THE CARTOON BOOK OF

ROQUE



TARGET & PRECISION

SPORT ON EARTH

Sport on Earth Books · The Olympic past Family

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

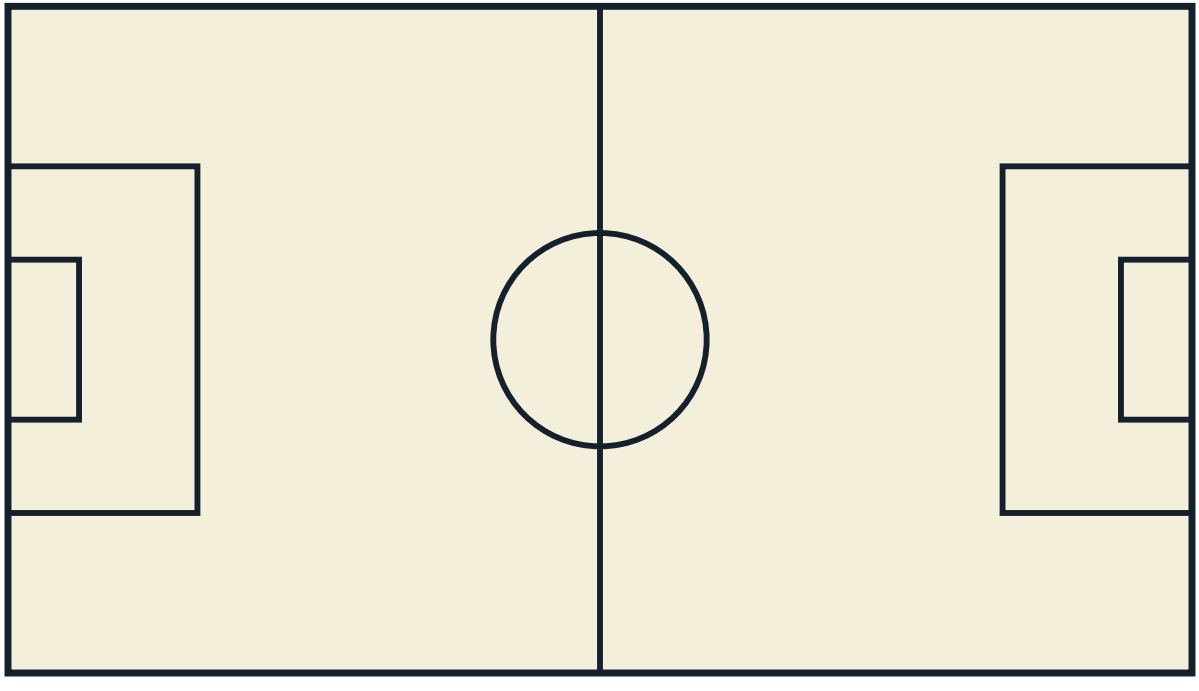
Meet Roque!

American croquet variant played in 1904.



Where It Is Played

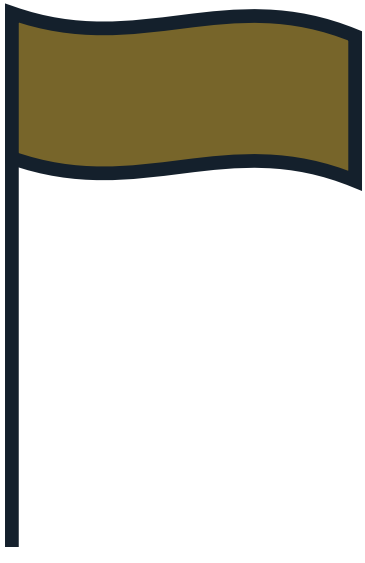
An octagonal hard court of clay, sand or dirt, 60 feet long by 30 feet wide, ringed by a raised border faced for rebounds, with a boundary/playing line marked 28 inches inside the wall.



The Gear

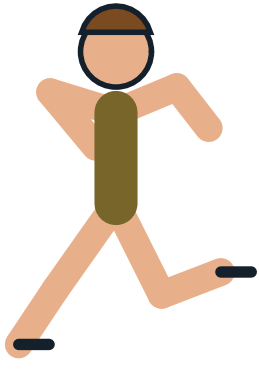
Four hard-rubber balls (red, white, blue, black in League play), short roque mallets with rubber/aluminium faces, ten permanently anchored steel arches and two end stakes.





How It Starts

Lag for the lead, set the balls in the centre-nearest corners, then shoot at a live ball to earn a roquet, take croquet from it, and work each ball through the arch order toward pegging out.



