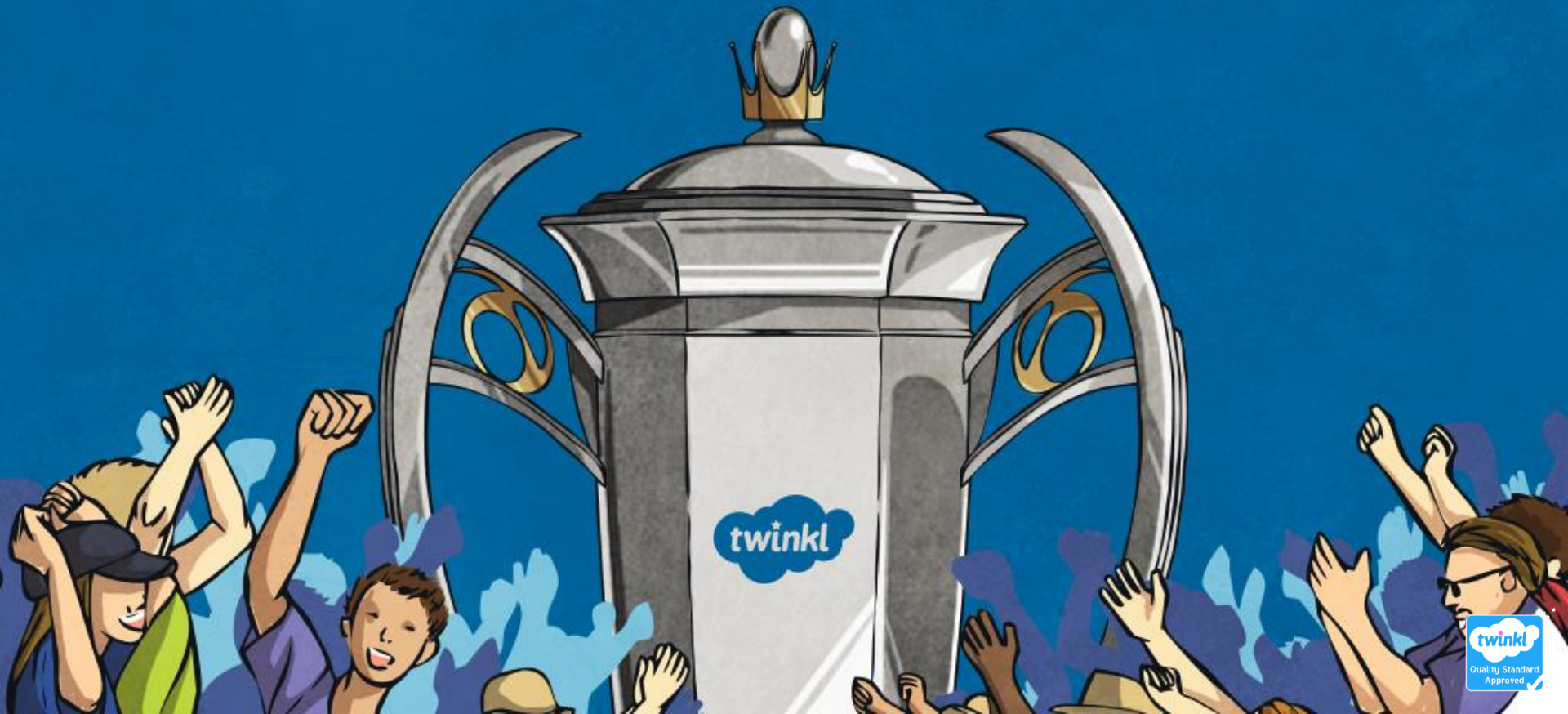
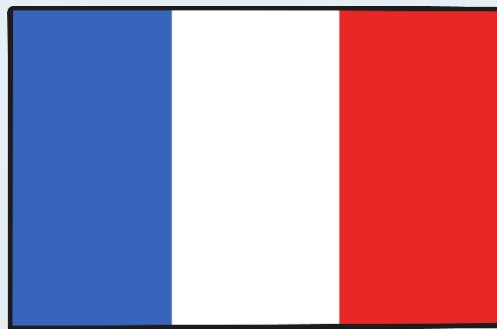
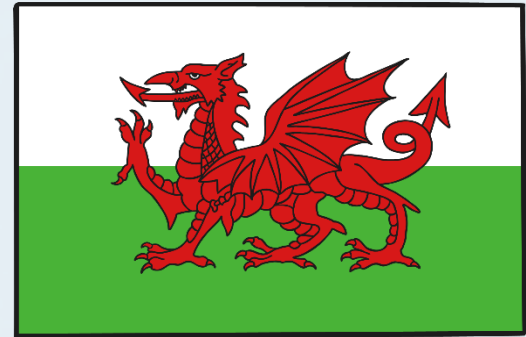
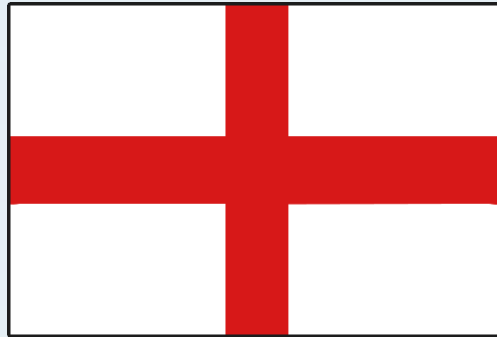


