

# FIFA 2014: GAME ON!

How do you even begin to summarize the excitement of the top prize for the greatest game on earth? Unfortunately for many Canadians, this is not of course a reference to Hockey and the Stanley Cup, but is instead the description of the 2014 FIFA World Cup and the beautiful game, but perhaps I am getting ahead of myself.

Now, before you start throwing pucks through my window, I am not saying Hockey isn't beautiful, because it is in fact a remarkable sport. There is something visually appealing and gratifying when one witness's two-hundred-something pound meatheads crashing into one another while gliding on a pair of knives, but all the blood and national claims pale in comparison to that of organized and well played football.

The 2014 FIFA World Cup kicked off in Brazil amidst some very high bidding compared to previous years. This is only the second time I have partook in watching FIFA, the previous being FIFA 2010 in South Africa. I wish I could have been watching FIFA World Cups and organized football matches more in my youth, but life had different expectations for me.

I began my failed sporting life playing soccer at the age of eight for six years,



but never got very far as a player. As I began to grow up, I began to grow out. My body resembled something of a refrigerator with hair rather than that of a nimble, quick and an efficient striker or forward. To add insult to injury, I soon learned on the field that even a defensive position requires someone with speed, great ball control and impressive body coordination.

I had none of those qualities so competitive soccer was then out of the question for me, but at least hockey and rugby would always have a place for a slower kid with a lot of mass. There I go again knocking on two great sports. Why would I do such a thing? Maybe it's just because I am a dick, or maybe it's because football gets me more excited than any other sport and the FIFA World Cup gets me more excited than any other sporting event, but again, why?

Perhaps it is the history of football, the World Cup and the FIFA organization.