How to Play

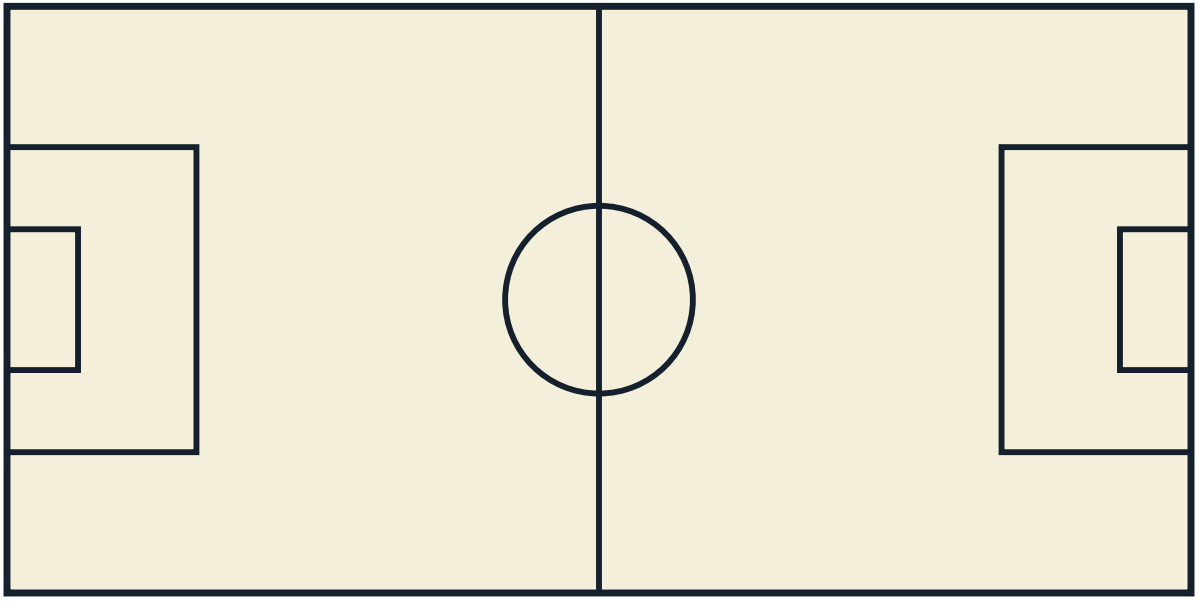
- Format: like croquet, roque is played by two players (singles, two balls each) or two two-player teams, driving balls with mallets through arches and against stakes in a set order.
- Scoring (historical book form): a player or team earns 1 point for each hoop (arch) or peg run by each ball; each ball counts 16 points to peg out (the double centre hoop counting as one hoop), so a winning score is 32 points.
- The court is walled: balls may be caromed off the raised border, a stake or an arch, and a carom shot may go on to score a hoop or a roquet — the bank shot is the defining stroke of roque.
- A ball coming to rest between the raised border and the boundary (playing) line 28 inches inside it is out of bounds and is placed on the boundary line at the point where it crossed.
- Play opens with a lag for order and starting position: each player lags balls from near the home stake toward the far end, the qualifying ball finishing closest to the opposite border (without hitting border, peg or hoop) winning the lag; the four balls are then placed in the four corners nearest the centre, partners diagonally opposite.

More of the Game

- A roquet (the striker's ball hitting a live ball) is followed by taking play from it — setting the striker's ball against the roqueted ball and playing a croquet stroke moving both — as in croquet.
- The striker may roquet each of the other three balls only once in a turn; directly hitting a ball already roqueted in that turn ends the turn and the hit ball is reset, unless the hit came via a carom off the border.
- The double centre hoop counts as one hoop and may be run in one shot or two; the last hoop and peg cannot be run on the same turn, and both rover balls must peg out on the same turn, the first only by a croquet shot.
- Equipment differs from croquet: balls are hard rubber, never wood; mallets are shorter, with one face of the head rubber and the other aluminium or plastic; official hoop openings are as narrow as 3 3/4 inches.

The Shape of a Match

Croquet made scientific: singles or doubles on a walled hard court, running ten steel arches in order in both directions plus the stakes, using roquets, croquet strokes and billiard-like bank shots.

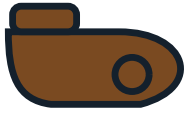


More of the Olympic past Family

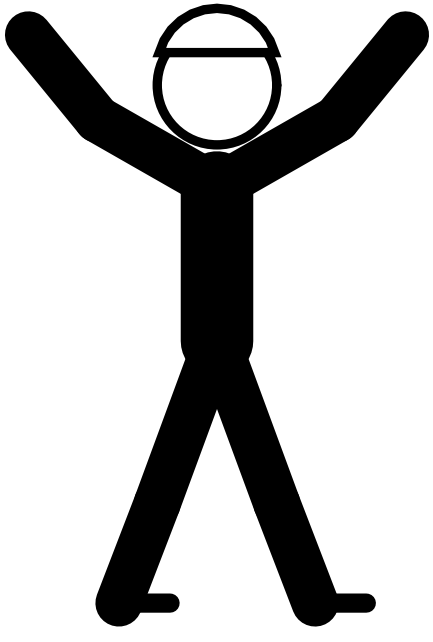
- Tug of War — Olympic medal sport from 1900 to 1920.
- Club Swinging — Gymnastic club routines at the 1904 and 1932 Games.
- Plunge for Distance — Diving event decided by distance glided, held in 1904.

A Note on the Rules

Roque is the American hard-court descendant of croquet (an Olympic event in 1904, replacing croquet) governed historically by its own American association; it faded with the 20th century and is preserved by a small enthusiast community under its period code. No modern law change is carried for roque.

