

Author Unknown

Stop Press - History Of Sockey In Dispute

What's Going On?

Those who have heard about Sockey know that it's a fascinating game. That said, there may be some dispute over its history. We've investigated far and wide to learn as much as we could. What we uncovered proved interesting, though somewhat troubling, as there seems to be conflicting information and no certainty about the game's origin at all.

Despite exhaustive research, evidence relating to the game turned out to be limited. As far as our findings are concerned, it seems that Sockey is played in only one specific location in the world.

The earliest mention of the game that we could unearth appears on a plaque dated fifty years ago. This is framed with a pair of socks and hangs in a school sport shed. The plaque names a Charles Creswell from Year 6 the tournament winner.

We sourced assistance from a Mrs Maureen McTavy, the current School Administrator, who provided two historic records from school archives. The first was the original rules, dated the same year as the plaque.

'I guard this document carefully, as it is a very valuable piece of history,' she said. 'I wish I could help you more, but I have not ever been able to find any information about who invented the game.'

The second item she showed us was a school newsletter, dated twenty-five



Author Emma Cameron

years after the plaque. It noted that the school was celebrating the tournament's twenty-fifth anniversary. This confirms that Charles Creswell's win was achieved in the very first

tournament. As luck would have it, Mr Cresswell is now the school groundskeeper and he was happy to speak with us.

'I recall the great excitement it caused when the tournament was announced,' he said. 'The anticipation was immense and everyone had a wonderful time, both in the lead up to the event and on game day.' He had no knowledge, however, of where the game came from. 'I'm sorry that I don't know. It's possible one of our teachers invented it, but I can't be sure.'

When we questioned the current school principal, Mr Peter Burton, he seemed confused about the entire matter. He said he knew little because he was new to the school. Other than this, he stated that he was aware that he was expected to play, and that he had no further comment.

With no more leads, the plot thickened when we were contacted by an author named Emma Cameron. She'd heard that we were struggling to find answers.

Ms Cameron advised that she was actually the inventor of the game, saying that she'd created it for a novel she wrote and that it was inspired by a game one of her clever teachers at high school let them play.

'Because it was raining, we were unable to play hockey,' she said. 'So, our teacher took us into the school hall and put a puck on the polished timber floor so we could play indoor hockey. Kind of.' She grinned, saying that it was fun skidding around in socks, trying to hit a puck instead of a ball.

'One difference between that and Sockey is that you may only push the puck in Sockey,' she continued. 'Another difference was that our court had no side or back lines. This meant no 'out' in terms of field or court position, so the game only paused when someone scored a goal.'

Ms Cameron seemed quite convincing, so we found out more. 'The only court marking was a line of tape across the middle of the court, from which play began after each goal.'

We agreed that this was very differed to Sockey, which has many lines going across the court. Yet we were stunned to hear what she said next.

'The most important difference is that the game I played was for teams, and Sockey isn't. I needed only one winner at the end. Without this, the story I wrote wouldn't have worked.'



Socks worn by Charles Creswell

We're unsure if we can trust Ms Cameron. She believes that she created the school and its characters as well as the game. But, as we interviewed three people from the school, we know that they aren't make-believe.

When we questioned Ms Cameron further, she said we may like to research a book called *A Room for Rye*. Unfortunately, we haven't been able to find such a title. Nor were we able to locate Ms Cameron.

While we were left unable to deduce who the inventor of the game is, we know for certain that the tournament was obviously successful enough to become an annual event.

Based on having seen film of the game, we can say that it is not easy. Anyone who masters it will prove themselves to be highly skilled.

We now leave it to readers to make their own conclusion about this case.

Interview

With Expert Sockey Referee

Samir's Scoop

Your chance to hear the inside news about what it takes to referee one of the trickiest games ever invented. And why being eagle-eyed matters.

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Challenge Yourself

Mrs McTavy

How well do you know your stuff? Put on your thinking cap and test yourself with our specially selected variety of fun and games.

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Major Scoop

Interview With Sockey

Champion

Bella Broadcasting

Learn what goes on behind the scenes as our brilliant reporter uncovers the truth. A revealing discussion that delves deep into the heart of Sockey's latest champ.

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