

Sports and Games



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1100 Archery competition is a common pastime in the Middle Ages. Archery skill is so important that English kings ban football because it takes men away from archery practice.



The Stock Market

1377 Europeans use engraved wooden blocks to print playing cards, one of the first uses of printing in Europe. Playing cards come to Europe from the Middle East during the Crusades.

1552 Golf is a popular sport in Scotland. In 1552, Saint Andrews is a favorite place for golfing. Mary, Queen of Scots is reportedly the first woman golfer and helps spread golf's popularity in Europe.

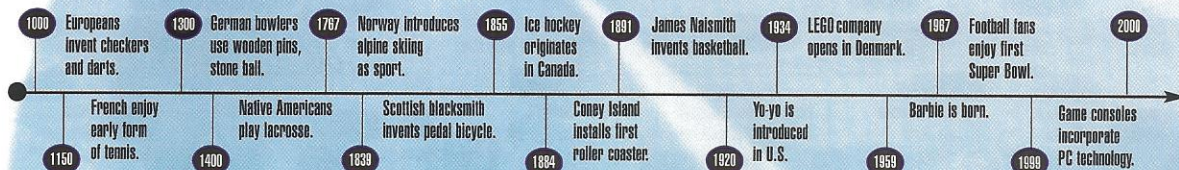


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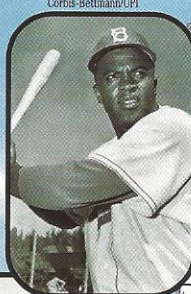
1800 Soccer is first played in America, using a sheep's bladder as a ball. As the millennium closes, millions of American youth play in organized soccer leagues. In 1999, the U.S. women's soccer team wins the World Cup.



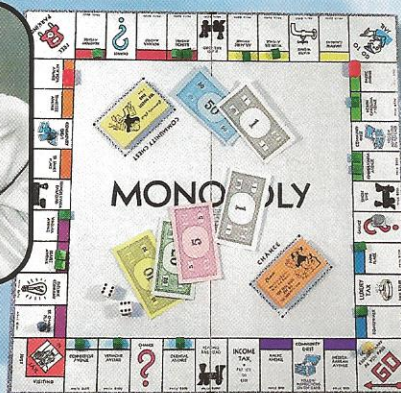
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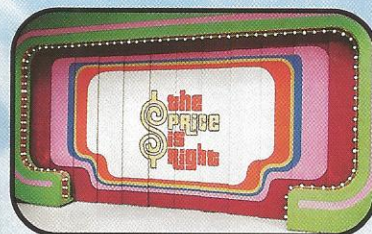
1846 Baseball is first played as an organized sport at Hoboken, N.J., when the New York Club defeats the Knickerbocker Baseball Club on June 19. More than 100 years later, Jackie Robinson breaks the color barrier in major league baseball in 1947.



Corbis-Bettmann/UPI

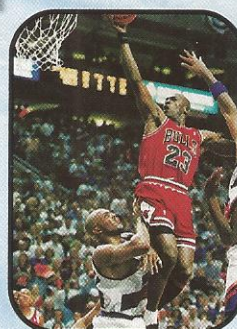


1932 Parker Brothers introduces Monopoly, which becomes one of the world's most successful board games. By the late 1990s, the popular game is available on interactive CD.



Tony Esparza/CBS/Entertainment Communications

1959 Game shows become widely popular TV fare in the 1950s. One of the top 10 shows of 1959, NBC's "The Price Is Right," still draws large audiences in 1999 on CBS, where it is the longest-running game show in television history.



Reuters/Corbis-Bettmann

1998 Michael Jordan, considered by many to be basketball's greatest player, retires from the NBA. His talents lead the Chicago Bulls to six NBA championships in the 1990s.

1896 Athens, Greece, hosts the first modern Olympics. Winter Games are not held until 1924. At the 1998 Winter Olympics, American figure skaters Tara Lipinski and Michelle Kwan win the gold and silver medals respectively, and China's Lu Chen wins the bronze.

2000

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