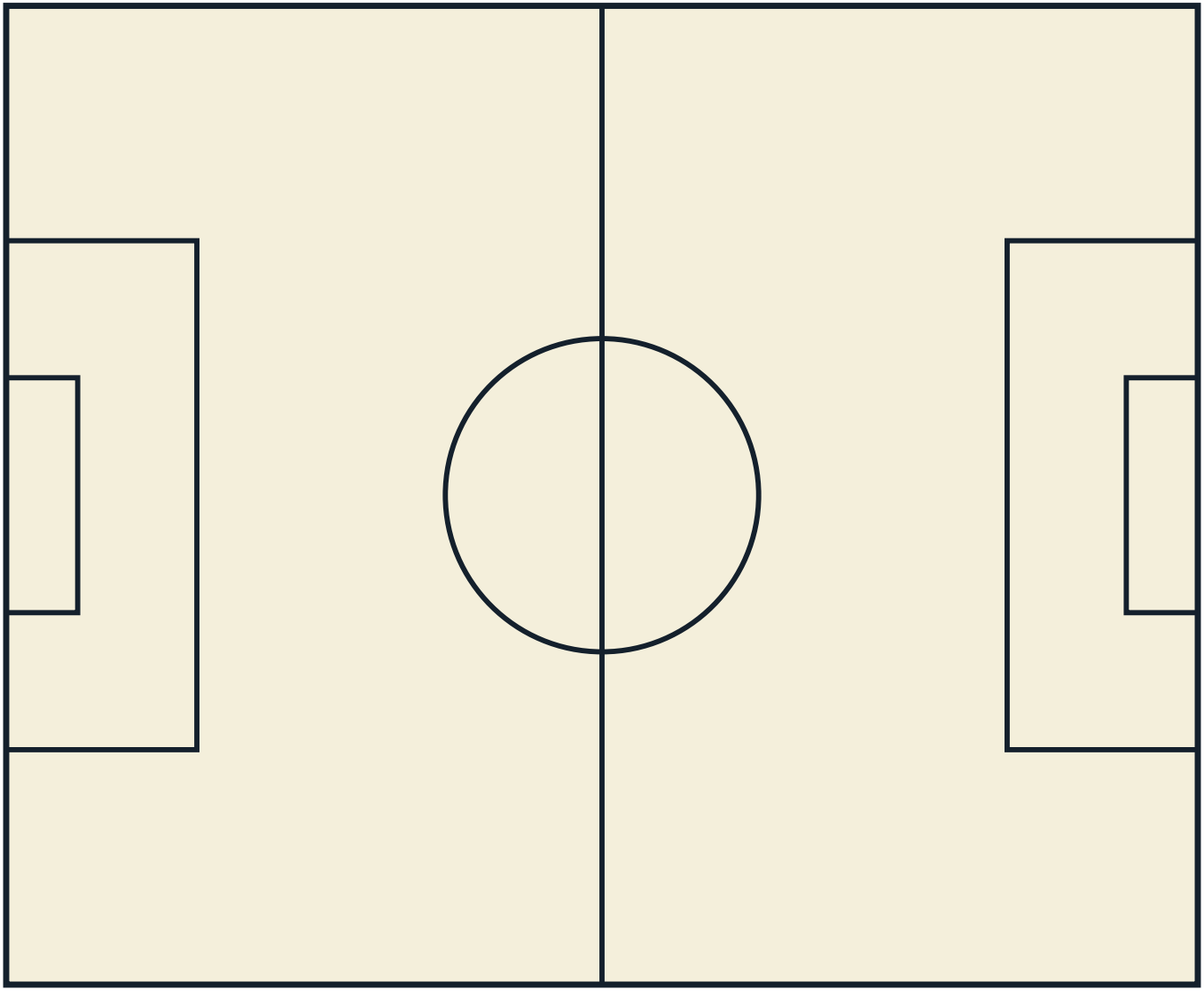


Colour the Action

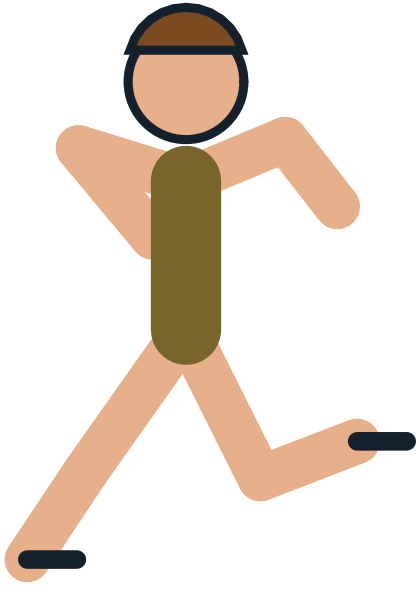


Psst — this page is a colouring page!

