THE CARTOON BOOK OF

HORSE RACING



ANIMAL

SPORT ON EARTH

Sport on Earth Books · The Animal sports Family

Original illustrations · No characters were copied in the making of this book

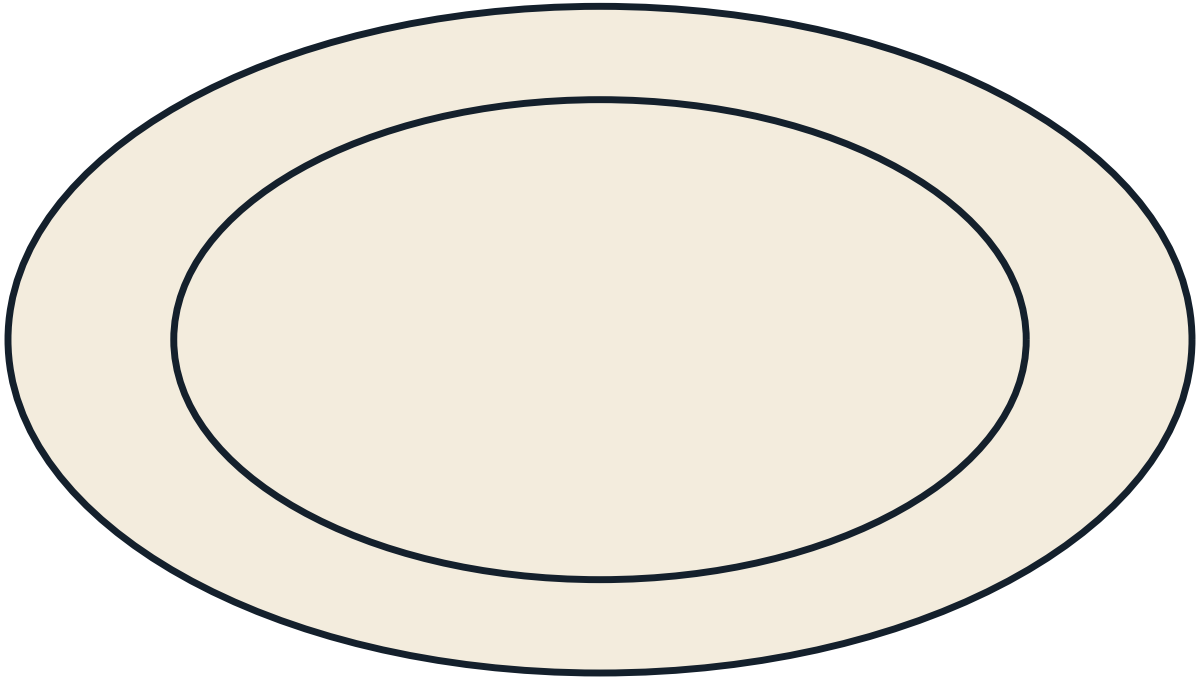
Meet Horse Racing!

Thoroughbred and harness racing, with the Triple Crown and Breeders' Cup.



Where It Is Played

A licensed racecourse — flat tracks are typically 1-2 miles round with a finishing straight; jump courses add hurdles or fences around the circuit.



The Gear

Racehorse, jockey silks (registered owner colours), saddle with weight cloth and lead weights, bridle; racing plates (shoes) within the authority's equipment code.

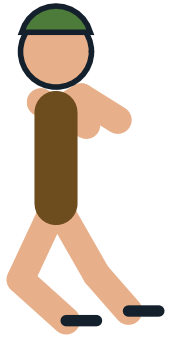






How It Starts

Spectators need no licence; to take part, horses are placed with a licensed trainer and riders follow the authority's licensing route (for example apprentice / amateur pathways) — owning a share through a racing club is the usual first step in.



How to Play

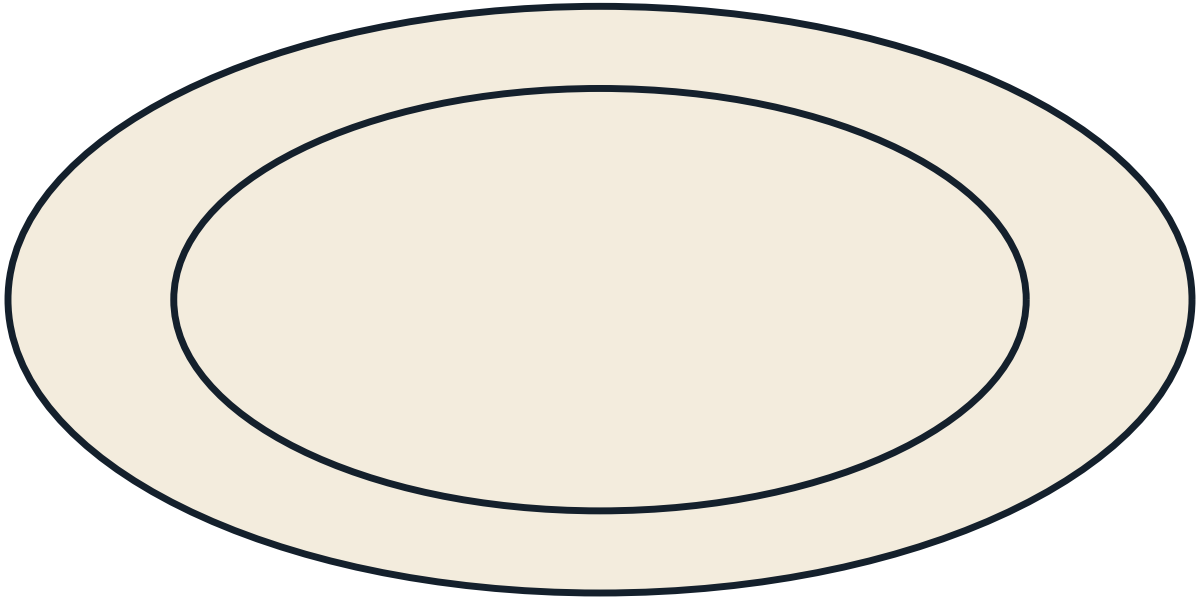
- Format: horses ridden by jockeys race over a set distance on a flat course or over jumps (hurdles / steeplechase fences); fields start together from starting stalls (flat) or a tape start (jumps).
- Scoring / winning: the winner is the first horse past the finishing post, judged on the horse's nose reaching the line (photo-finish where needed); placings follow in finishing order, with dead heats possible.
- Weights: each horse carries an assigned weight under the race conditions — in handicaps, weights are set to equalise chances based on official ratings; in weight-for-age races, by age and sex allowances.
- Interference: stewards hold an inquiry where riding causes interference or a horse fails to run on its merits; they may disqualify, demote or place horses and penalise riders for careless, improper or dangerous riding or misuse of the whip.

