugby.
- » However, the rules of rugby were first codified at Rugby School in 1845.
- » Webb-Ellis attended between 1816 and 1825, when ball carrying games had already been played for a long time, but had no official rules yet.



# Sport Specific – Rugby 2

- » After the FA removed the ball carrying and tackling rules from their official rules, some ‘football’ clubs who still wanted to play with these rules, left the FA.
- » In 1870 the clubs that still played the carrying code met to organise their own association. Clubs present at this included: Harlequins and Richmond. A representative from Wasps was invited, but got lost, drunk and never made it.
- » As a result of this meeting, the RFU was founded.



# RFC

- » This explains why many rugby clubs maintain the word 'football' in their title, (Loughborough Rugby Football Club).
- » Originally, soccer and rugby union were both forms of the game 'football', and were called 'Association Football' or 'Rugby Football'.



# Rugby and Empire

- » In Australia, Rugby was introduced by the army, where visiting ships crews would play the resident army and locals. The first formal RFC in Australia was set up in 1864, Sydney University Club.
- » In New Zealand the game was introduced in 1870, by a New Zealander who had gone to England to be educated at a London Public School. By the mid 1870s most of New Zealand had taken up the sport.



# Rugby and Empire 2

- » In South Africa an Englishman became Headmaster of a Religious school in Cape Town in 1861 and introduced rugby, which he had learned at his school. By 1883 rugby had been adopted all over South Africa.
- » In Canada rugby can be tracked back to British settlers in the 1820s. In 1864 there was the first recorded game in Canada, between army sections.



# Sport Specific – Cricket

- » India (which was eventually broken up to become India, Pakistan and Bangladesh) was colonised from 1612 onwards, and the East India Company (a British Trading Company) introduced cricket at this time.



# Sport Specific – Cricket

- » Cricket was introduced to North America in the 1600s by British Colonists.
- » The West Indies began to be colonised in the 1670s, and cricket was introduced straight away.
- » Cricket was introduced to Australia almost as soon as it was colonised in 1788.
- » New Zealand and South Africa were both colonised in the early 1800s and cricket followed soon after.



# Key Points

- » Public Schools acted as a 'melting pot' where different versions of sports were brought together.
- » Sport was used as a means of making students be responsible and disciplined, so rules needed to be organised.
- » Boys went to schools, universities and then into careers which spread sport around the country and world.
- » Many of the concepts and features of modern sport can be seen in their roots in public schools. 