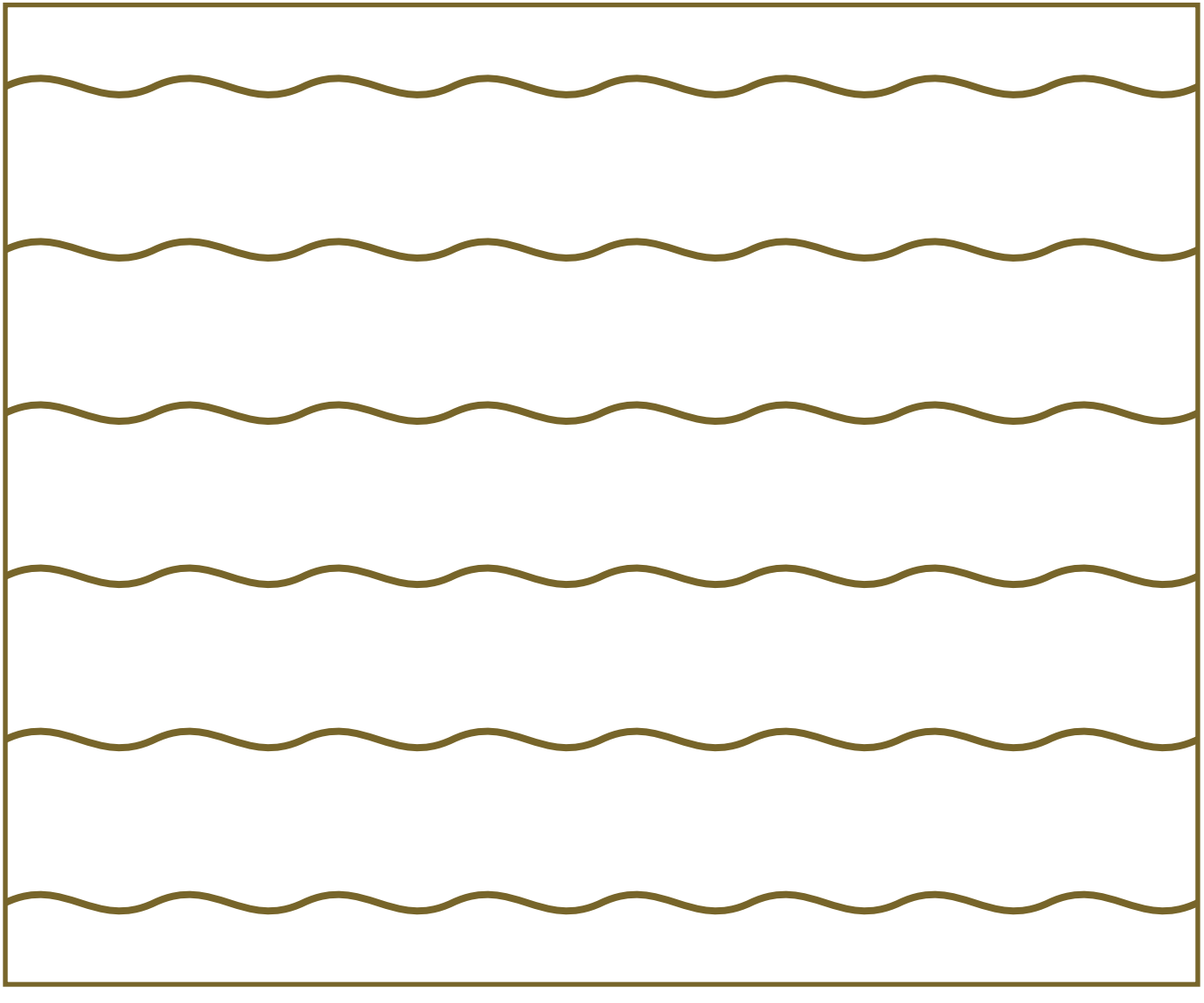
The Sport Today



At School and College



Play It Near You



Through the Year

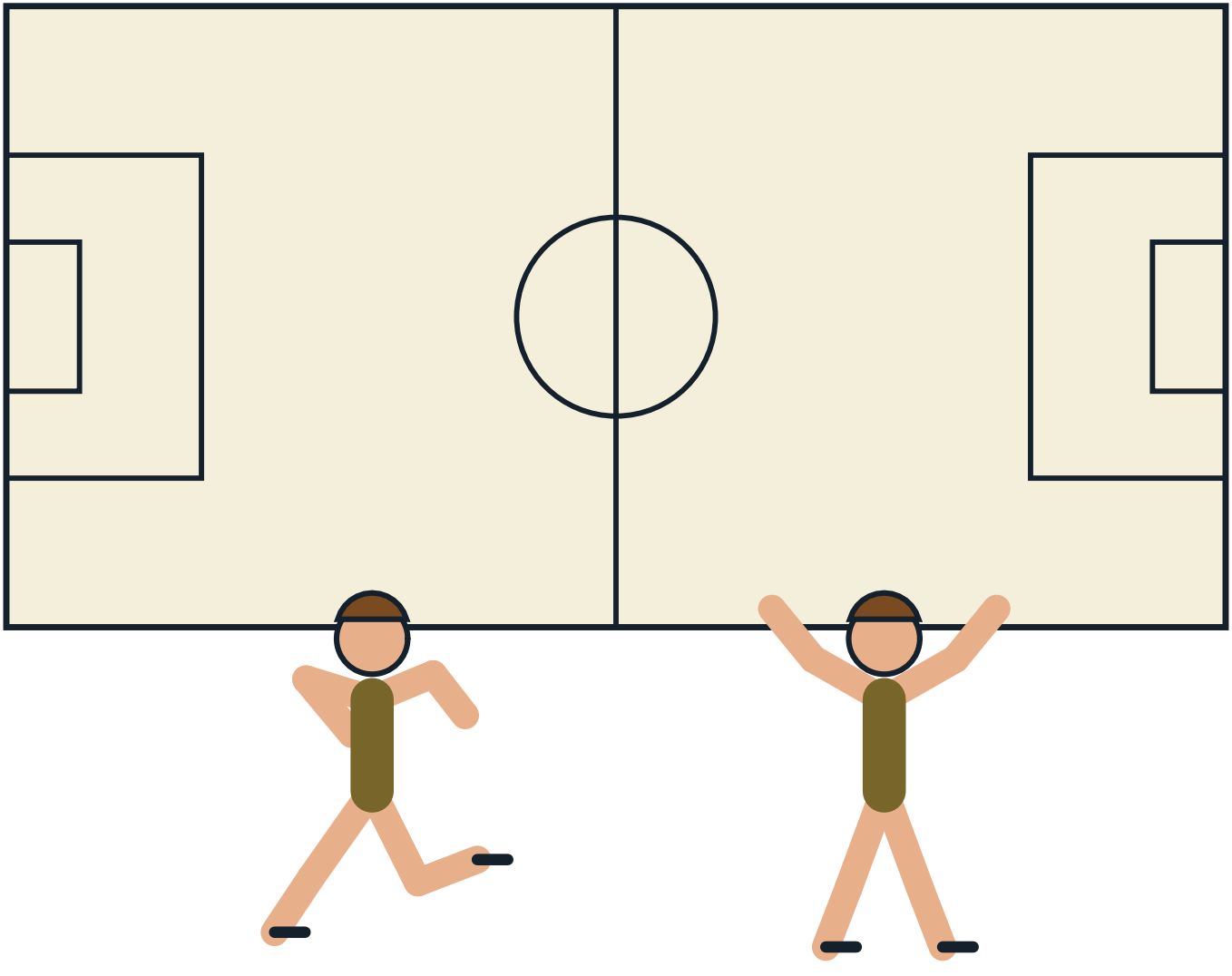


The Olympic past Family

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.