More of the Game

- Prohibited substances: horses must race free from prohibited substances; the BHA rules ban specified shoe types (including studs and American toe-grab plates) and set stand-down periods after treatments such as intra-articular injections (none within 14 clear days of raceday).
- Every horse must remain on the racecourse for a minimum of 45 minutes after it has run, unless a veterinary or equine welfare integrity officer grants dispensation (BHA amendment, April 2026).
- Eligibility and administration — entries, declarations, vaccinations and passports — are governed by the authority's manuals (BHA: General, Race, Trainer, Rider, Horse and Owner, and Racing Administration manuals).
- Only licensed trainers may train and licensed / qualified riders may ride in races under the authority's rules.

The Shape of a Match

A field of horses races a set distance on turf, all-weather or over jumps; the first horse past the post wins, subject to stewards' inquiries and weight carried under the race conditions.



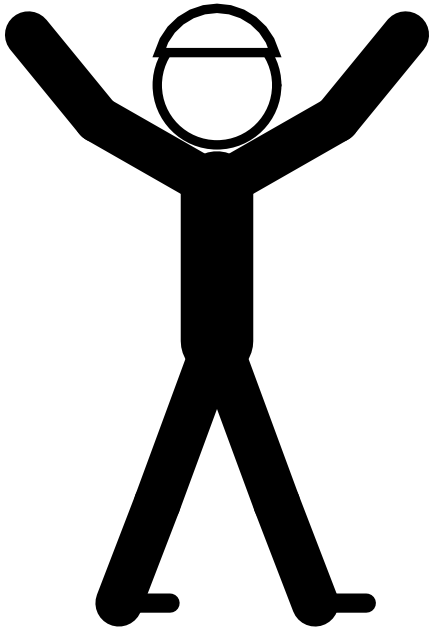
Moments That Shaped the Game

- 2011; revised 2023 — The Whip Rules (Britain's Two Reforms): The BHA's 2011 review capped strikes (seven on the Flat, eight over jumps) with defined penalties; the 2023 revision kep.

Rules That Changed the Game

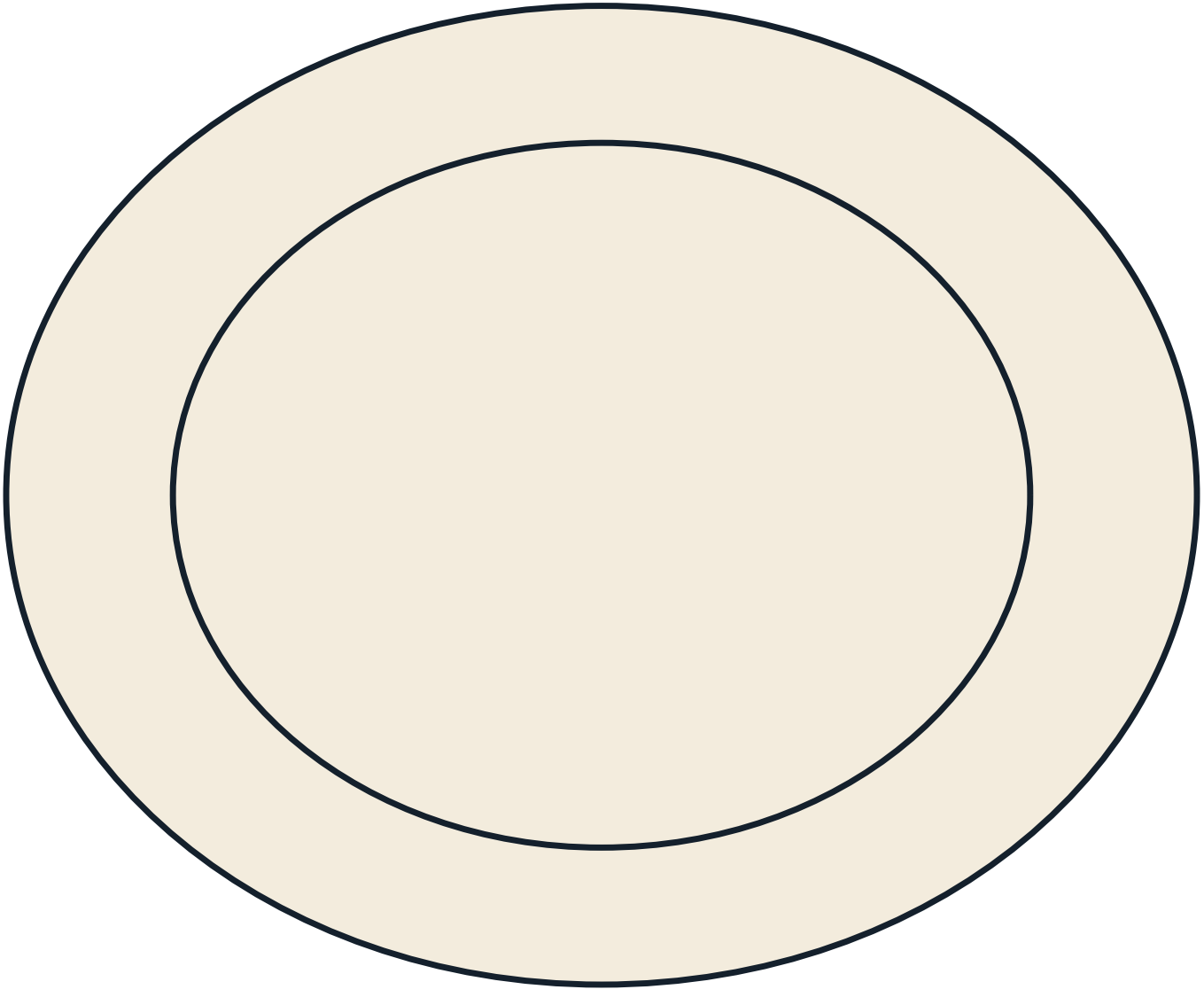
- 2011; revised 2023 — The Whip Rules (Britain's Two Reforms): Whip counts are now a routine part of race reading (and of stewards' reports worldwide); the argument continues at the margins — w.