Six Nations Rugby Championship



What Is the Six Nations?

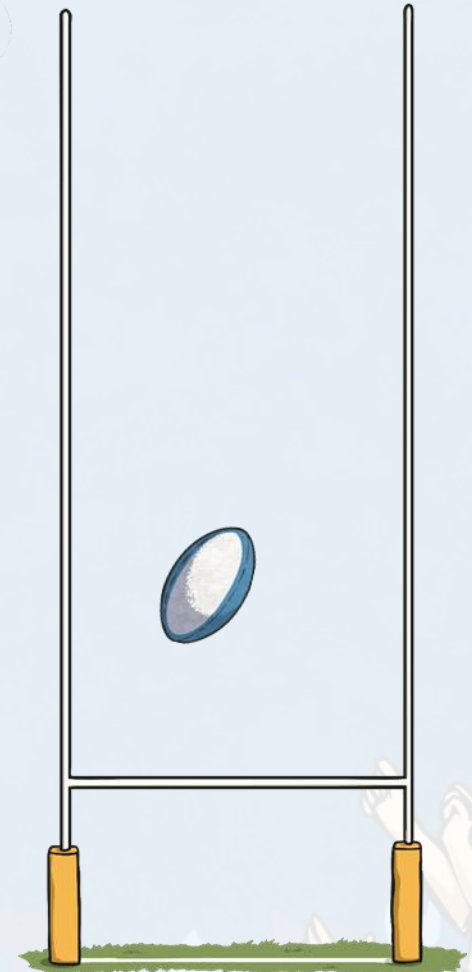
The Six Nations is a rugby union championship for men and women held every year between the teams of Scotland, England, Wales, Ireland, France and Italy.



When and How Did It Start?

The Six Nations Championship is the oldest rugby championship in the world. It was first held in 1882, when the championship only involved the four nations of the United Kingdom: England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland.

France joined the championship in 1910, making it the Five Nations and it finally became the Six Nations in 2000 when Italy joined.



Women Join the Six Nations

The women's tournament started in 1996 as the 'Home International Championship' including the four home nations of the UK.

In 1999 and 2000, France and Spain joined making it the five and then Six Nations Championship.

In 2007, the women's game became an official part of the Six Nations which meant that Spain was substituted for Italy to bring it into line with the Men's Six Nations.



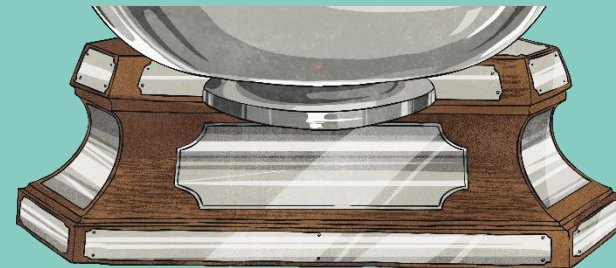
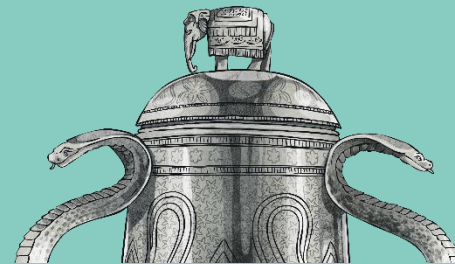
Trophies

Until 2006, no actual trophy was presented but since then, the winners are awarded the Six Nations Cup. However, there are other trophies awarded during the championship to teams who win certain matches.