- Tug of War — Olympic medal sport from 1900 to 1920.
- Club Swinging — Gymnastic club routines at the 1904 and 1932 Games.
- Plunge for Distance — Diving event decided by distance glided, held in 1904.

Game Day!

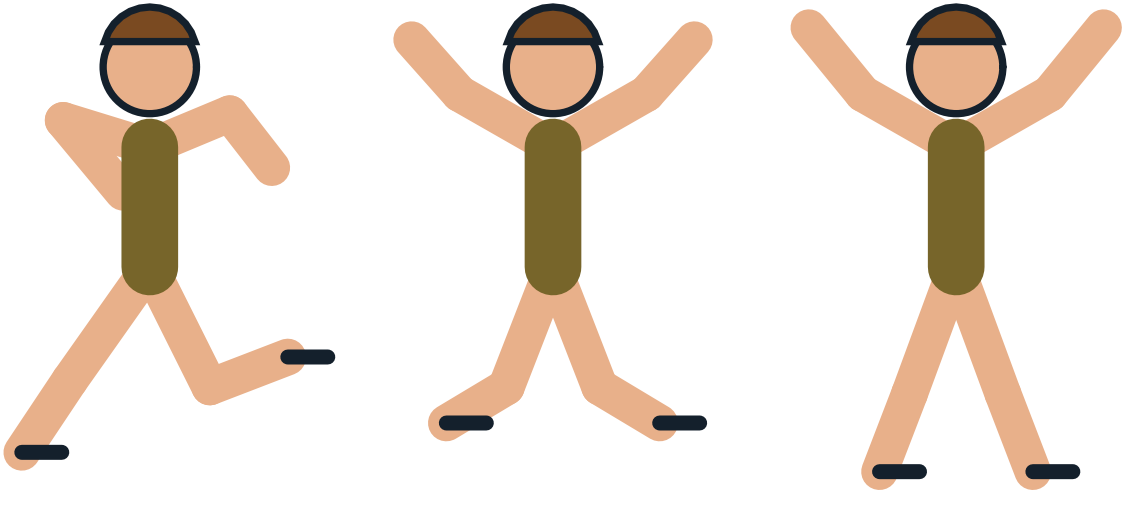


The Sport on Earth Mark

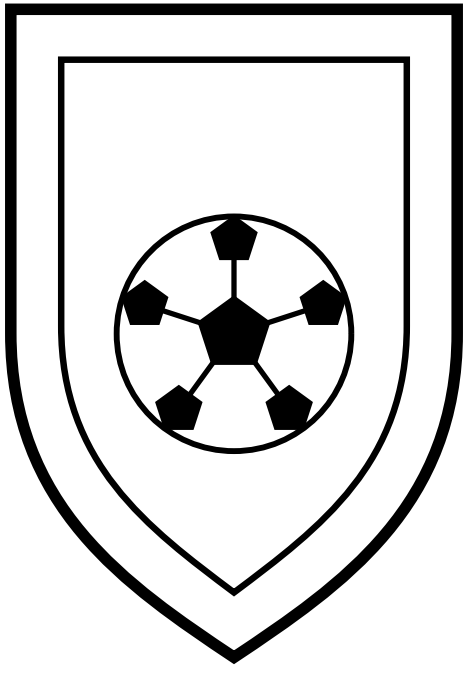
Every sport on Sport on Earth carries its own original mark, drawn for the site. Here is this sport's.