Colour the Action

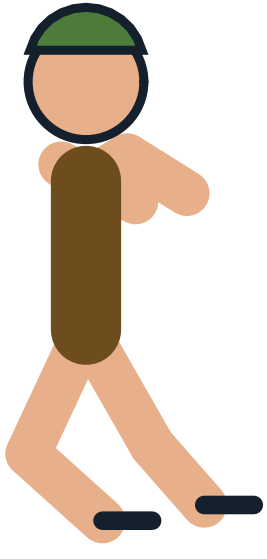


Psst — this page is a colouring page!

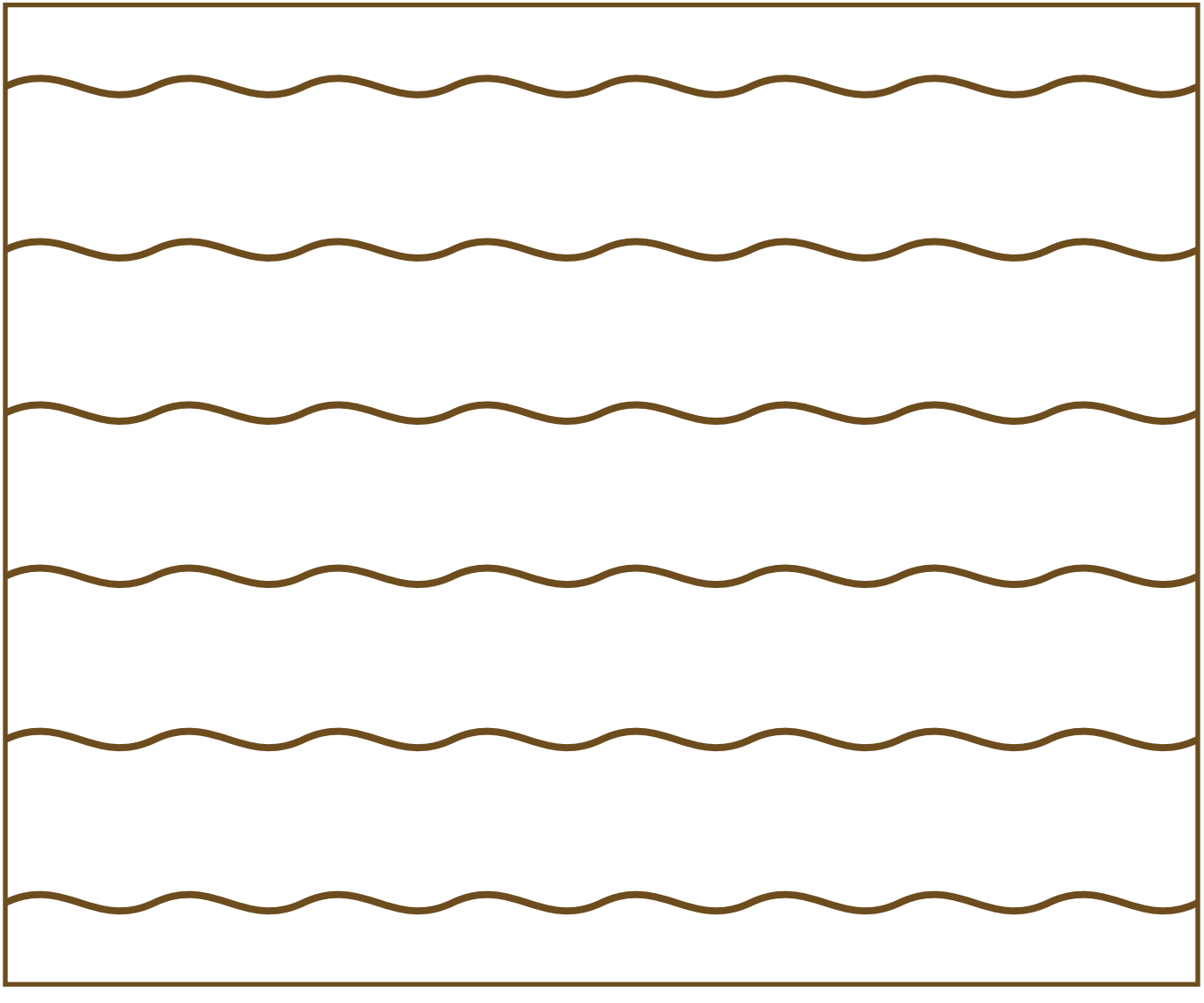
The Sport Today



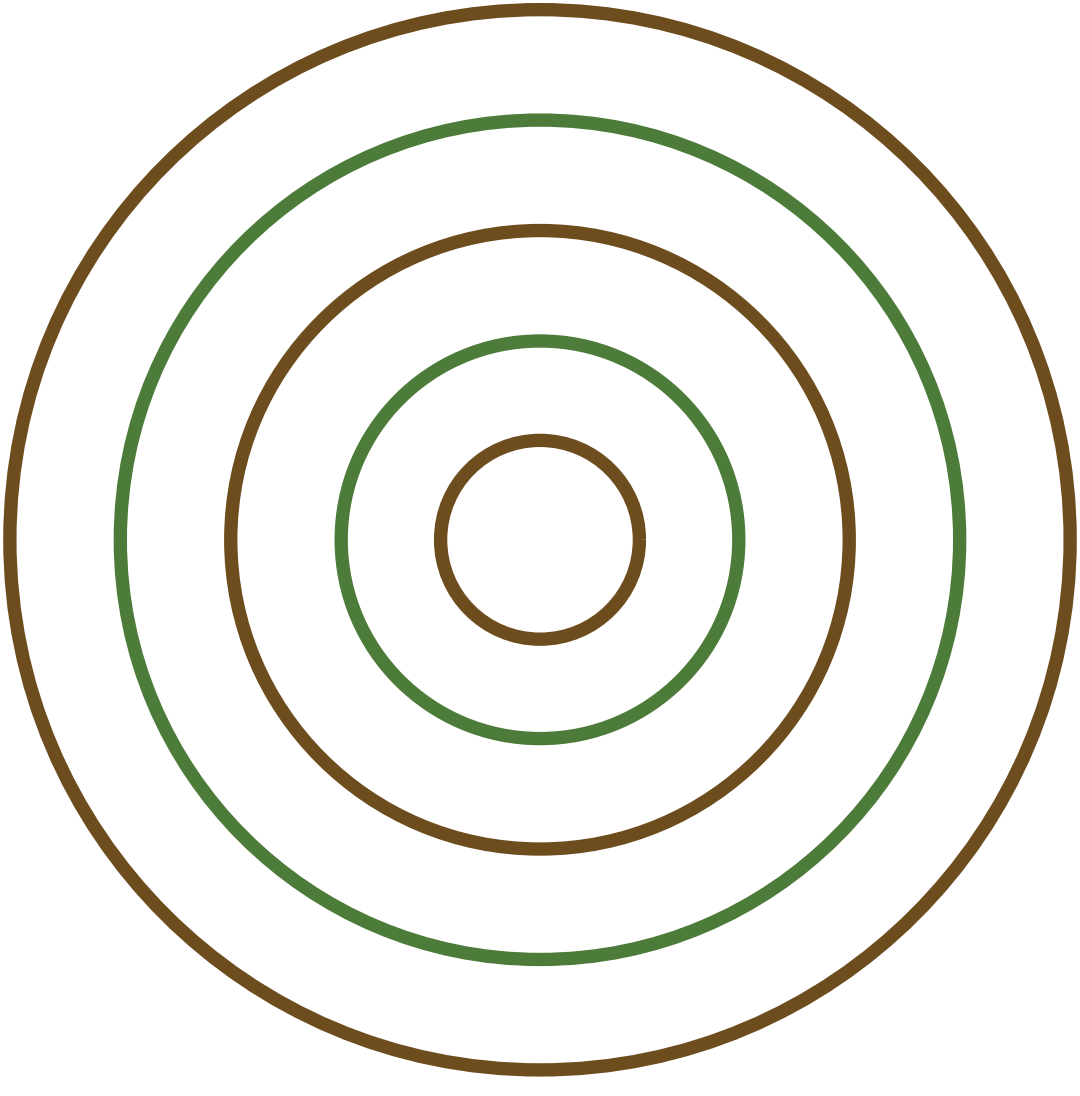
At School and College



Play It Near You



Through the Year

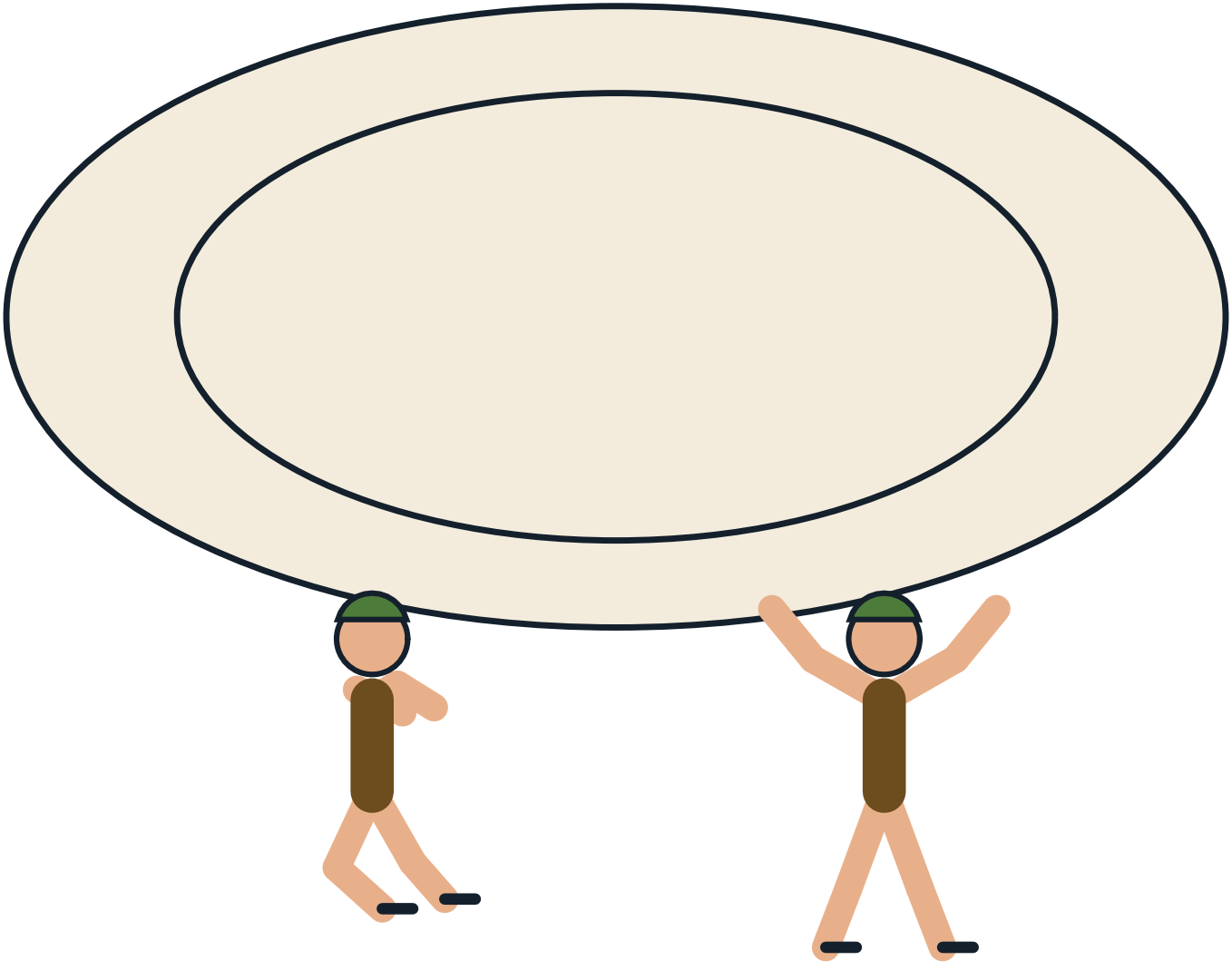


The Animal sports Family

Every sport belongs to a family of games that share its shapes and skills. Here are some of this book's closest relatives — each with a cartoon book and a colouring book of its own.

- Rodeo and Bull Riding — PBR and rodeo circuits of riding events.
- Polo — Mounted team game; Argentina is the leading nation.
- Polocrosse — Polo and lacrosse hybrid on horseback.
- Cycle Polo — Polo played on bicycles.
- Dog Agility — Dogs run obstacle courses with handlers.

Game Day!



The Sport on Earth Mark

Every sport on Sport on Earth carries its own original mark, drawn for the site. Here is this sport's.

