## Theme 7

## Champions

## Pupil Activity Sheet 12

## Are Draws More Likely in Low-Scoring Games Compared to High-Scoring Games?

## Introduction

Over the years the rules of rugby league have changed to encourage more passing and running by the backs. Today teams are allowed to be tackled six times before possession is turned over to the opposition. This used to be four tackles. Scrums are no longer contested, so the ball is moved out to the backs much more quickly than used to be the case.

The changes in these and some other rules have made rugby league a higher scoring game than it used to be. Your studies of the 1914-15 and the 2001-02 seasons suggest that there were more draws when the game was lower scoring and that there are fewer draws under the higher scoring rules of today.

1. Invent a simple low scoring dice game and a simple higher scoring dice game to find out whether the theory that there are more draws in lower scoring games is true.

Explain the rules of your games below.
How often are you going to play your games to get a pattern in your results?
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2. Play your dice games and record the results. Do the results prove the theory about the frequency of draws in higher and lower scoring games?
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3. Extension activity.
a) Association football is a lower scoring game compared to rugby league.

Find some league tables for this game, either from newspapers or sports history books. Compare figures from one or more league tables for this game with the figures for the rugby league seasons you have studied below.

The second, blank table below might help you. Each blank column can represent one league table for one season.
N.B. A Premier League season in which 20 teams play 38 matches each involves a total of 380 matches. A Championship, League 1 or League 2 season in which 24 teams play 46 matches each involves a total of 552 matches.

| Northern Union Rugby/Rugby League |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Season |  |  |
| Drawn Matches |  |  |
| Total number of matches played | 402 | 2002 |
| Dra |  |  |
| Total number of drawn matches | 22 | 8 |
| Number of matches per drawn match | 18.27 | 30.38 |
| Percentage of drawn matches | 5.47 | 3.29 |
| Points Scored |  |  |
| Total number of points scored | 8212 | 12,249 |
| Average number of points per game | 20.43 | 50.41 |


| Association Football |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Season |  |  |  |
| Total number of matches played Matches |  |  |  |
| Points/Goals Scored |  |  |  |
| Total number of drawn matches |  |  |  |
| Number of matches per drawn match |  |  |  |
| Percentage of drawn matches |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Total number of goals scored |  |  |  |
| Average number of goals per game |  |  |  |