In 1989, two new trophies were introduced. The Millennium Trophy

Even more recently, in 2007, France and Italy introduced a new trophy to their contest – the Giuseppe Garibaldi Trophy.

Quaid for the winner of Ireland v Scotland.



Champions

Since the Six Nations was formed in 2000, England has won the championship seven times, Ireland has won the championship four times, France five times and Wales five times. Scotland and Italy are yet to win the Six Nations.

England are the current champions after winning the tournament in 2020.



England       

France     

Wales     

Ireland    

Scotland

Italy

Fixtures

Every year, each team plays the other five teams once. This means there are 15 matches each year. Each team in each match is given home advantage in alternate years. So if one year Scotland v England is held at Scotland's ground, Murrayfield, then the following year, the match will be held at Twickenham.

Previously, teams were awarded two points for a win and one point for a drawn match. Now, a bonus-point system is used to reward attacking play and try scoring. For a win, teams receive four points and a bonus point for four or more tries. Two bonus points are available for losing teams if they also score four or more tries. They could receive a further point if they lose by seven points or less. If a match ends in a draw, the two teams get two points each and an additional point is available for high scoring.

If a team wins all of their five matches, they are said to have won a Grand Slam and will be awarded three extra points.

Venues



The matches are played at the home stadiums of each of the teams:

Click on the other cities for more information.

Stadio Olimpico, Rome, Italy

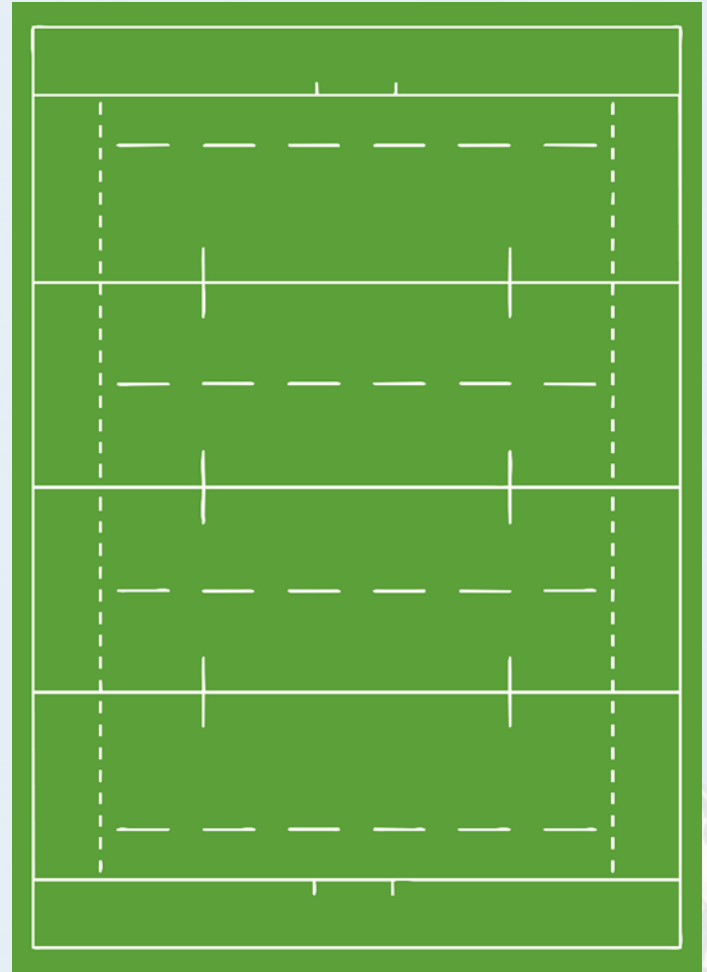
Women's matches at Stad Armand Cesari, Corsica, France

Player of the Championship



Every year, the Player of the Championship is crowned.



12 players are nominated during the championship through a combination of a public vote and a panel of rugby legends.

Last year, France's Antoine Dupont was voted the Player of the Championship.






2021 Championship Fixtures




Italy Men vs France Men 
England Men vs Scotland Men 


Italy Men vs Wales Men 
England Men vs France Men 



Wales Men vs Ireland Men 

Scotland Men vs Ireland Men 

England Men vs Italy Men 
Scotland Men vs Wales Men 

Scotland Men vs Italy Men 
Ireland Men vs England Men 
France Men vs Wales Men 

Ireland Men vs France Men 

Italy Men vs Ireland Men 
Wales Men vs England Men 

France Men vs Scotland Men 

The Women's Six Nations 2021 tournament has been postponed until later in the year due to COVID-19 restrictions.



twinkl