

2011/12 HSBC SEVENS WORLD SERIES



STATISTICAL REVIEW WELLINGTON & LAS VEGAS

IRB GAME ANALYSIS

This statistical report summarises the **Wellington (New Zealand)** and **Las Vegas (USA)** legs of the 2011/12 HSBC Sevens World Series. The cup winning teams were:

2011 Wellington Cup winners: **New Zealand**

2011 Las Vegas Cup winners: **Samoa**

The report comprises a quantitative analysis of all elements of play together with the approach to, and performance of, all participating teams in various aspects of the game.

Wellington and **Las Vegas** produced the following team highlights:

SCORING

Most tries scored per match – **New Zealand**

Fewest tries conceded per match – **New Zealand**

Most tries conceded per match – **Brasil**

Fewest tries scored per match – **Brasil**

Most points scored per match – **New Zealand**

Fewest points conceded per match – **New Zealand**

Best try scoring rate – **New Zealand**

Best try conceding rate- **New Zealand**

Highest conversion success - **Argentina**

TRY SCORING

Most tries scored from penalty/free kicks – **Wales**

Most tries scored from restarts – **Kenya**

Most tries scored from turnovers –

Most tries scored from own half – **USA & Kenya**

Highest % of tries with no rucks in build-up – **Fiji**

Highest % of tries with 3 or fewer passes in build-up – **Brasil**

ACTIVITY/POSSESSION

Highest average possession – **South Africa**

Highest passing rate – **Samoa & USA**

Lowest passing rate – **Tonga**

Highest rucking rate - **Brasil**

Lowest rucking rate - **Fiji**

Highest ruck success – **Tonga**

Lowest ruck success – **Uruguay**

Most likely to kick – **Argentina**

Least likely to kick – **Australia & USA**

SET PIECE & DISCIPLINE

Highest contestable restart success – **Samoa**

Most likely to kick contestable restarts – **Brasil**

Least likely to kick contestable restarts - **Uruguay**

Highest scrum success – **New Zealand, Canada, USA, South Africa, Wales & Argentina**

Highest lineout success – **Uruguay & Cook Islands**

Penalised the least – **South Africa**

Penalised the most – **Uruguay**

Most yellow/red cards – **France, Kenya & Samoa**

The above data and more extensive analysis on all participating sevens teams can be found in the following report.

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2011/12 HSBC SEVENS OVERALL STANDINGS

	AUS	DUB	RSA	NZL	USA	HKG	JAP	SCO	ENG	TOT
 NZL	19	10	22	22	19					92
 FJI	22	17	12	19	17					87
 SA	17	12	19	13	15					76
 ENG	10	22	15	17	10					74
 SAM	12	3	17	15	22					69
 AUS	15	13	10	7	7					52
 FRA	10	19	10	10	3					52
 WAL	13	10	13	5	10					51
 ARG	8	15	5	5	12					45
 CAN	-	5	7	10	8					30
 SCO	7	8	8	3	2					28
 KEN	1	2	2	8	13					26
 USA	5	7	5	1	5					23
 TON	5	-	-	12	-					17
 JAP	2	-	-	1	5					8
 POR	-	5	1	-	-					6
 ZIM	-	1	3	-	-					4
 PNG	3	-	-	-	-					3
 COO	-	-	-	2	-					2
 BRA	-	-	-	-	1					1
 MOR	-	-	1	-	-					1
 NIU	1	-	-	-	-					1
 UAE	-	1	-	-	-					1
 URU	-	-	-	-	1					1



2011/12 IRB SEVENS OVERALL PLAYER STATISTICS

		POINTS SCORED 2010/11				TRIES SCORED 2010/11	
	Tomasi Cama	NZL	215		Frank Halai	NZL	27
	Colin Gregor	SCO	154		Dan Norton	ENG	23
	Frank Halai	NZL	135		Tomasi Cama	NZL	21
	Dan Norton	ENG	121		James Fleming	SCO	20
	Cecil Afrika	RSA	109		Mat Turner	ENG	19



