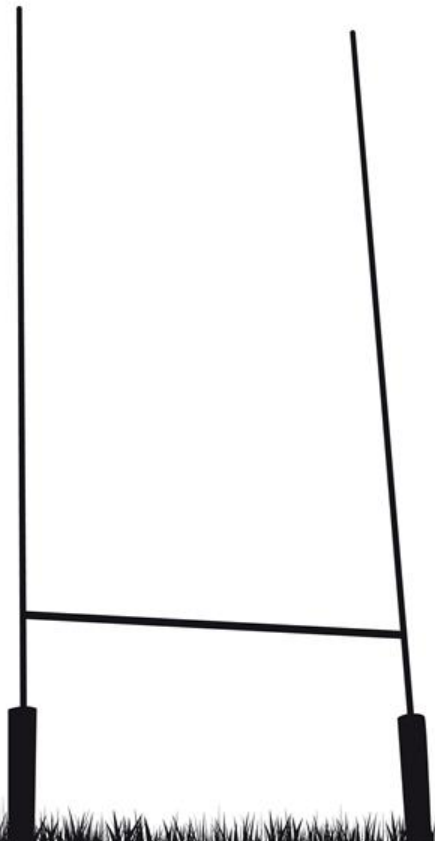
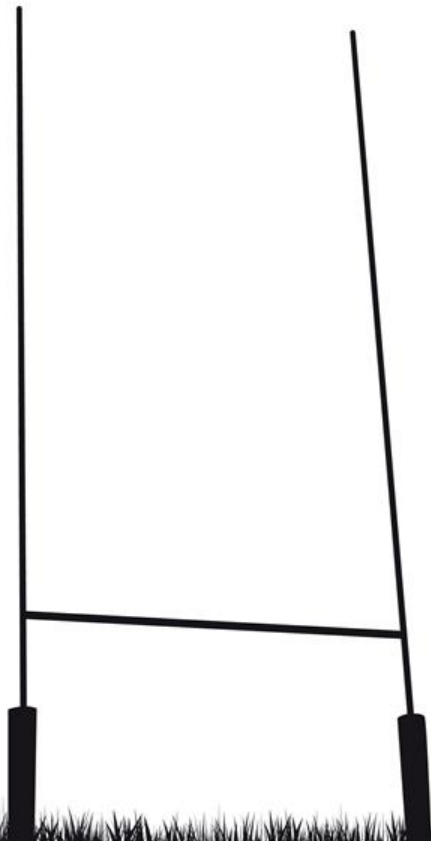


