

Season 2007 / 8 - Podcast 18

The Club World Cup

By Damon Brewster (December 8th, 2007)

Background

Some of the teams mentioned in this report: AC Milan (Italy), Boca Juniors (Argentina), Urawa Reds (Japan), Pachuca (Mexico), Etoile Sahel (Tunisia), Sepahan (Iran) and Waitakere United (New Zealand).

Pre-Listening - Vocabulary

Match the words on the left with their meanings on the right.

Word	Meaning
1. ____ confused	a. join or volunteer (to help)
2. ____ step in	b. not able to understand
3. ____ revamped	c. renewed, improved
4. ____ underdogs	d. massive
5. ____ huge	e. shot
6. ____ represent	f. take part in (especially for your country)

Listening

A. Listening for Detail

Fill in the blank spaces below.

The Club World Cup kicks _____ in Japan this week, and it is the third year running that FIFA’s club championship has been held in Japan. It was known _____ the Club World Championship and was born out _____ the Intercontinental Cup, also known as the Toyota Cup, which was also originally called the Club World Championship. Confused yet?

Let’s start at the start with the the Club World Championship. This was formalised in 1960 when Real Madrid played Uruguayan side Peñarol. Gradually interest in Europe faded and the money dried _____. It was only when Toyota stepped _____ that the competition was revived and re-launched as the Intercontinental Cup. This competition was played between 1980 and 2004, and as it was sponsored by Toyota it was always played in Japan. The winners _____ the Copa Libertadores and the European Cup met _____ year to decide the supposed best _____ the world. But even from the start European teams especially, didn’t regard it too seriously. Honours are split pretty evenly between the two continents with South America just coming _____ on top with thirteen wins versus Europe’s twelve champions. Coincidentally, the two most successful clubs, AC Milan and Boca Juniors meet _____ the revamped Club World Championship.

B. Listening for understanding

Listen to the rest of the report. Answer the questions.

1. Has a team from Europe won the Club World Cup?
2. Which teams represented Europe in the first Club World Championship in Brazil?
3. Where were the last two Club World Championships held?
4. Which teams does the speaker think are the three weakest?
5. What is one really big problem according to the speaker?
6. Which team does the speaker think does not care about the cup as much as the others?

C. True or False

Listen again to the whole report. Are these statements true or false?

1. The Club World Cup has been held in Japan for four years in a row. T / F
2. Real Madrid played a team from Uruguay in the 1960 Intercontinental Cup. T / F
3. The original competition was very popular. T / F
4. South American nearly always won the Intercontinental (Toyota) Cup. T / F
5. Vasco de Gama beat Corinthians on penalties in the Club World Cup in Brazil.
6. In 2007, six teams will take part in the Club World Cup. T / F

Season 2007 / 8 - Podcast 18 Worksheet Answers

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Pre-Listening - Vocabulary

Match the words on the left with their meanings on the right.

Word	Meaning
1. <u>b</u> confused	a. join or volunteer (to help)
2. <u>a</u> step in	b. not able to understand
3. <u>c</u> revamped	c. renewed, improved
4. <u>e</u> underdogs	d. massive
5. <u>d</u> huge	e. weak players or team
6. <u>f</u> represent	f. take part in (especially for your country)

Listening

A. Listening for Detail

Fill in the blank spaces below.

The Club World Cup kicks **off** in Japan this week, and it is the third year running that FIFA’s club championship has been held in Japan. It was known **as** the Club World Championship and was born out **of** the Intercontinental Cup, also known as the Toyota Cup, which was also originally called the Club World Championship. Confused yet?

Let’s start at the start with the the Club World Championship. This was formalised in 1960 when Real Madrid played Uruguayan side Peñarol. Gradually interest in Europe faded and the money dried **up**. It was only when Toyota stepped **in** that the competition was revived and relaunched as the Intercontinental Cup. This competition was played between 1980 and 2004, and as it was sponsored by Toyota it was always played in Japan. The winners **of** the Copa Libertadores and the European Cup met **every** year to decide the supposed best **in** the world. But even from the start European teams especially, didn’t regard it too seriously. Honours are split pretty evenly between the two continents with South America just coming **out** on top with thirteen wins versus Europe’s twelve champions. Coincidentally, the two most successful clubs, AC Milan and Boca Juniors meet **in** the revamped Club World Championship.