2011 WELLINGTON MATCH RESULTS

POOL	TEAM	SCORE	TEAM	KNOCKOUT	TEAM	SCORE	TEAM
Pool	NEW ZEALAND	19 - 7	SAMOA	CUP 3 th /4 th PLATE BOWL SHIELD	NEW ZEALAND	24 - 7	FIJI
Pool	FRANCE	10 - 10	AUSTRALIA		ENGLAND	21 - 12	SAMOA
Pool	FIJI	19 - 0	WALES		TONGA	0 - 24	SOUTH AFRICA
Pool	SOUTH AFRICA	14 - 10	ENGLAND		KENYA	12 - 7	AUSTRALIA
Pool	SCOTLAND	55 - 0	JAPAN	SHIELD	SCOTLAND	19 - 17	COOK ISLANDS
Pool	CANADA	21 - 14	KENYA	Cup S/F	SAMOA	5 - 28	FIJI
Pool	ARGENTINA	14 - 24	TONGA	Cup S/F	NEW ZEALAND	17 - 12	ENGLAND
Pool	USA	22 - 26	COOK ISLANDS	Plate S/F	CANADA	19 - 21	SOUTH AFRICA
Pool	SAMOA	21 - 14	SCOTLAND	Plate S/F	FRANCE	7 - 15	TONGA
Pool	NEW ZEALAND	54 - 0	JAPAN	Bowl S/F	AUSTRALIA	24 - 12	ARGENTINA
Pool	AUSTRALIA	14 - 12	CANADA	Bowl S/F	KENYA	17 - 7	WALES
Pool	FRANCE	26 - 17	KENYA	Shield S/F	JAPAN	10 - 17	COOK ISLANDS
Pool	WALES	19 - 7	ARGENTINA	Shield S/F	SCOTLAND	14 - 12	USA
Pool	FIJI	14 - 17	TONGA	Cup Q/F	SOUTH AFRICA	5 - 21	FIJI
Pool	ENGLAND	29 - 0	USA	Cup Q/F	CANADA	12 - 15	SAMOA
Pool	SOUTH AFRICA	43 - 0	COOK ISLANDS	Cup Q/F	TONGA	7 - 26	ENGLAND
Pool	SAMOA	29 - 14	JAPAN	Cup Q/F	NEW ZEALAND	22 - 7	FRANCE
Pool	NEW ZEALAND	29 - 7	SCOTLAND	Bowl Q/F	COOK ISLANDS	0 - 28	ARGENTINA
Pool	AUSTRALIA	10 - 35	KENYA	Bowl Q/F	AUSTRALIA	33 - 5	JAPAN
Pool	FRANCE	14 - 19	CANADA	Bowl Q/F	WALES	10 - 0	USA
Pool	WALES	14 - 14	TONGA	Bowl Q/F	SCOTLAND	5 - 14	KENYA
Pool	FIJI	31 - 0	ARGENTINA				
Pool	ENGLAND	27 - 12	COOK ISLANDS				
Pool	SOUTH AFRICA	21 - 0	USA				



