



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?

neory about the frequency of draws in higher and lower scoring games?				

- 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	1914-15	2002			
Total number of matches played	402	243			
Drawn Matches					
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						
Drawn Matches						
Total number of drawn matches						
Number of matches per drawn match						
Percentage of drawn matches						
Points/Goals Scored						
Total number of goals scored						
Average number of goals per game						