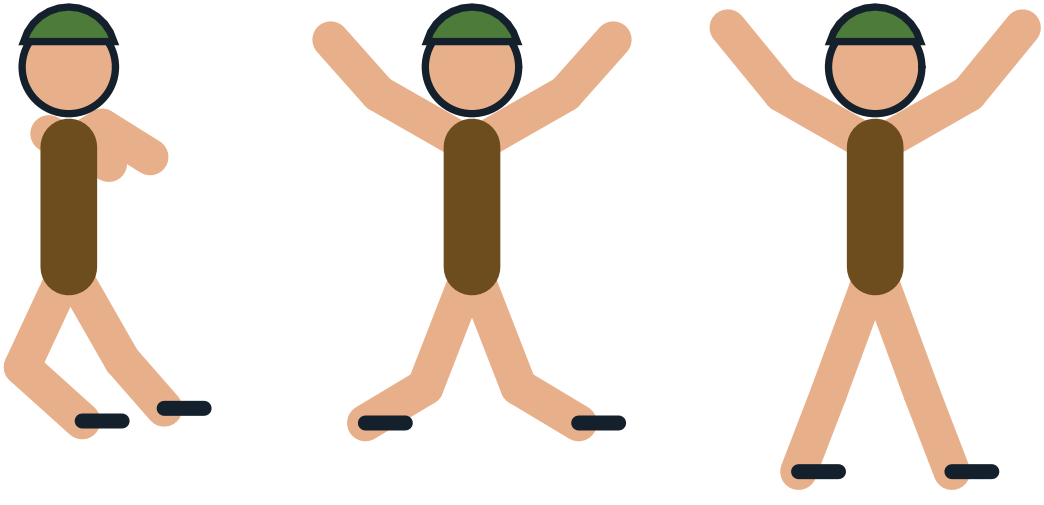


HORSE RACING

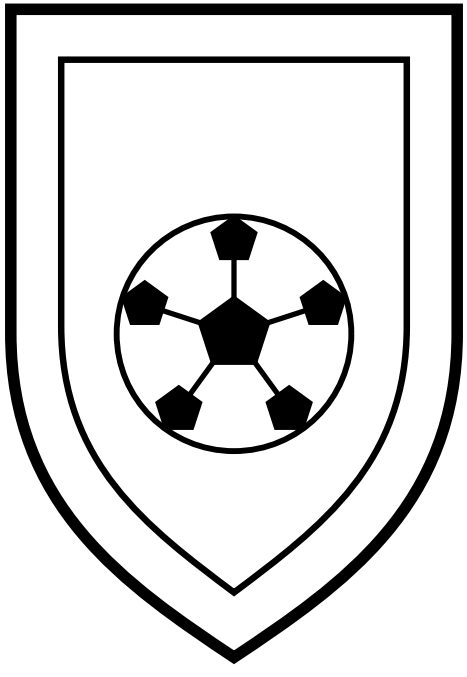
ANIMAL

SPORT ON EARTH

Moves of the Game



Design a Badge

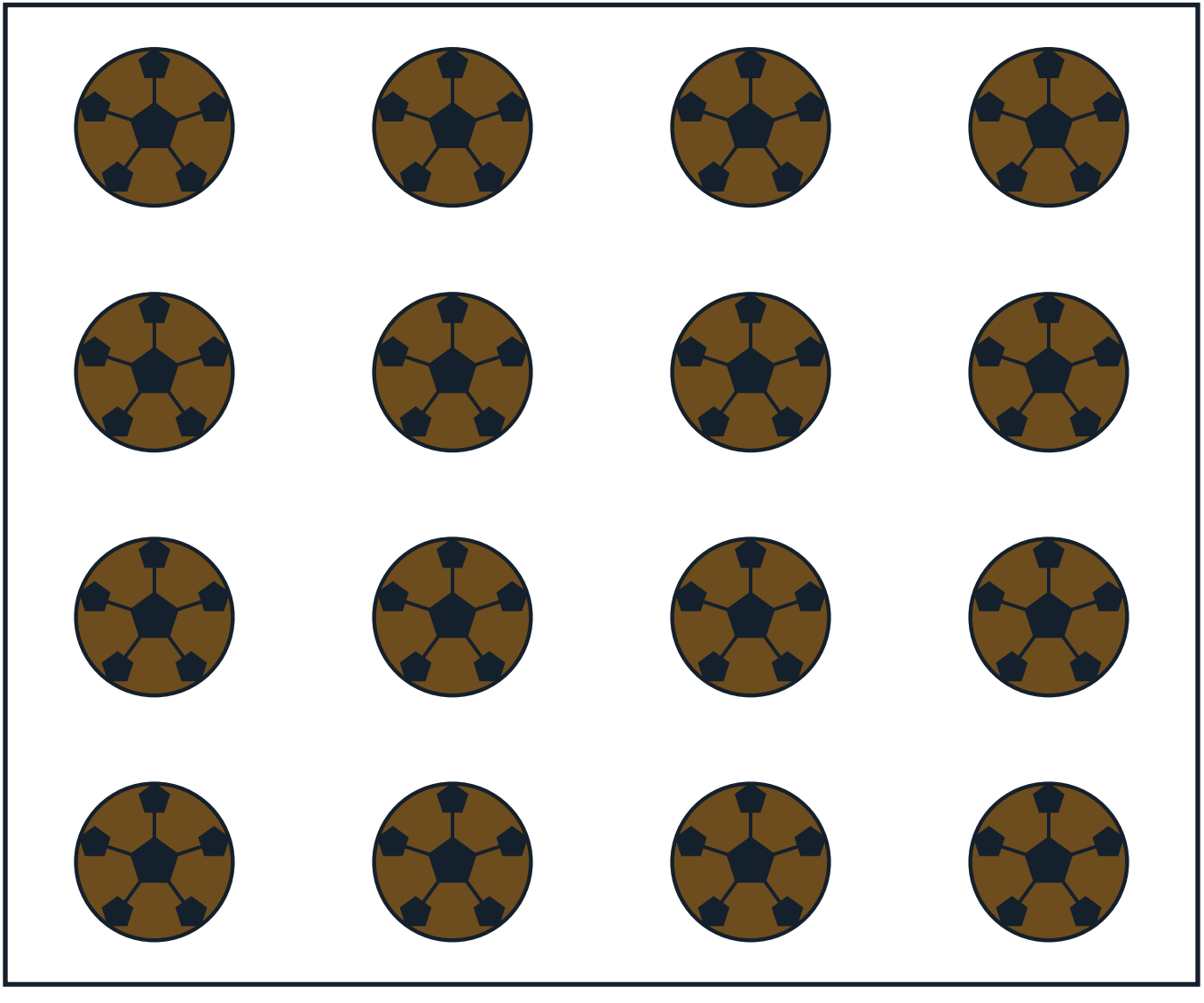


Draw and colour a badge for your own team.