2011 LAS VEGAS MATCH RESULTS

POOL	TEAM	SCORE	TEAM	KNOCKOUT	TEAM	SCORE	TEAM	
Pool	ARGENTINA	14 - 12	USA	CUP 3 rd /4 th	NEW ZEALAND	19 - 26	SAMOA	
Pool	NEW ZEALAND	12 - 5	SAMOA		SOUTH AFRICA	15 - 21	FIJI	
Pool	FRANCE	5 - 33	SOUTH AFRICA		PLATE BOWL	ARGENTINA	7 - 21	KENYA
Pool	KENYA	7 - 7	ENGLAND		SHIELD	AUSTRALIA	17 - 19	CANADA
Pool	FIJI	19 - 10	CANADA	Cup S/F	FRANCE	22 - 7	SCOTLAND	
Pool	AUSTRALIA	10 - 7	JAPAN	Cup S/F	SAMOA	14 - 12	FIJI	
Pool	WALES	28 - 7	URUGUAY	Plate S/F	NEW ZEALAND	20 - 7	SOUTH AFRICA	
Pool	SCOTLAND	33 - 5	BRAZIL	Plate S/F	KENYA	22 - 14	WALES	
Pool	SAMOA	19 - 15	AUSTRALIA	Plate S/F	ENGLAND	19 - 21	ARGENTINA	
Pool	NEW ZEALAND	42 - 5	JAPAN	Bowl S/F	JAPAN	5 - 21	CANADA	
Pool	ENGLAND	12 - 7	SCOTLAND	Bowl S/F	AUSTRALIA	19 - 14	USA	
Pool	KENYA	38 - 0	BRAZIL	Shield S/F	SCOTLAND	40 - 12	URUGUAY	
Pool	SOUTH AFRICA	29 - 12	WALES	Shield S/F	BRAZIL	7 - 33	FRANCE	
Pool	FRANCE	21 - 19	URUGUAY	Cup Q/F	FIJI	12 - 5	WALES	
Pool	CANADA	12 - 19	ARGENTINA	Cup Q/F	KENYA	14 - 19	SAMOA	
Pool	FIJI	33 - 19	USA	Cup Q/F	SOUTH AFRICA	24 - 5	ARGENTINA	
Pool	SAMOA	33 - 0	JAPAN	Cup Q/F	NEW ZEALAND	12 - 7	ENGLAND	
Pool	NEW ZEALAND	31 - 5	AUSTRALIA	Bowl Q/F	CANADA	29 - 0	URUGUAY	
Pool	ENGLAND	29 - 5	BRAZIL	Bowl Q/F	SCOTLAND	14 - 15	JAPAN	
Pool	KENYA	17 - 14	SCOTLAND	Bowl Q/F	FRANCE	5 - 21	USA	
Pool	SOUTH AFRICA	35 - 0	URUGUAY	Bowl Q/F	AUSTRALIA	50 - 0	BRAZIL	
Pool	FRANCE	12 - 14	WALES					
Pool	CANADA	19 - 12	USA					
Pool	FIJI	14 - 12	ARGENTINA					





2011/12 HSBC SEVENS STATISTICAL COMPARISON

	2011/12 SEVENS	2010/11 SEVENS	2009/10 SEVENS
MATCHES SCORING	225	368	368
POINTS (average per game)	34	37	37
TRIES (average per game)	5.4	5.9	6.0
TRY RATE (rate)	Try every 78 secs	<i>Try every 74 secs</i>	<i>Try every 75 secs</i>
CONVERSION SUCCESS (%)	64%	64%	62%
PENALTY / DROP GOALS (total)	7	6	3
MATCHES WON by team scoring most tries (%)	88%	90%	88%
SOURCE OF TRIES - pens/fks (%)	33%	31%	29%
ORIGIN OF TRIES - own Half (%)	42%	44%	43%
BUILD UP TO TRIES – no rucks/mauls (%)	54%	55%	61%
BUILD UP TO TRIES - 3 Or fewer passes (%)	58%	52%	55%
ACTIVITY			
BALL IN PLAY (%)	50%	52%	50%
PASSES (average per game)	66	71	70
5+ PASSING MOVEMENTS (rate)	1 in 10.7	<i>1 in 8.7</i>	<i>1 in 7.7</i>
RUCKS/MAULS (average per game)	20	19	17
RUCK/MAUL RETENTION (%)	84%	85%	84%
KICKS (average per game)	2.4	2.4	3.7
SET PIECE			
CONTESTABLE RESTARTS (%)	71%	74%	77%
CONTESTABLE RESTARTS REGAINED (%)	39%	36%	37%
RESTART ERRORS (rate)	1 in 17	<i>1 in 20</i>	<i>1 in 18</i>
SCRUMS (average per game)	4	4	4
SCRUMS possession retained (%)	94%	91%	84%
LINEOUTS (average per game)	2	2	2
LINEOUTS possession retained (%)	73%	74%	78%
QUICK THROWS (total)	1 in 12	<i>1 in 10</i>	<i>1 in 10</i>
PENALTIES/FREE KICKS & CARDS			
PENALTIES (average per game)	6.0	5.4	5.4
CARDS (total)	55 + 4	<i>72 + 4</i>	<i>110 + 4</i>























































1. SCORING & CONCEDED

The average number of points scored in a match was **32**. The average number of points scored/conceded by a team was **16** but, not surprisingly, there were major variations around this average. **New Zealand** scored an average of 25 points and conceded an average of 8 points, whereas **Brasil** scored an average of 3 points and conceded an average of 37 points.



