



## 25 facts about the FIFA Women's World Cup™

- 1** Germany will become only the second European country to host the FIFA Women's World Cup™. The first was Sweden in 1995. The USA and China PR are the only other previous hosts, each having staged the event twice.
- 2** Unlike the FIFA World Cup™, the women's event has been hosted by the same country twice in a row. Four years after staging a very memorable 1999 tournament, the USA stood in for original hosts, China PR, who had to defer staging the event for four years due to the unfortunate spread of the SARS virus.
- 3** 2011 hosts Germany will have the highest-ever number of stadiums to host the FIFA Women's World Cup™ with nine. Before Germany, the USA had the most with eight stadiums in 1999. The USA hosted the event for the second time in 2003, this time with six stadiums, none of which had been used in the 1999 edition.
- 4** The FIFA Women's World Cup Germany 2011™ is the first FIFA competition to use two stadiums which have already staged a FIFA World Cup™ final. The opening match will be in Berlin and four matches, including the final, will be played in Frankfurt.
- 5** Designed by William Sawaya from the Milan company Sawaya & Moroni, the FIFA's Women's World Cup™ trophy is a challenge cup that remains in the permanent possession of FIFA. Originally hand-made for the 1999 tournament, it is in the form of a spiral band which encloses a ball at the top. The cup has a green Serpentino marble base and the spiral and football itself are of pure silver covered with 23-carat gold and white gold. It is 45cm high, nearly 10cm higher than the men's trophy, has a maximum width of 12cm and weighs 1.8kg. The original value is in the region of USD 30,000.
- 6** Regulation time for matches at the 1991 FIFA Women's World Cup™ was eighty minutes – two periods of forty minutes. However, the women obviously proved their stamina was just as good as the men's as the competition regulations for the second tournament in 1995 were changed to ninety minutes – two periods of 45 minutes.
- 7** 2011 is likely to bring about yet another clash of the titans: Germany have won the last two FIFA Women's World Cups™ while the USA took the very first title in 1991 and also triumphed in 1999, to date the only win on home soil. Norway, in 1995, are the only side to have broken the dominance of the two superpowers in women's football.
- 8** Brazil, China PR and Sweden are the only associations to have reached the final of the FIFA Women's World Cup™ apart from the three world champions, Germany, the USA and Norway.
- 9** Despite having won four out of the five previous tournaments (two each), Germany and the USA have never met in a FIFA Women's World Cup™ final.
- 10** Not only have the USA participated in all five editions of the FIFA Women's World Cup™, they are also the only team to have reached the semi-final of each tournament.
- 11** Eight teams have participated in all five previous FIFA Women's World Cup™ tournaments: Brazil, China PR, Germany, Japan, Nigeria, Norway, Sweden and the USA.
- 12** The women's game has a second high-level world competition at senior international level since 1996. The Olympic Football Tournaments have been dominated by the USA, who have won three gold medals (1996, 2004 and 2008) and one silver in 2000, when they were beaten by Norway.



- 13** The number of participants in FIFA Women's World Cup™ qualifiers has almost tripled from 45 teams in 1991 to 122 in 2011. The number of qualification matches for the FIFA Women's World Cup™ has also risen considerably from 110 in 1991 to 355 in 2011.
- 14** The all-time attendance record was recorded at the FIFA Women's World Cup USA 1999™, when a total of 1,194,221 fans flocked to the stadiums, an average of more than 37,300. Overall, the competition in China PR four years ago only attracted 4,000 fewer spectators.
- 15** The FIFA Women's World Cup 1999™ also set an attendance record for a single match, when a total of 90,185 spectators turned out to watch the USA beat China PR in the final at the Rose Bowl in Los Angeles.
- 16** A look into the record books shows that 2-0 is the most frequent result in the FIFA Women's World Cup™ (14.2% of matches), closely followed by 3-0 and 1-0, which account for 11.5%. In comparison, 1-0 (18.8%) is the most common scoreline in the men's game, followed by 2-1 (14.5%) and 2-0 (11%).
- 17** In all, 539 goals have been scored in the 148 matches that have been played in Women's World Cup™ history. The 500<sup>th</sup> goal was scored by Ragnhild Gulbrandsen from Norway in a match against Ghana in 2007.
- 18** The Women's World Cup™ goal average has dropped from 3.8 for the first three tournaments to 3.4 for the last two editions, which reflects the steady development of the women's game.
- 19** The USA lead the scoreboard for most goals scored in all FIFA World Cup™ tournaments with 85 goals – only one ahead of 2011 hosts Germany, who have 84.
- 20** A rather exclusive club of 19 (seven American and 12 German) players have won the FIFA Women's World Cup™ on two occasions. Birgit Prinz is the only player to have taken part in three finals. Beside her wins in the last two tournaments, she played in the first half of the 1995 showdown against eventual winners Norway.
- 21** Kristine Lilly (USA) is the only player to have played in all five editions of the FIFA Women's World Cup™. She is also the most-capped player, having appeared in 30 matches.
- 22** With her five goals in the game between the USA and Chinese Taipei, Michelle Akers is still the highest goalscorer in a single match.
- 23** Germany's Birgit Prinz tops the overall list of goalscorers, with 14 goals in four competitions.
- 24** The three fastest goals in the history of the FIFA Women's World Cup™ were all scored in the first minute of the match. Sweden's Lena Videkull was the fastest when she opened the scoring after just 30 seconds of the match against Japan in 1991.
- 25** Ifeanyi Chiejine from Nigeria became the youngest player of all time when she took to the field against Denmark in 1999 at the tender age of 16 years and one month. More than twice Chiejine's age, Meg from Brazil, became the oldest at 39 years and five months when she played against Sweden in the 1991 tournament.