Moves of the Game



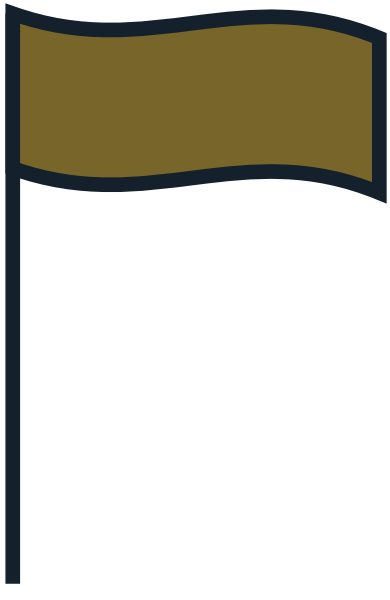
Design a Badge



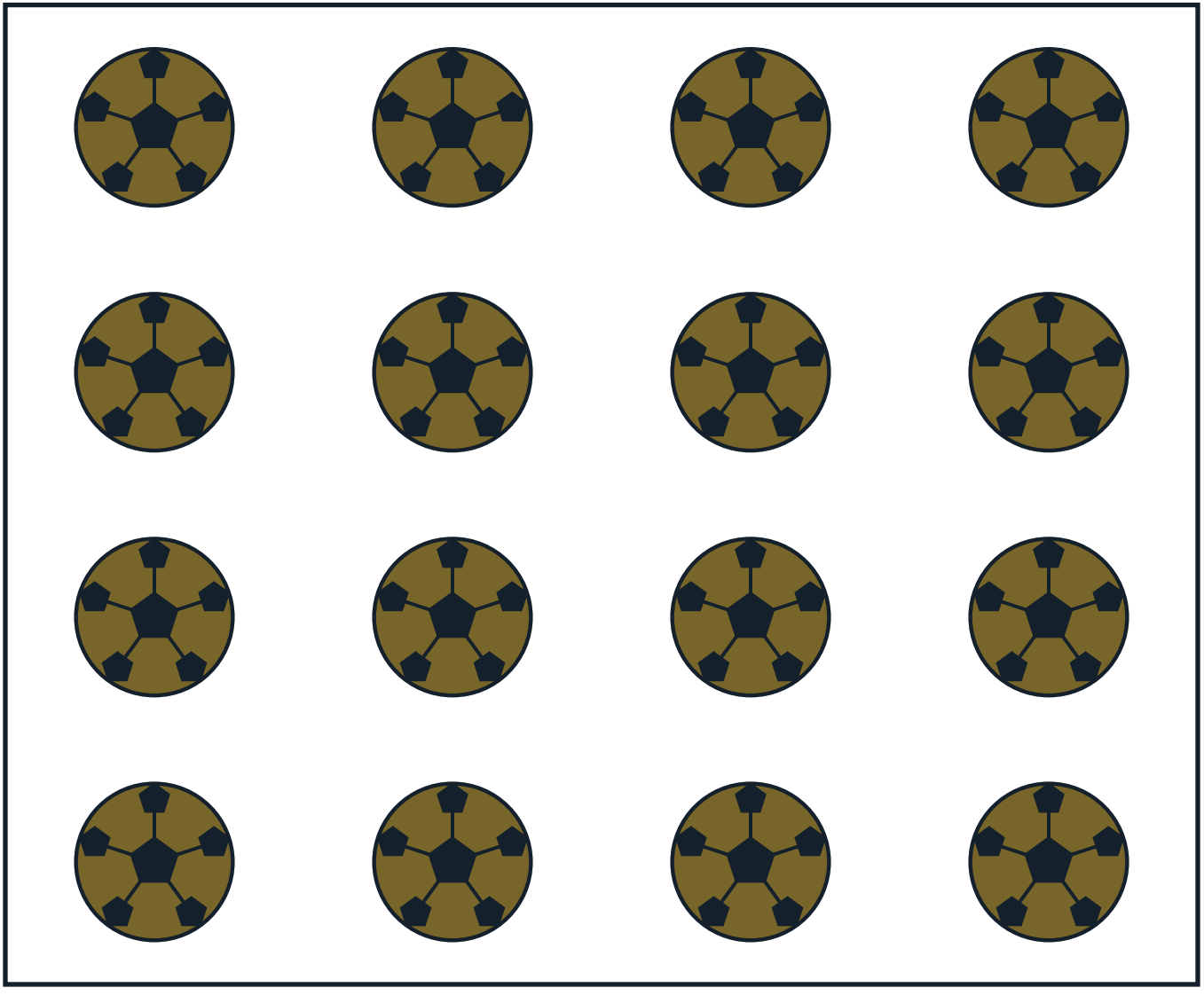
Draw and colour a badge for your own team.