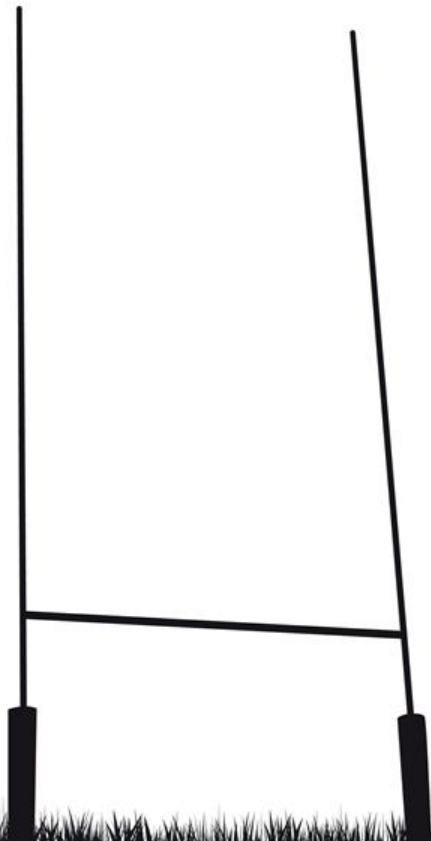
HISTORY OF RUGBY



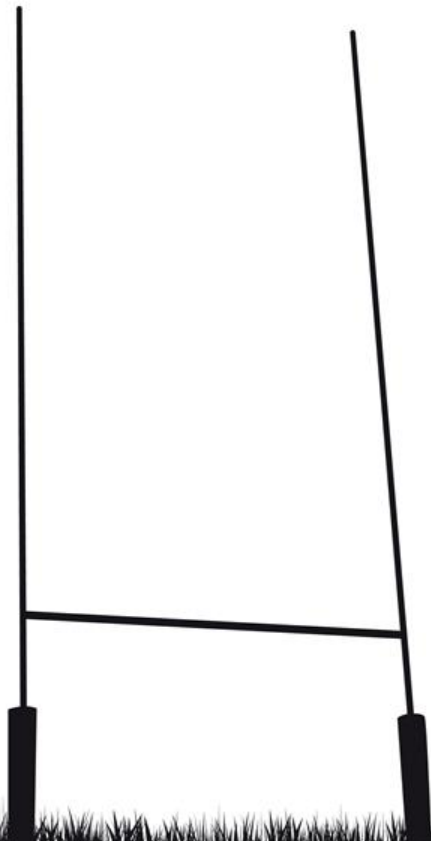
Rugby is a team game played with an oval ball on a pitch 68.62m wide and 100m long.



The sport was developed in 1823 from soccer when William Webb Ellis of Rugby school in England picked up the ball and ran with it.



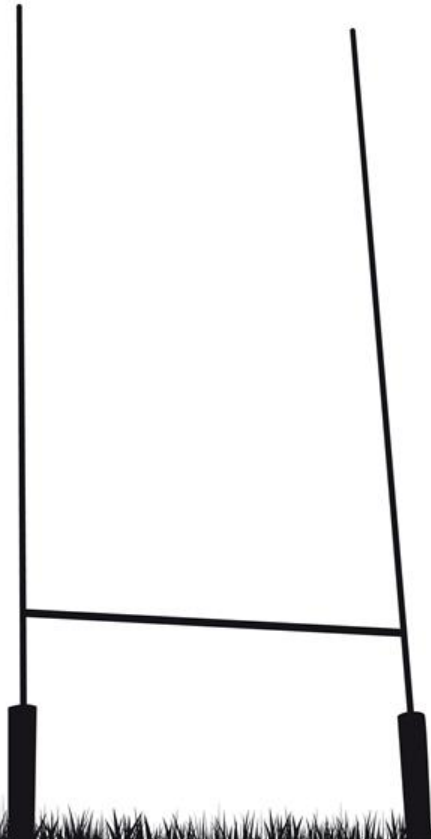
The sport became popular very quickly but initially teams could play with any number of players and there were few rules.