Overall there was a try scored every 83 seconds of play

Try scoring rates show how effective each team was in scoring points in relation to the possession that they obtain, and Try conceding rates show how effective each team was in restricting points in relation to the possession that their opponents obtained. The following table gives the relevant figures for each participating team. **New Zealand** had the best try scoring rate, scoring a try every **56** secs of own possession and the best try conceding rate, conceding a try every 202 secs of opposition possession.

		Av POINTS SCORED	Av POINTS CONCEDED	Av TRIES SCORED	Av TRIES CONCEDED			TRY SCORING RATE		TRY CONCEDING RATE	
	NZL	25	8	4.1	1.3		NZL	56 secs		NZL	202 secs
	SA	23	9	3.6	1.6		SA	65 secs		ENG	124 secs
	FJI	19	11	2.9	1.8		SCO	68 secs		KEN	115 secs
	SCO	19	15	2.9	2.4		FJI	74 secs		SA	114 secs
	KEN	19	11	2.8	1.8		ENG	75 secs		FJI	109 secs
	ENG	18	10	3	1.6		AUS	75 secs		WAL	105 secs
	AUS	18	15	3	2.3		CAN	75 secs		FRA	92 secs
	CAN	18	14	2.8	2.1		KEN	78 secs		CAN	91 secs
	SAM	17	15	2.7	2.3		FRA	84 secs		AUS	87 secs
	FRA	15	17	2.2	2.6		SAM	85 secs		SCO	86 secs
	ARG	13	18	1.9	2.9		COO	85 secs		SAM	83 secs
	TON	13	17	2	2.5		ARG	109 secs		ARG	80 secs
	WAL	12	14	1.9	2.1		TON	109 secs		TON	80 secs
	COO	12	25	2	4.2		URU	119 secs		USA	61 secs
	USA	11	19	1.8	3		WAL	120 secs		URU	56 secs
	URU	8	31	1.2	4.6		USA	121 secs		COO	56 secs
	JAP	6	31	1.1	4.8		JAP	162 secs		JAP	45 secs
	BRA	3	37	0.6	5.8		BRA	262 secs		BRA	35 secs



















There were 5 penalty goals and 1 drop goal.

The overall conversion success rate was 65%.

There were noticeable variations in the percentage success rates as seen in the attached table:

Because of the relatively few tries scored by some teams, applying percentages can only be regarded as indicative. In addition, the location of the score can be a significant factor in achieving a successful conversion.

The attached table shows the success rate of all participating teams with **Argentina** having the highest conversion success rate with 81% and **Australia** the lowest with 47%.

	CONVERSION SUCCESS %		CONVERSION SUCCESS %
 ARG	81%	 CAN	61%
 FJI	80%	 NZL	58%
 SCO	77%	 ENG	52%
 KEN	77%	 AUS	47%
 FRA	75%	 TON	7/12
 WAL	74%	 COO	6/12
 SA	67%	 JAP	3/11
 SAM	66%	 URU	4/6
 USA	61%	 BRA	1/3

2. TRY SCORING

There were 454 tries giving an average of 5.0 per match. **New Zealand** averaged 4.1 tries scored per match and averaged 1.3 tries conceded per match. The average number of tries scored and conceded by all participating teams is shown on the previous page.

During the *pool stage* there were 253 tries scored (average – 5.3 per match) and during the *knockout stages* there were 201 tries scored (average – 4.8 per match)

2.1 IMPACT OF TRIES

With 5 penalty goals, 0 drop goal and a conversion success rate of 65%, it was inevitable that tries would determine the winning team in the vast majority of cases – and this proved to be the case.

Of the 90 matches, **72 (or 80%)** were won by the team scoring the most tries. There were 18 matches where the tries were the same - 15 matches were won by scoring more conversions, 1 was won by a penalty goal and there were 2 drawn.



















2.2 POSSESSION SOURCE OF TRIES

The teams obtained possession of the ball prior to the scoring a try from a variety of sources. This is shown in the attached table:

It can be seen that the most fruitful source of tries was **penalties/free kicks** (38%). The table shows the importance of restarts, with nearly a fifth of all tries scored originating from restarts possession.