The Gear Parade

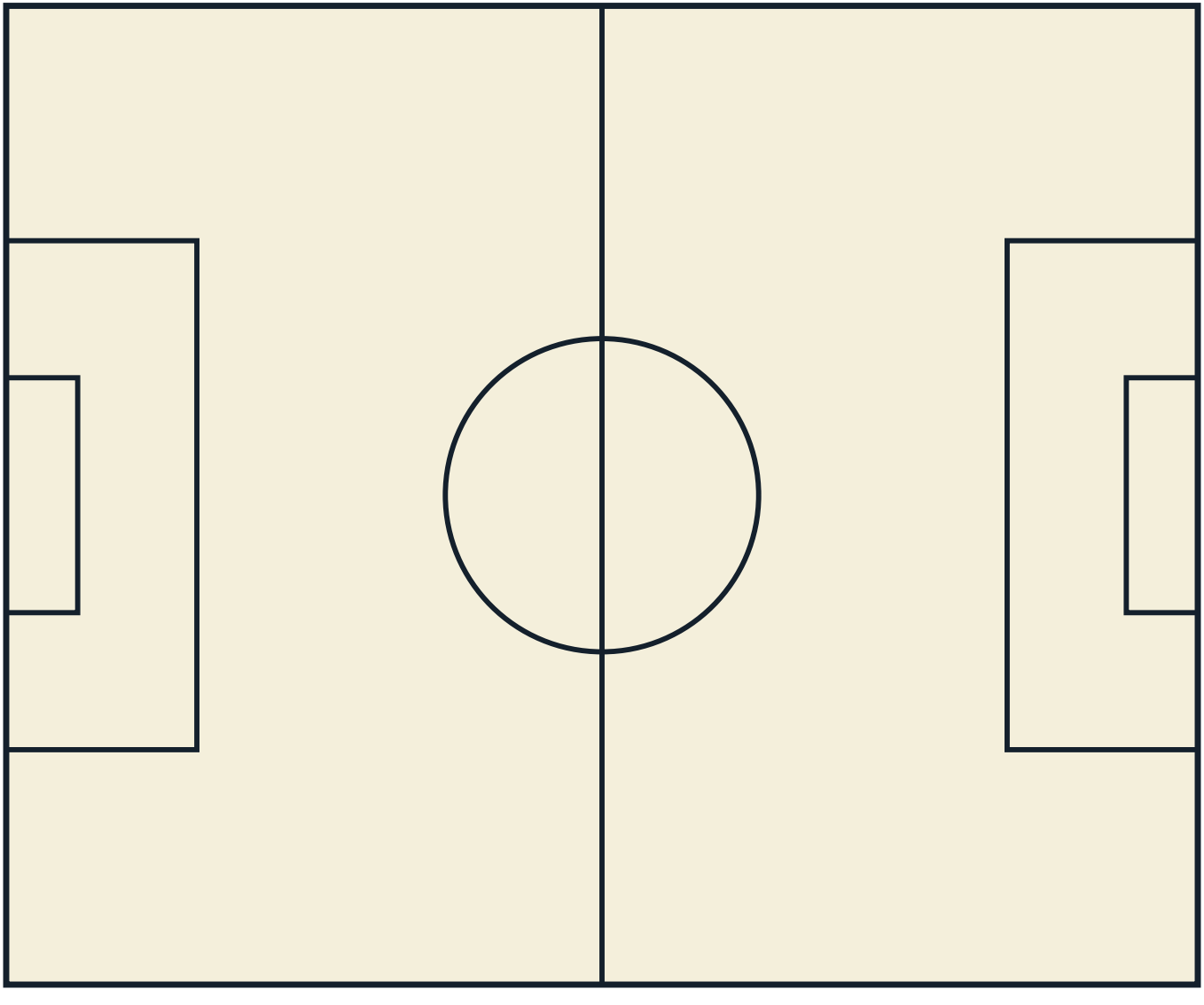




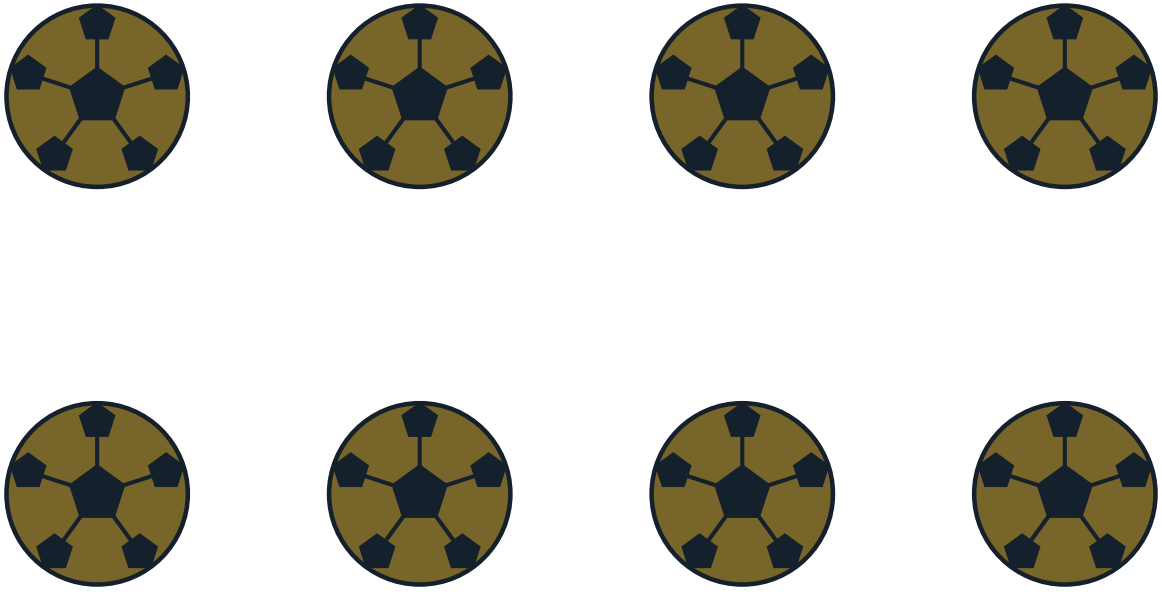
Pattern Play



The Arena From Above



Count the Balls!



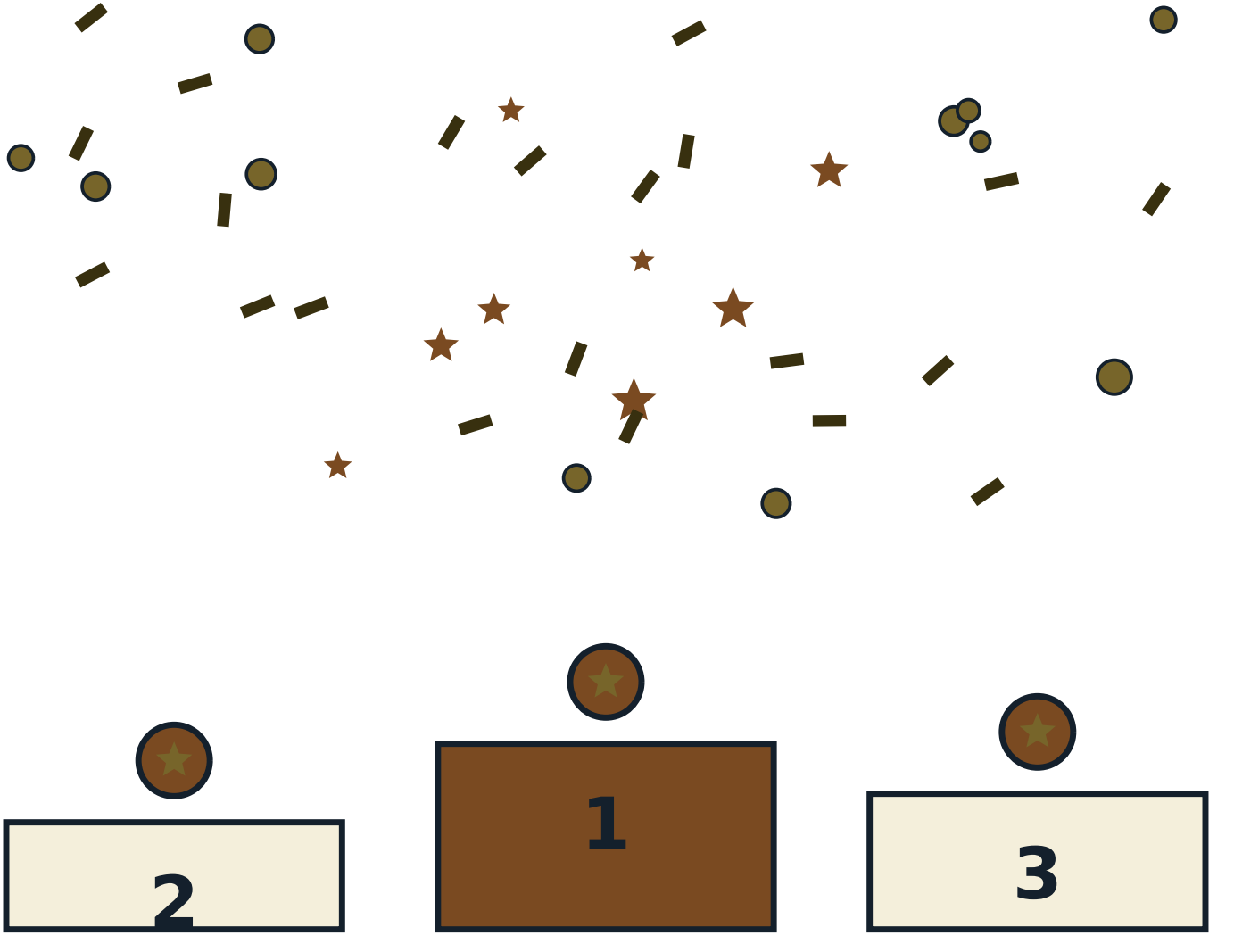
How many can you count? Write the number here: _____