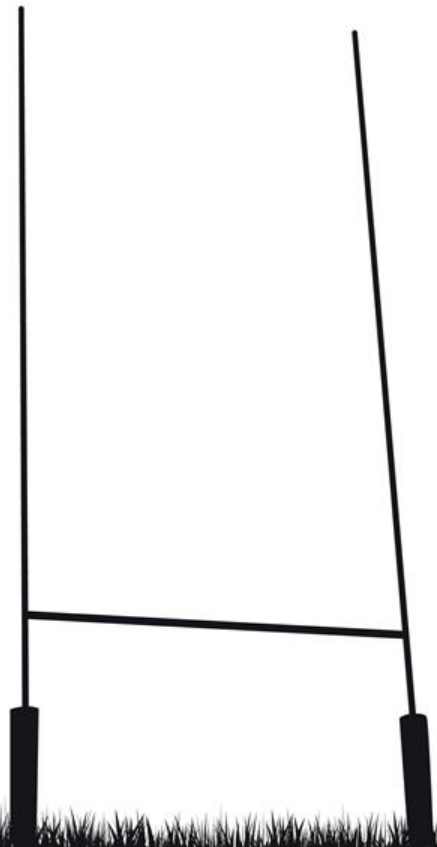
History of Rugby

4

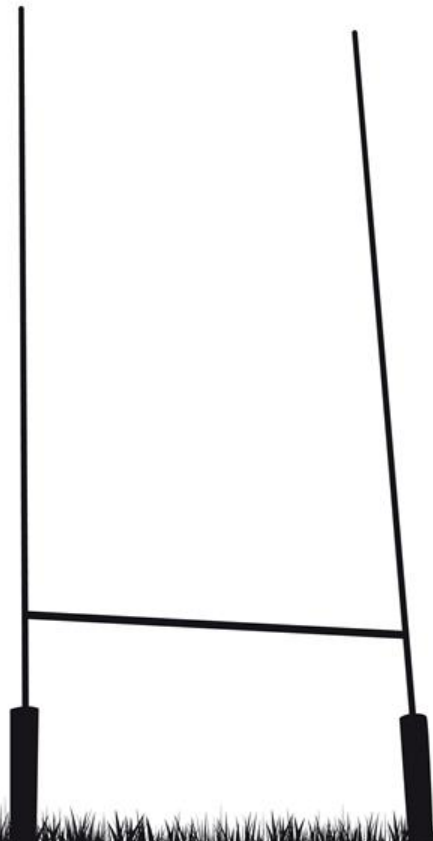
A Conference of rugby clubs was held in 1871 and they formed the English Rugby Union. The Conference established new rules including setting the number of players on a team to 15.



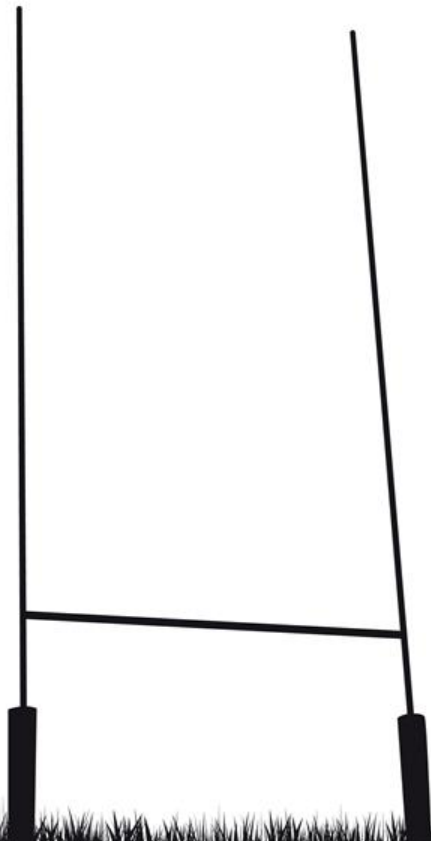
Scotland formed its Rugby Union in 1873 and Ireland formed a Rugby Union in 1874. The Welsh Rugby Union was formed in 1881.



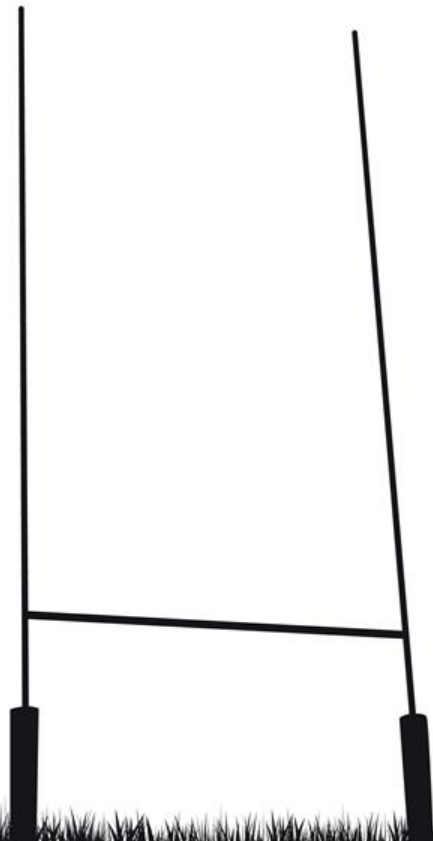
Rugby played at the World Cup is sometimes known as Rugby Union, to distinguish it from Rugby League.



