

## 2006 FIFA WORLD CUP ON ESPN, ESPN2 AND ABC SPORTS FACT SHEET

- WHEN:** June 9 - July 9
- WHERE:** 12 venues in Germany – Berlin, Cologne, Dortmund, Frankfurt, Gelsenkirchen, Hamburg, Hanover, Kaiserslautern, Leipzig, Munich, Nuremberg and Stuttgart
- TELEVISION:** ESPN, ESPN2 and ABC Sports will televise all 64 FIFA World Cup matches live (ESPN – 21, ESPN2 – 31, ABC Sports – 12).
- All matches and 47 *World Cup Live* studio programs will be available in high definition
  - ESPN360 will simulcast all 52 matches on ESPN and ESPN2 live
- WHAT:**
- History** – The FIFA World Cup is the world’s largest and most-popular single-sport event. The World Cup competition takes place every four years. Teams representing 32 nations compete, following a two-year qualification process involving over 180 countries. This will be the 18<sup>th</sup> FIFA World Cup. The event began in 1930. South Africa will host the event in 2010.
- Format** – A round-robin phase will include eight groups of four teams in the initial three-match series. The top two teams from each group based on points (three points for a win, one point for a tie) will advance to the second round. From there, it is single-elimination.
- TELECAST FORMAT:** All matches will be presented in entirety with two, uninterrupted 45-minute halves. Commercials will be aired during pre-game, halftime and post-game shows. Sponsors will receive additional exposure when their logos are superimposed on the screen during the game.
- GAME COMMENTATORS:** Play-by-Play  
**Dave O’Brien** – ESPN, ESPN2, ABC Sports  
**JP Dellacamera** – ESPN, ESPN2, ABC Sports  
**Rob Stone** – ESPN, ESPN2  
**Glenn Davis** – ESPN, ESPN2  
**Adrian Healey** – ESPN, ESPN2
- Game Analysts

**Marcelo Balboa** – ESPN, ESPN2, ABC Sports

**John Harkes** – ESPN, ESPN2, ABC Sports

**Robin Fraser** – ESPN, ESPN2

**Shep Messing** – ESPN, ESPN2

**Tommy Smyth** – ESPN, ESPN2

**STUDIO COMMENTATORS:**        **Brent Musburger**, *host* – ABC Sports

**Rece Davis**, *host* – ESPN, ESPN2

**Dave Revsine**, *host* – ESPN, ESPN2

**Eric Wynalda**, *analyst* – ESPN2, ESPN, ABC Sports

**Alexi Lalas**, *analyst* – ESPN, ESPN2, ABC Sports

**Julie Foudy**, *analyst* – ESPN, ESPN2, ABC Sports

**Allen Hopkins**, *analyst* – ESPN, ESPN2

**Tommy Smyth**, *analyst* – ESPN, ESPN2

**U.S. TV HISTORY:**

English-speaking television coverage of the FIFA World Cup began in the U.S. in 1966 with one match on NBC. The 1970, '74 and '78 World Cups were presented on closed circuit television. ABC and ESPN began World Cup coverage in 1982 with one and seven matches, respectively. In 1986, ESPN televised 15 matches while NBC presented seven. In 1990, TNT televised 25 matches. Since the 1994 World Cup, ESPN and ABC have combined to provide coverage of all FIFA World Cup matches.

In January 2002, ESPN, Inc. and ABC Sports announced a multi-year agreement with Major League Soccer's marketing arm – Soccer United Marketing (SUM) – for the exclusive U.S. English television rights to the 2002 and 2006 World Cups, and the 2003 Women's World Cup.

ESPN and ABC Sports are the U.S. English-language homes of the Men's and Women's FIFA World Cup events through 2014 – having acquired the rights for exclusive English-language telecasts of the FIFA World Cup™ and the FIFA Women's World Cup for another eight years in the United States in 2005