My Favourite Part of Roque

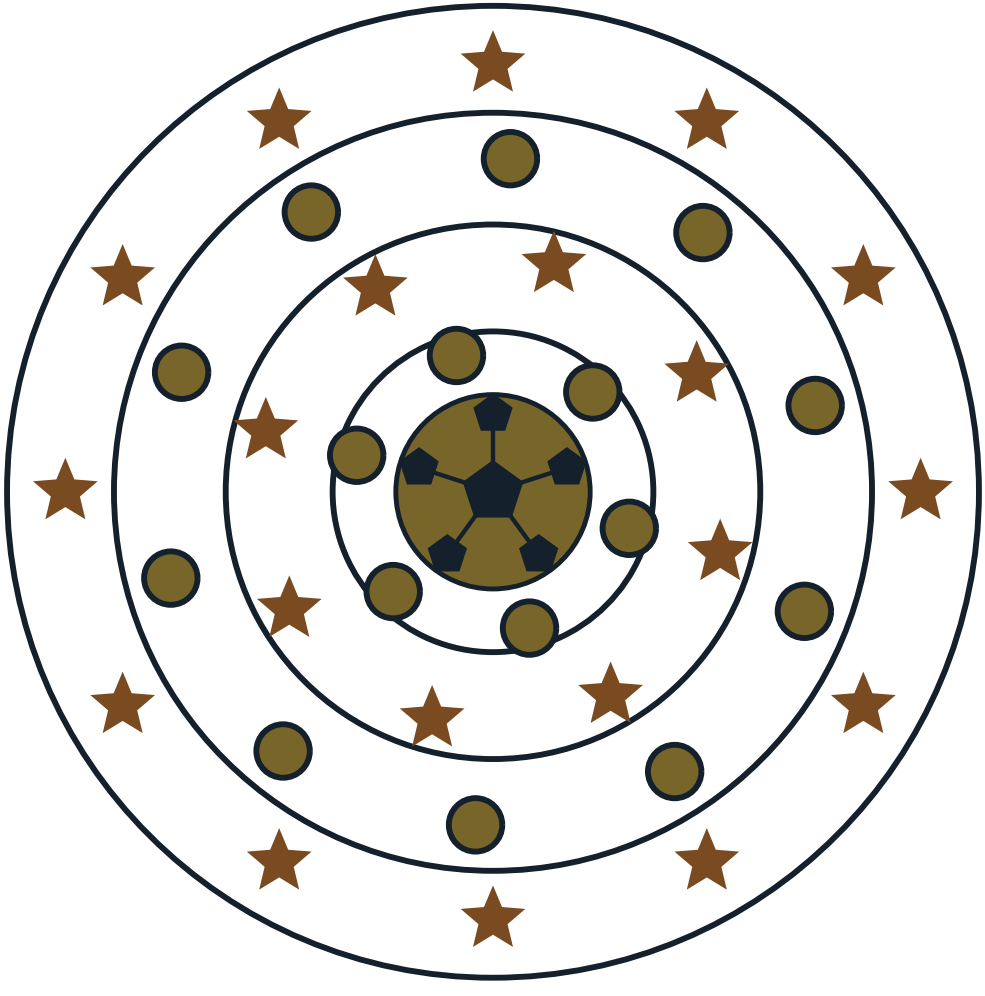
Gear Close-Up



Champions!



The Mandala of the Game



About This Book

Governing body: American Roque League (est. 1917; historically also the National Roque Association) — defunct at top level. Laws edition the site's rules file follows: American Roque League rules as reproduced in full at roquegame.com, with the roque chapter of The Complete Book of Lawn Games. 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 Tug of War
- The Cartoon Book of Club Swinging
- The Cartoon Book of Plunge for Distance
- The Tug of War Colouring Book
- The Club Swinging Colouring Book
- The Plunge for Distance Colouring Book

My Notes

Roque

The Cartoon Book of Roque — a Sport on Earth Book.

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