B. Listening for understanding

Listen to the rest of the report. Answer the questions.

1. Has a team from Europe won the Club World Cup? - No. '***The South American jinx over Europe continued in 2005 and 2006 with Sao Paulo beating Liverpool and Intercontinental coming out winners against Barcelona.***
2. Which teams represented Europe in the first Club World Championship in Brazil? '***The first, in Brazil, saw Real Madrid and Manchester United take part...***
3. Where were the last two Club World Championships held? '***The last two cups took place in Yokohama, Japan...***
4. Which teams does the speaker think are the three weakest? **Waitakere United, Sepahan and Etoile Sahel.** '***It's difficult to see past Urawa, Pachuca, Boca and AC Milan..***
5. What is one really big problem according to the speaker? '***One huge problem for the competition is that it comes in the middle of the European footballing calendar.***
6. Which team does the speaker think does not care about the cup as much as the others? '***...it is unlikely that AC Milan will put too much into the game...***

C. True or False

Listen again to the whole report. Are these statements true or false?

1. The Club World Cup has been held in Japan for four years in a row. T / **E**
2. Real Madrid played a team from Uruguay in the 1960 Intercontinental Cup. **T** / F
3. The original competition was very popular. T / **E**
4. South American nearly always won the Intercontinental (Toyota) Cup. T / **E**
5. Vasco de Gama beat Corinthians on penalties in the Club World Cup in Brazil. T / **E**
6. In 2007, six teams will take part in the Club World Cup. T / **E**

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The Club World Cup kicks off in Japan this week, and it is the third year running that FIFA's club championship has been held in Japan. It was known as the Club World Championship and was born out of the Intercontinental Cup, also known as the Toyota Cup, which was also originally called the Club World Championship. Confused yet?

Let's start at the start with the the Club World Championship. This was formalised in 1960 when Real Madrid played Uruguayan side Peñarol. Gradually interest in Europe faded and the money dried up. It was only when Toyota stepped in that the competition was revived and relaunched as the Intercontinental Cup. This competition was played between 1980 and 2004, and as it was sponsored by Toyota it was always played in Japan. The winners of the Copa Libertadores and the European Cup met every year to decide the supposed best in the world. But even from the start European teams especially, didn't regard it too seriously. Honours are split pretty evenly between the two continents with South America just coming out on top with thirteen wins versus Europe's twelve champions. Coincidentally, the two most successful clubs, AC Milan and Boca Juniors meet in the revamped Club World Championship.

This Club World Championship has only been held three times. The first, in Brazil, saw Real Madrid and Manchester United take part in the competition, but it was the Brazilian sides Corinthians and Vasco da Gama who met in the final. Corinthians finally overcoming Vasco 4-3 in a penalty shoot-out. The South American jinx over Europe continued in 2005 and 2006 with Sao Paulo beating Liverpool and Internacional coming out winners against Barcelona.

The last two cups took place in Yokohama, Japan and six teams took part each time. The South American team and the European team only joining in after the first round matches had decided their opponents from Asia, Oceania, Africa, and the Northern and Central American leagues. This year, seven teams will take part: Urawa Reds and Stepahan from Asia, Pachuca from CONCACAF, huge underdogs Waitakere United from Oceania, Etoile Sahel representing Africa, Boca from South America and AC Milan from Europe. It's difficult to see past Urawa, Pachuca, Boca and AC Milan, and unlikely that the final will not be between Boca and the giants from Europe, Milan. One huge problem for the competition is that it comes in the middle of the European footballing calendar - it is unlikely that AC Milan will put too much into the game - while the other favourites have all come to the end of their seasons and can to some extent use the cup as a way to finish on a high note.