

★ WELCOME TO THE PITCH, AMERICA! ★

★ BONUS TRIVIA PACK ★

THE WORLD CUPS & OLYMPICS AHEAD



ROUND 1 — THE 2026 & 2027 WORLD CUPS

Straight from the book's chapters on host cities and the road to Brazil.



1 What unusual construction challenge do several 2026 World Cup host stadiums face?
Answer: A number of them have to be physically transformed from NFL or concert layouts into FIFA-regulation soccer pitches in just a matter of days.



2 Why are some 2026 host stadiums an especially tight turnaround for grounds crews?
Answer: Several are shared between NFL franchises across state lines, making for some of the fastest turf and logistics turnarounds in tournament history.



3 What time-zone quirk does the book mention affecting American fans during the 2026 tournament?
Answer: Fans watching matches played in Europe or Asia may need to be at the bar before sunrise — a scheduling quirk reshaping morning bar culture nationwide.



4 Which country is hosting the 2027 Women's World Cup?
Answer: Brazil.

5 According to the book, what does the 2027 tournament in Brazil carry emotionally for the USWNT and its fans?
Answer: The weight of playing in the country tied to one of soccer's most infamous nights (Brazil's 2014 semifinal collapse), while building on the legacy of 1991, 1999, 2015, and 2019.

2026
FIFA WORLD CUP

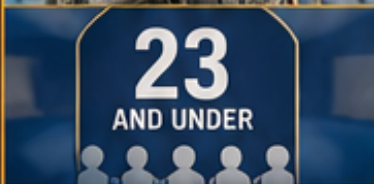


ROUND 2 — THE 2028 LOS ANGELES OLYMPICS

From the book's chapter on "Why the Games Get Weird" and Why We Love Them Anyway."



1 What milestone does the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics represent for women's soccer, per the book?
Answer: It's framed as women's soccer "coming home" to the country that helped build the modern women's game.



2 What's unusual about the age rules for Olympic men's soccer compared to the World Cup?
Answer: Olympic rosters are mostly restricted to players 23 and under, with each team allowed just three exceptions above that age.



3 When was the Olympic under-23 rule introduced, and why?
Answer: In 1992 — specifically to help preserve the World Cup's status as the sport's premier competition for full national teams.



4 What running joke does the book use to illustrate confusion around the Olympic age rule?
Answer: Fans repeatedly asking why a star like Messi "isn't here," since he doesn't qualify under the under-23 restriction.



5 What small, recurring detail does the book use to poke fun at Olympic soccer merchandise stands?
Answer: A vendor selling gear that's reliably wrong about at least one country's flag.

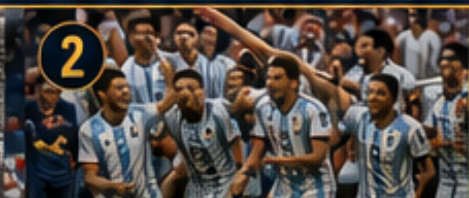
LA
28
Olympic rings



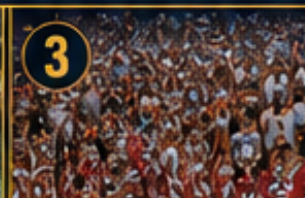
BONUS ROUND — A FEW MORE FAVORITES FROM THE BOOK



1 Gordon Banks's save against Pelé in the 1970 World Cup is remembered in England simply as "The Save" — no further explanation needed, even decades later.



2 The chant "Muchachos," now tied to Argentina's 2022 World Cup win, was written in a single afternoon by friends and musicians ahead of the 2021 Copa America.



3 The USWNT's win at the 1999 Women's World Cup final drew over ninety thousand spectators at the Rose Bowl — still one of the largest crowds ever recorded for a women's sporting event anywhere.



4 The heavily mocked 1994 USA World Cup home kit — with its abstract denim-inspired pattern — now regularly resells for hundreds of dollars to collectors who weren't even alive when it debuted.

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