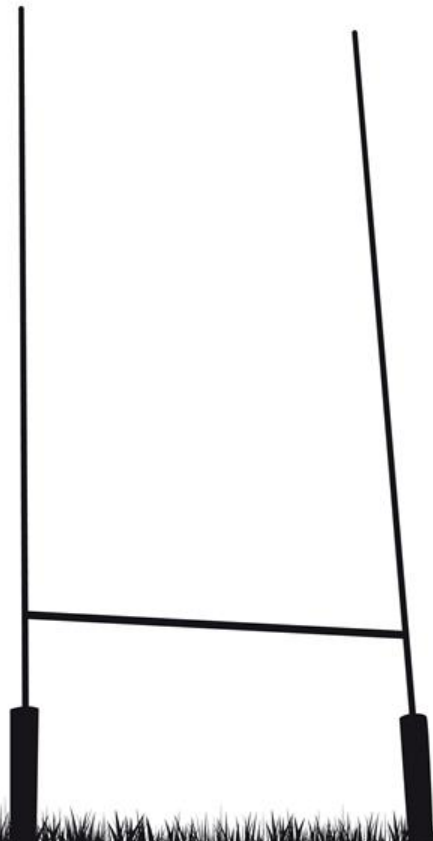
Rugby League was formed by the breakaway Northern Union after a dispute with the Rugby Football Union about pay in 1895.



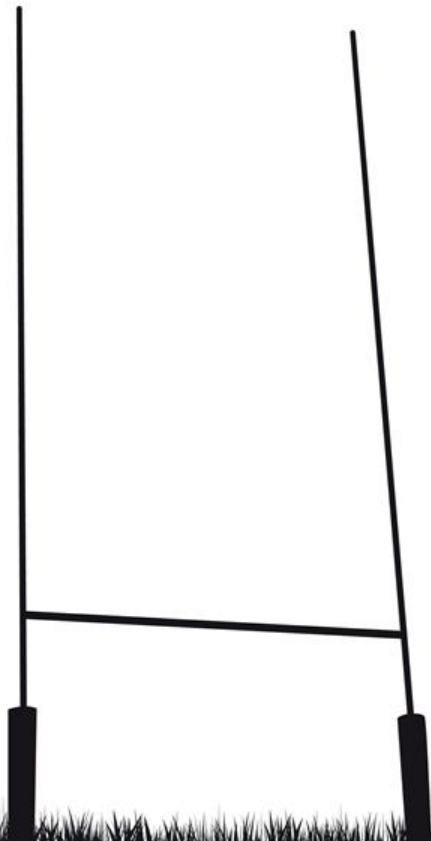
Rugby Union and Rugby League are similar, although there are some rule differences, especially in points gained for scores.



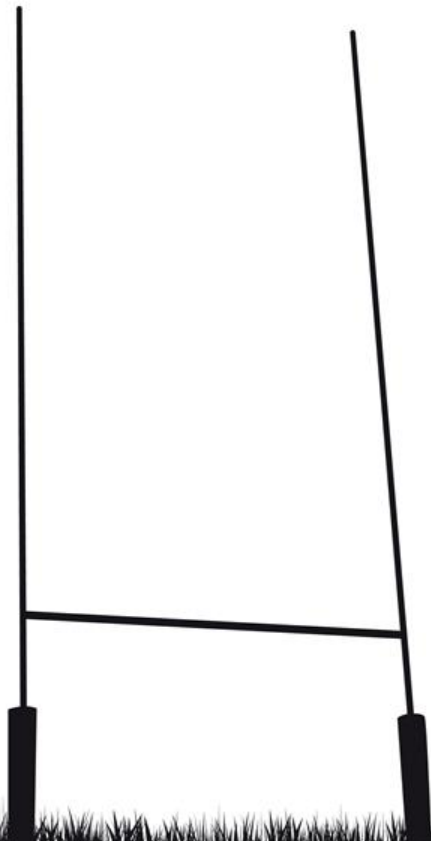
Both Rugby Union and Rugby League are now professional sports meaning players are paid to play for their club teams.



Rugby is now played by men, women and children in more than 90 countries throughout the world.



Tag Rugby, a form of non-contact rugby where players wear Velcro tags attached to their shorts, has become an increasingly popular way for lots of people to enjoy the sport of rugby.



Resources used in this file from:



Information sourced from:

- Kennedy, B 2019, 'Rugby football' , *World Book Student*, World Book, Chicago, viewed 1 August 2019, <https://www.worldbookonline.com/student-new/#/article/home/ar478360>
- The Chambers Encyclopaedia