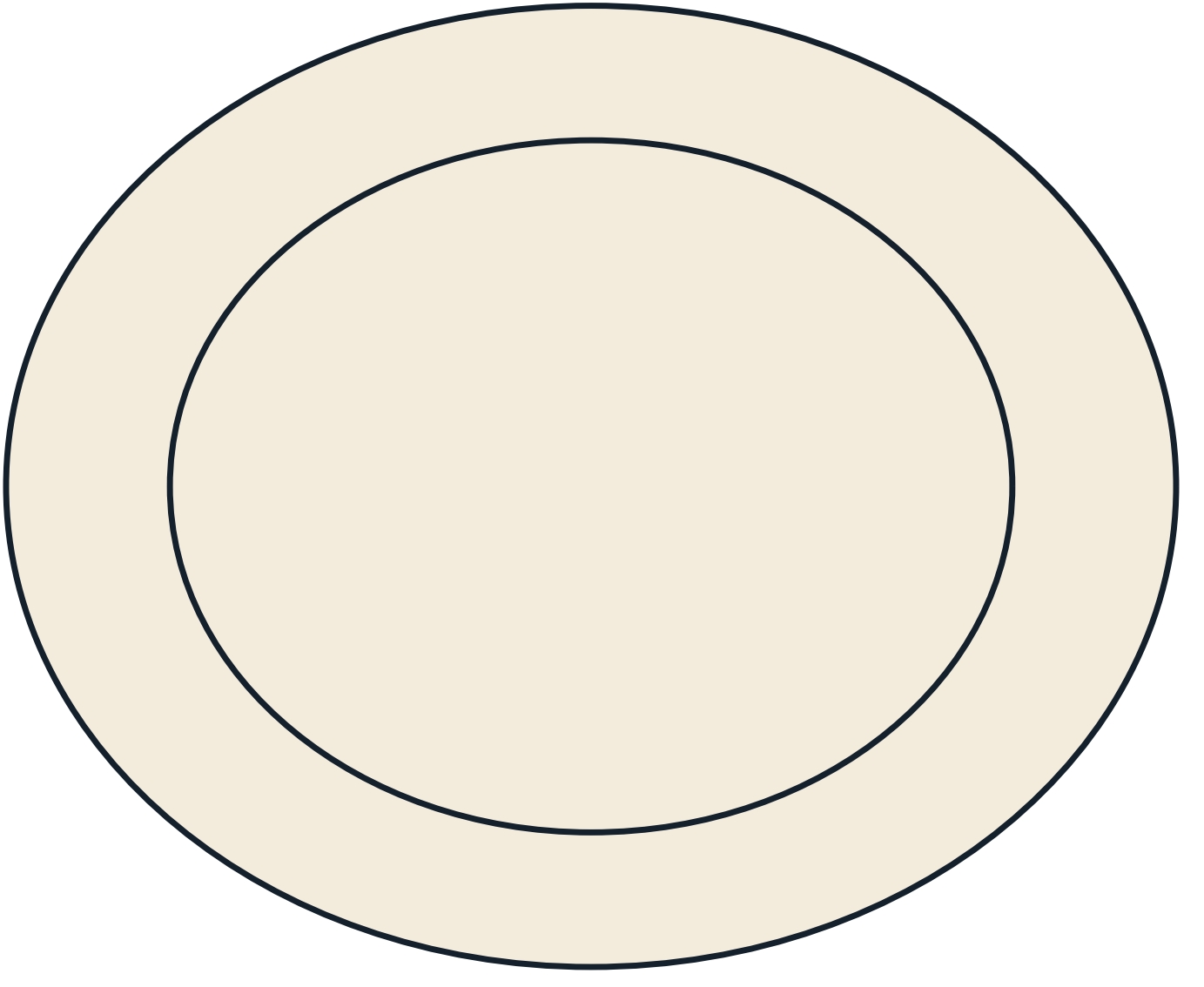
The Gear Parade



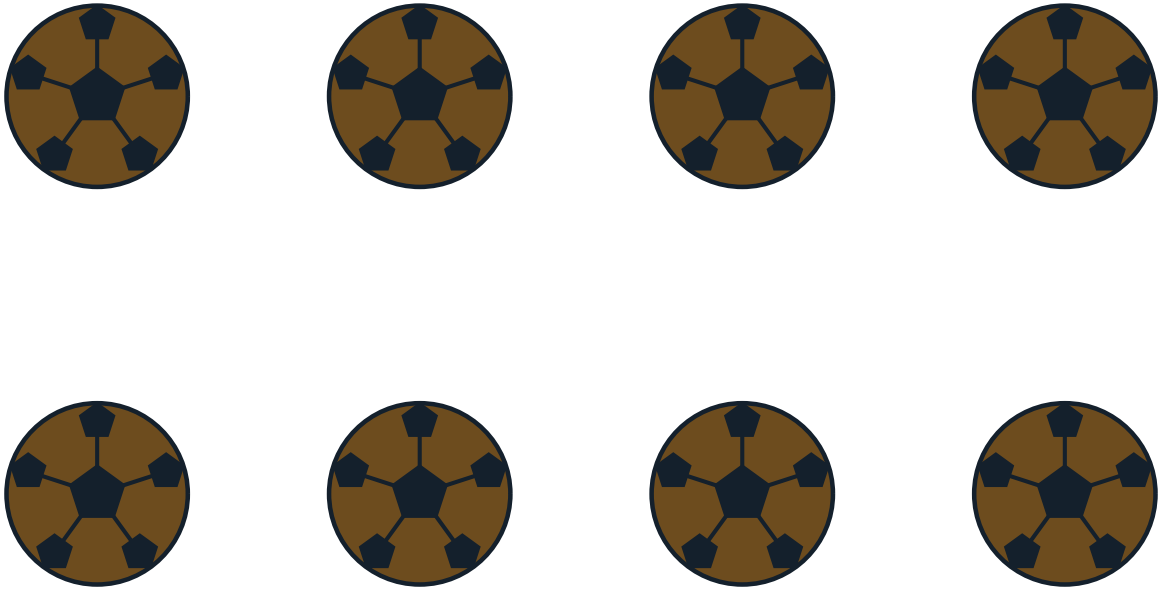
Pattern Play



