





# **Sports**

There are a lot of different sports in the European Union. For example in Austria skiing is very popular but in countries like Albania or Kosovo that's not possible for main habitants because of the weather and their financial situation.

We found out nearly in every country the most important sport is football, but there are also other interesting sports. Every participant of our group wrote something about popular sports and famous athletes in their own countries.

## Austria:

The most famous sport in Austria is skiing, we think it is because our landscapes. We have a lot of high mountains and big glaciers with beautiful ski areas for professional skiers and also for hobby skiers. Many people from other countries come to Austria for skiing and snowboarding. Also in ours school system we have integrated skiing in form of ski ex courses. Austria is probably the best country in skiing. There are a lot of famous skiers, for example Marcel Hirscher and Anna Fenninger.

Our country is also very interested in football. Our most famous footballer is David Alaba, who plays for Bayern Munich. In our league the best and most famous team is Red Bull Salzburg which also plays constantly in the European championship. The national team is playing very constantly and maybe qualifying for the EM in France.

Also very popular in Austria is Tennis. We don't have many world class players, but a lot of people which play tennis in their free-time. One Austrian legend in tennis is Thomas Muster, at the moment the best player is Dominic Thiem.

Volleyball is also very famous, many people do it in summer just for fun. Other popular sports in Austria are Basketball, Handball and Ice-Hockey. For training many people are running in our impressive nature. We also have many beautiful lakes and rivers where our guests from other countries and for sure we Austrian can go swimming and enjoy the summer.







## Albania:

In Albania lot of sports are famous for example there is football with famous players like Taulant Xhaka and Hamdi Salihi who also played in the Austrian championship which is called "Bundesliga".

Because of their famous basketball-stars, like Nikolin Arra or Mirza Saralia, many Albanians pay basketball.

Volleyball is also very important in our country and many young people play it there to become stars like Xhuli Shestani.

The best Albanian athletic is Izmir Smajli.

#### Kosovo:

Most of the famous sports in Kosovo are: Judo, Basketball, Handball,K1, Pingpong.

From Judo sport we have world champion( also Olympic champion) Majlinda Kelmendi, Nora Gjakova.

From Basketball we have Edmond Azemi, Dardan Berisha, Samir Shahtahu. From Handball we have: Mimoza Xhemajli, Mimoza Sefedini, Agnesa Gashi. Fromm K1 we have, Korab Sinani

From Pingpong we have Vlora Maloku, Linda Zeqiri.

We have also some national sport and popular sport but that is just in national level( some of them now are very on the world as WWS, but in our country we have different rules of play

# **Hungary:**

Popular Professional sports

Most popular of sports is football, maybe not because national leagues or current national team, but because of past results. The national team was very good in 1950's and 60's, with a little peak in 70's. Ferenc Puskás, famous national team player in the 1950's, is among many regarded as Hungarian Pele.

Hungarians are really proud of their national water polo team, the team won three out of last four Olympics gold medals, and they have many championship titles from the past. Hungarians also like quite a few water







sports. They are very good competitors in swimming, kayak-canoe. As a bit unusual sport, fencing is also quite popular. Among athletics disciplines there are plenty of good results in hammer-throw. Judith Polgar, once best female chess player, is very famous in Hungary. Even after retirement she is promoting chess in schools across Europe. Hungary has in total 476 Olympic medals, number eight among all the nations.

## Casual sports

Among general population running, tennis, swimming, volleyball, fighting sports are increasingly popular in the last years. People are more and more aware of health benefits sports provide, but that is not the only reason. Some found out they like to compete against others, some just want to look better in the mirror. Younger people might spend little too much time distracted in front of their phones and computers.

### Slovenia:

## **Professional sports**

Slovenian competitors are extremely good in individual sports, but here and there we have some bright moments even in team sports. The most popular athlete at the moment is probably world renown skier Tina Maze, with many Olympic, world championship and world cup medals. Male skiers produced plenty of good results in the past. Winter sports are very popular and we also have many good results in almost winter discipline (skiing, cross-country skiing, biathlon, ski jumping, snowboarding, ski-cross)

National football team from time to time manages to qualify to for World Cup and contributes euphoria to make the football most popular sport in Slovenia. Most of national team's players are members of best European clubs.

Ice-hockey is gaining popularity, not due to the national leagues, but due to Anže Kopitar playing for Los Angeles Kings in NHL and winning Stanley's Cup two times. Team in basketball and handball also produce pretty good results from time to time, and everyone is watching them on TV.

Extreme sports are gaining popularity among young and old. The more extreme the better: Free climbing, alpinism, adventure racing with elements of orienteering, skydiving, ...