	TRY SOURCE
PENALTY/FREE KICK	38%
TURNOVER	19%
RESTART	19%
SCRUM	12%
LINEOUT	10%
KICK RECEIPT	3%

The following table shows the possession source of tries scored (own) and tries conceded (opp) by each team. The team that scored the highest proportion of their tries from penalties/free kicks was **Wales** and from restarts was **Kenya**.



















	PEN & FK		TURNOVER		RESTART		SCRUM		LINEOUT		KICK		TOTAL	
	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP
 NZL	18	5	8	4	7	2	9	2	7	1		1	49	15
 SA	19	8	9	4	10	4	2	2	3	1			43	19
 AUS	11	9	12	4	4	4	3	9	4	1	2		36	27
 FJI	11	10	7	4	9	3	3	2	3	3	2		35	22
 KEN	12	9	4	1	11	6	6	1	0	3	2		35	20
 SCO	16	12	5	3	9	7	3	4	1	2	1	1	35	29
 ENG	10	5	8	2	3	2	6	4	5	4	1	1	33	18
 SAM	12	12	7	3	5	5	4	5	4	3			32	28
 CAN	11	6	7	5	3	6	6	1	4	3		2	31	23
 FRA	11	13	4	8	6	4	1	2	1	2	1		24	29
 ARG	6	12	4	6	3	7	3	4	4	3		1	20	33
 WAL	11	10	1	4	4	5	1	1	2	1			19	21
 USA	7	11	2	9	5	5	1	0	2	5	1		18	30
 COO	5	6	1	8	4	6	1	2	1	2		1	12	25
 TON	6	7	1	2	0	3	2	2	2	0	1	1	12	15
 JAP	5	17	1	7	1	8	3	7	0	9	1		11	48
 URU	1	10	3	3	1	6	1	2	0	1		1	6	23
 BRA	1	11		7	0	2	0	5	2	1		3	3	29

2.3 ORIGIN & LOCATION OF TRIES

Tries originate from various parts of the pitch. Of all the tries scored, **42%** originated in the try scoring team's own half and **58%** in the opposition half, with **39%** scored behind the posts.

	OWN HALF	42%
	OPP HALF	58%
		TRY SCORING LOCATION
	LEFT HAND SIDE OF POSTS	29%
	BEHIND THE POSTS	39%
	RIGHT HAND SIDE OF POSTS	32%

The following table shows the origin of tries scored (own) and tries conceded (opp) by each team. The teams which scored a high percentage of their tries most of their tries from inside their own half were **USA & Kenya**. The team that scored the lowest percentage of their tries from their own half was **South Africa**.

	OWN HALF		HW – 10m		10m – 22m		22m - TRY		TOTAL	
	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP
 NZL	20	7	10	4	12	2	7	2	49	15
 SA	12	6	7	3	15	7	9	3	43	19
 AUS	13	12	3	6	13	4	7	5	36	27
 FJI	17	9	4	2	10	6	4	5	35	22
 KEN	22	8	4	1	7	5	2	6	35	20
 SCO	18	11	5	3	8	6	4	9	35	29
 ENG	10	10	2	3	9	1	12	4	33	18
 SAM	10	17	3	4	7	2	12	5	32	28
 CAN	14	11	4	2	5	7	8	3	31	23
 FRA	11	13	2	2	7	8	4	6	24	29
 ARG	7	16	1	3	3	12	9	2	20	33
 WAL	6	10	5	5	8	5		1	19	21
 USA	13	12	1	4	4	7		7	18	30
 COO	7	11	2	3	2	6	1	5	12	25
 TON	3	4	1	2	5	8	3	1	12	15
 JAP	5	18	3	6		15	3	9	11	48
 URU	2	6		2	3	9	1	6	6	23
 BRA	1	10		2		8	2	9	3	29

2.4 BUILD-UP TO TRIES

The table shows how many **rucks/mauls** preceded each try scored in the tournament.

The table shows that **56%** of tries were preceded by **not one** ruck or maul.

The next table shows the total number of **passes** that preceded each try scored in the tournament.

The table shows that **60%** of tries were preceded by **3 or fewer** passes.





































