

# **British football and football players**

# British football

- Football is undoubtedly the most popular sport in England, and has been played for hundreds of years.
- In the English Football League there are 92 professional clubs. These are semi-professional, so most players have other full-time jobs. Hundreds of thousands of people also play football in parks and playgrounds just for fun.
- The highlight of the English football year is the FA (Football Association) Cup Final each May.

# British football

- The England National football team represents the country of England in international association football.
- England was one of the teams which competed in the 1<sup>st</sup> ever international association football match on 30 November 1872.

**The first set of laws of the game of football, or soccer as it is known in the US, date from the formation of The Football Association in England in 1863.**

# Popular football players nowadays

- **David Beckham**

Currently plays for French Ligue 1 club Paris Saint-Germain. He has played for Manchester United, Preston North End, Real Madrid, Milan, Los Angeles Galaxy and the England national team for which he holds the appearance record for an outfield player.



David Robert Joseph Beckham was born on 2 May 1975 in London. In international football, Beckham made his England debut on 1 September 1996, at the age of 21. He was captain for six years during which he played 58 times. He has 115 career appearances to date.

On 4 July 1999, David and Victoria Adams married at Luttrellstown Castle in Ireland. Nowadays the couple has 3 sons and a daughter.

In addition to football, David Beckham acts in commercials and various magazines about fashion. David Beckham also produces his own perfume and clothing line.





- **Wayne Rooney**

is an English footballer who plays as a forward for [Premier League](#) club [Manchester United](#) and the England National Team.





**Wayne Mark Rooney** was born on 24 October 1985 in Liverpool. Aged nine, Rooney joined the youth team of Everton, for whom he made his professional debut in 2002. Rooney met his wife Coleen Rooney while both were at secondary school. They married on 12 June 2008 after six years of dating. Today they have one child.





- **Steven Gerrard**

is an English footballer who plays for and captains both [Premier League](#) club [Liverpool](#) and the [England national team](#). He made his début in 1998 and cemented his place in the first team in 2000.



Gerrard was born on 30 May 1980. He and his wife, fashion journalist Alex Curran, married in a Catholic ceremony on 16 June 2007. They have 2 children.