The Arena From Above



Count the Balls!



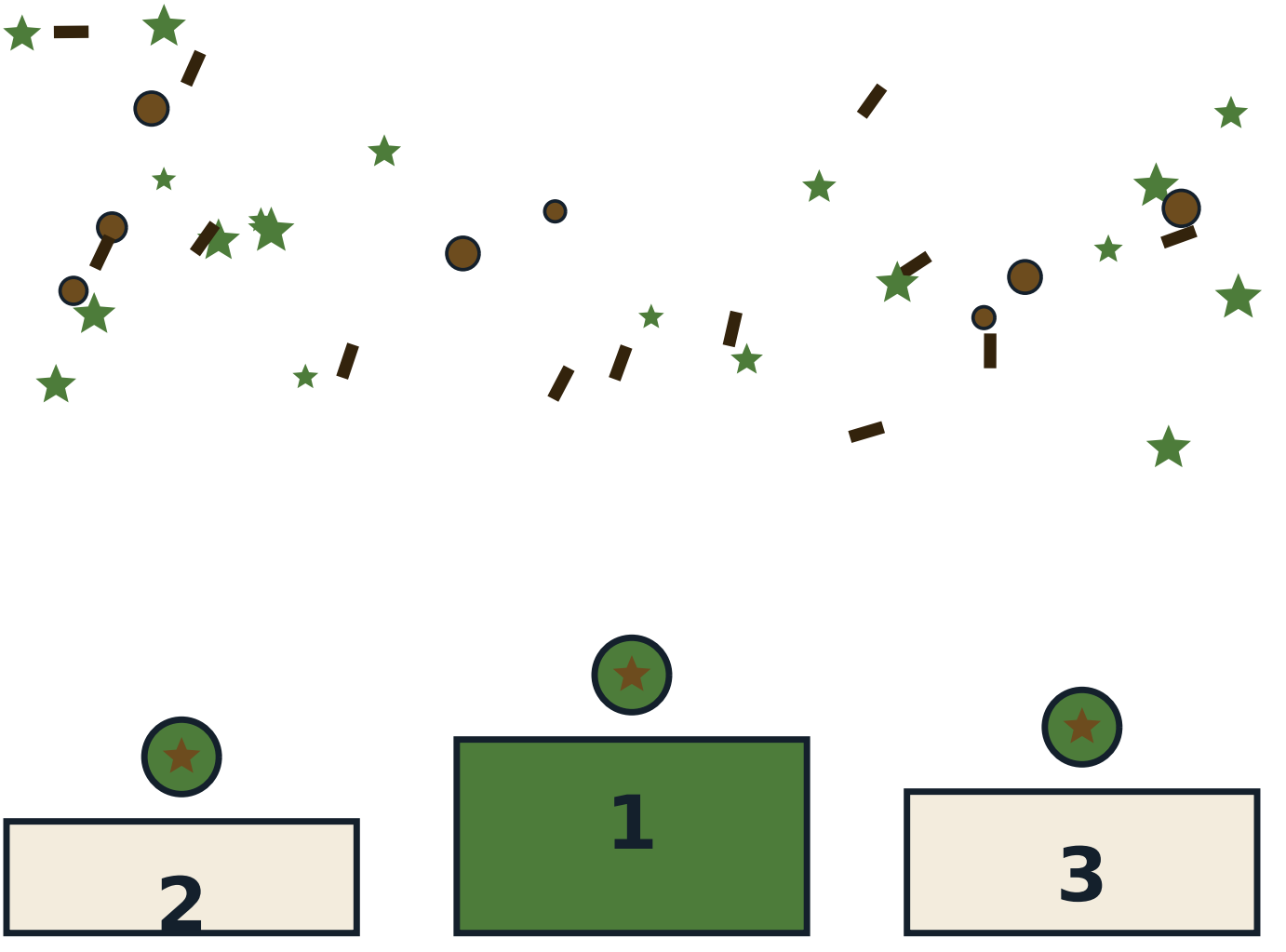
How many can you count? Write the number here: _____

