

# FIFA U-20 World Cup

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The FIFA U-20 World Cup, until 2005 known as the FIFA World Youth Championship, is the world championship of football for male players under the age of 20 and is organized by Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA)

The Championship has been awarded every two years since the first tournament in 1977.

In the sixteen tournaments held, only seven nations have won the title. Argentina is the most successful team with six titles, followed by Brazil with four titles. Portugal won two titles, while Germany, Spain, and formerly existing nations Soviet Union and Yugoslavia have won the title once each.

A corresponding event for women's teams, the FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup, began in 2002 with the name "FIFA U-19 Women's World Championship" and an age limit of 19.

The age limit for the women's competition was changed to 20 beginning with the 2006 FIFA U-20 Women's World Championship, and the competition was renamed as a "World Cup" in 2007 in preparation for the 2008 event.

The men's 2007 tournament was played in Canada. The 2009 tournament will be played in Egypt. The 2011 tournament will be played in Colombia.

## Qualification

This competition, which was also known as the FIFA Coca-Cola Cup until 1997, features 24 teams in the final tournament. 23 countries, including the defending champions, have to qualify in the six confederations Youth Championships. The host country automatically qualifies.

## 2009 FIFA U-20 World Cup

The 2009 FIFA U-20 World Cup, the 17th tournament to be contested, will be hosted by Egypt from September 24 to October 16, in the cities of Cairo, Alexandria, Port Said and Ismailia.

The tournament was initially going to take place between 10-31st July, however the 2009 FIFA Confederations Cup was played mid year resulting in both the Under 20 World Cup and the Under 17 World Cup to be played towards the end of the year. The current champion is Argentina who failed to qualify for the tournament.

By Tamer Ibrahim

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