



# Soccernomics: Why England Loses, Why Spain, Germany, and Brazil Win, and Why the U.S., Japan, Australia—and Even Iraq—are Destined to Become the Kings of the World's Most Popular Sport

By Simon Kuper, Stefan Szymanski

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Named one of the “Best Books of the Year” by Guardian, Slate, Financial Times, Independent (UK), and Bloomberg News

*Soccernomics* pioneers a new way of looking at soccer through meticulous, empirical analysis and incisive, witty commentary. The San Francisco Chronicle describes it as “the most intelligent book ever written about soccer.” This World Cup edition features new material, including a provocative examination of how soccer clubs might actually start making profits, why that’s undesirable, and how soccer’s never had it so good.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

“Many explanations [of England's poor form] can be found in the book *Soccernomics* in a segment entitled “Why England Loses.” (This is well worth a read for any English football fan; essentially, you overvalue your football heritage and undervalue the benefits of innovation.)”

—Stephen J. Dubner, co-author *Freakonomics* on the *Freakonomics* blog

“Fascinating.”

—VanityFair.com

“The authors take what ‘everybody’ knows about success and failure in soccer and subject it to rigorous empirical analysis embedded in good stories that carry the narrative along...Highly recommended. All readers.”

—Choice

“*Soccernomics* [is] a sharply written and provocative examination of the world's game seen through the prism of economics and statistical data. It demolishes almost everything that most soccer fans believe about the game and how professional soccer teams should operate.”

—Globe & Mail (Canada)

“Oh, Rooney's the best. [My son] Ben thinks that England might be in the top four, but that's it. He knows the starting line up of every European team. We're reading this very interesting book about football together, you know *Soccernomics*.”

—Lorrie Moore, author of *A Gate at the Stairs and Birds of America*

“Since the publication of the first edition of *Soccernomics* there have been several attempts to copy its content. Yet few authors in the world of soccer writing can tell a human story like Simon Kuper, and even fewer academics can write an understandable narrative with numbers like Stefan Szymanski. Together the two men raise the bar again, bringing new insights to an already great body of work that is accessible and interesting to the quant and casual reader alike... I highly recommend you pick it up for yourself, even if you have already read the first edition. You will not be disappointed.”

—Zach Slaton, *Forbes* (online)

“[Q]uite an entertaining read.”

—Simply Futbol

“[W]onderful book.”

—Pro Soccer Talk (NBC Sports blog)

“*Soccernomics*... remains essential reading for anyone seeking an analytical take on the game.”

—Keeping Score (TIME Soccer Blog)

“*Soccernomics* is the most intelligent book ever written about soccer.”

—**San Francisco Chronicle**

“With *Soccernomics*, the FT's indispensable Simon Kuper and top-flight sports economist Stefan Szymanski bring scrupulous economic analysis and statistical rigor to a sport long dependent on hoary – and, it seems, unfounded – assumptions...Gripping and essential.”

—**Slate.com, Best Books of 2009**

“[The book] is a sporting tale in the *Freakonomics* mode of inquiry, using statistics to come up with fascinating conclusions.”

—**Independent (UK), Best Books of 2009**

“[Szymanski and Kuper] entertainingly demolish soccer shibboleths...Well argued and clear headed.”

—**Financial Times, Best Books of 2009**

“Using data analysis, history and psychology, [*Soccernomics*] punctures dozens of clichés about what it takes to win, and who makes money in soccer – and in sports in general.”

—**Associated Press**

“[Kuper and Szymanski] do for soccer what Moneyball did for baseball—put the game under an analytical microscope using statistics, economics, psychology and intuition to try to transform a dogmatic sport.”

—**New York Times**

“[A] must read for any fan of the business of soccer...”

—**Footiebusiness.com**

## About the Author

**Simon Kuper** is one of the world's leading writers on soccer. The winner of the William Hill Prize for sports book of the year in Britain, Kuper writes a weekly column for the *Financial Times*. He lives in Paris, France.

**Stefan Szymanski** is the Stephen J. Galetti Collegiate Professor of Sport Management at the University of Michigan's School of Kinesiology Tim Harford has called him “one of the world's leading sports economists.” He lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

## Users Review

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#### David Martin:

Now a day people who Living in the era just where everything reachable by connect with the internet and the resources inside can be true or not need people to be aware of each data they get. How many people to be smart in having any information nowadays? Of course the correct answer is reading a book. Reading through a book can help folks out of this uncertainty Information mainly this *Soccernomics: Why England Loses, Why Spain, Germany, and Brazil Win, and Why the U.S., Japan, Australia—and Even Iraq—are Destined to Become the Kings of the World's Most Popular Sport* book because this book offers you rich information and knowledge. Of course the data in this book hundred per-cent guarantees there is no doubt in it you know.

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**Kina Chatman:**

Exactly why? Because this Soccernomics: Why England Loses, Why Spain, Germany, and Brazil Win, and Why the U.S., Japan, Australia—and Even Iraq—Are Destined to Become the Kings of the World’s Most Popular Sport is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap this but latter it will shock you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book beside it was fantastic author who have write the book in such awesome way makes the content interior easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning completely. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this any longer or you going to regret it. This excellent book will give you a lot of benefits than the other book have got such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking technique. So , still want to delay having that book? If I were being you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

**Kenneth Sisk:**

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