My Favourite Part of Horse Racing

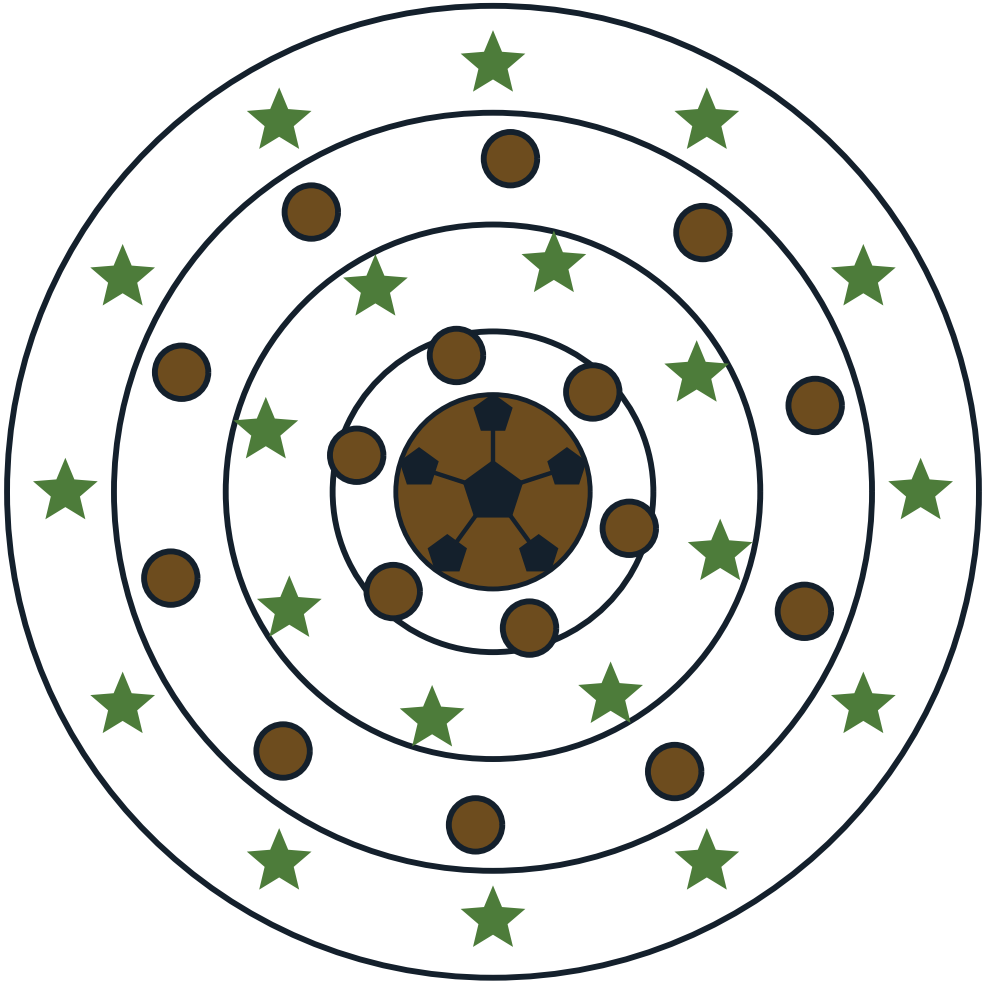
Gear Close-Up



Champions!



The Mandala of the Game



About This Book

Governing body: No single world governing body — International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA) coordinates national racing authorities. Laws edition the site's rules file follows: IFHA International Agreement on Breeding, Racing and Wagering (2024 edition); national Rules of Racing, e.g. British Horseracing Authority (BHA) Rules of Racing as amended 2025-2026. Rule-change history: British Horseracing Authority whip-rule histories (2011 review; 2023 revision) and international harmonisation records.. Everything in this book comes from Sport on Earth's own verified sport files — the same words you can read on the sport's page at Sport on Earth. The illustrations are original artwork drawn by computer for this book series. They are not pictures of real players, real teams or anybody else's characters.

More Books in the Family

- The Cartoon Book of Rodeo and Bull Riding
- The Cartoon Book of Polo
- The Cartoon Book of Polocrosse
- The Cartoon Book of Cycle Polo
- The Cartoon Book of Dog Agility
- The Cartoon Book of Sled Dog Racing
- The Rodeo and Bull Riding Colouring Book
- The Polo Colouring Book

My Notes

Horse Racing

The Cartoon Book of Horse Racing — a Sport on Earth Book.

Text from Sport on Earth's verified sport files. Illustrations: original programmatic artwork created for this series, including the site's own sport mark. No copyrighted characters, team logos or player likenesses appear in this book.

Collect the whole shelf: a cartoon book and a colouring book for every one of the 442 sports and games on Sport on Earth.

