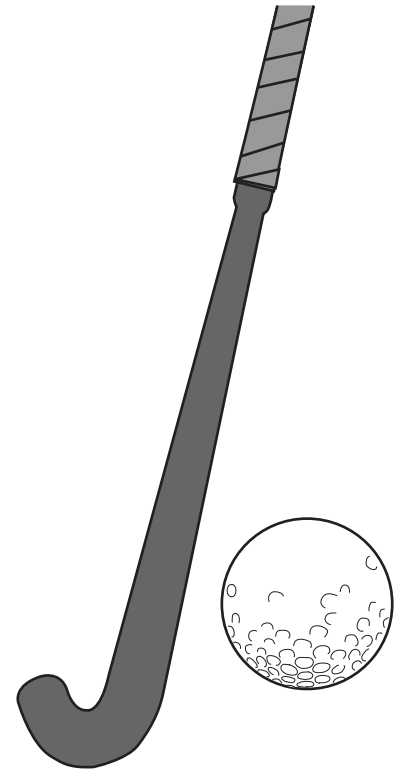


The history of Field Hockey

Though field hockey was first *introduced* to the modern Olympics in 1908, its history is much longer. In fact, records show it was part of the Olympics in Ancient Greece as early as 200 B.C., making it one of the oldest team sports in the world.

Versions of this stick and ball game were played at different parts of history around the world. A similar game called Beikou was played in China 1,000 years ago, and it was also seen in the northern part of Europe around that time. The game of field hockey that we know today was created in public schools in England about 200 years ago. These first games were played with a cricket ball, and *lacked* many of the rules of field hockey that exist today.

The sport was spread by the British Army in Britain's *colonies*, including India, Australia, and the United States. Though these countries are no longer colonies of Britain, the sport has a rich history there and is still very popular. By 1900, the game was truly *international*, and several important rules were *established*. These included playing with 11 people on each side and limiting players from raising the stick above their shoulders.



Vocabulary

Introduced: Brought to
Versions: Different types
Lacked: Was missing

Colonies: Areas settled by another country
International: Including two or more countries
Established: Started

How did the game of field hockey spread? Use facts from the text to write your answer.