	%	CUMULATIVE %
None	56%	56%
1 rucks/mauls	27%	83%
2+ rucks/mauls	17%	100%

	%	CUMULATIVE %
No passes	11%	11%
1 - 3 passes	49%	60%
4 - 6 passes	21%	81%
7 - 9 passes	11%	92%
10+ passes	8%	100%

The percentages show that there were less rucks and passes in the build-up to tries during the knockout stage compared to the pool stage.

Pool: **54%** of tries had no r/ms & **58%** of tries had 3 or less passes
Knockout: **58%** of tries had no r/ms & **65%** of tries had 3 or less passes

The figures in the table below are for each team, it includes the % of tries both scored and conceded with no rucks in the build-up and the % of tries scored with 3 or fewer passes. It can be seen that 71% of tries scored by **Fiji** contained no rucks in the build-up, while 79% of tries conceded by **Brasil** contained no rucks. It can also be seen that 100% of tries scored by **Brasil** contained 3 or fewer passes in the build-up, compared with 33% by **USA**.

		% OF TRIES WITH NO RUCKS				% OF TRIES WITH 3 OR FEWER PASSES	
		TRIES SCORED	TRIES CONCEDED			TRIES SCORED	
	FJI	71%	45%		BRA	100%	
	BRA	67%	79%		COO	75%	
	FRA	67%	66%		JAP	73%	
	URU	67%	65%		AUS	69%	
	JAP	64%	50%		TON	67%	
	WAL	63%	38%		FJI	66%	
	AUS	61%	48%		SAM	66%	
	KEN	59%	57%		CAN	65%	
	CAN	58%	43%		ENG	64%	
	SCO	57%	52%		FRA	63%	
	NZL	53%	47%		SCO	63%	
	SAM	53%	64%		SA	63%	
	SA	53%	63%		KEN	62%	
	TON	50%	67%		NZL	59%	
	ENG	48%	39%		URU	50%	
	USA	44%	70%		WAL	42%	
	COO	42%	44%		ARG	33%	
	ARG	33%	59%		USA	33%	

3. BALL IN PLAY & POSSESSION

	BALL IN PLAY & POSSESSION
AVERAGE B-I-P	7m 00s
HIGHEST B-I-P	9m 13s
LOWEST B-I-P	5m 20s
HIGHEST POSSESSION TIME	6m 09s
LOWEST POSSESSION TIME	1m 17s

There was a considerable variation between the possession achieved by the various teams. This is shown in the following table which gives the average possession times and percentages achieved by each team and their opponents throughout the 2 legs:

As seen in the table, there were some noticeable differences. **South Africa** averaged the highest possession per match, with **Uruguay** only averaging 2 mins 22s.

South Africa achieved the highest proportion of possession to their opponents with 56%, followed closely by **USA** and **Samoa**. Of the core teams, **France** had the least proportion of possession to their opponents, averaging only 43%.



	OWN AVERAGE POSSESSION	%	OPPONENTS AVERAGE POSSESSION	%
SA	3m 53s	56%	3m 00s	44%
USA	3m 37s	55%	3m 01s	45%
SAM	3m 46s	54%	3m 14s	46%
ENG	3m 44s	53%	3m 22s	47%
AUS	3m 44s	53%	3m 16s	47%
CAN	3m 30s	53%	3m 09s	47%
FJI	3m 36s	52%	3m 19s	48%
KEN	3m 41s	52%	3m 21s	48%
TON	3m 37s	52%	3m 21s	48%
WAL	3m 47s	51%	3m 38s	49%
SCO	3m 19s	49%	3m 28s	51%
NZL	3m 52s	48%	4m 13s	52%
ARG	3m 28s	47%	3m 52s	53%
JAP	2m 58s	45%	3m 35s	55%
FRA	3m 03s	43%	4m 02s	57%
BRA	2m 37s	43%	3m 25s	57%
COO	2m 49s	42%	3m 51s	58%
URU	2m 22s	36%	4m 16s	64%

4. ACTIVITY

4.1 PASSING

The average number of passes in a game was **66**. The average number of passes by a team was **33** but, not surprisingly, there were major variations around this average.

	PASSES
AVERAGE PASSES	66
PASS RATE	9.5
HIGHEST PASSING MATCH	99
LOWEST PASSING MATCH	42

RATES & AVERAGES

The table shows major differences between the teams. Such differences can however partly be explained by the amount of possession obtained by each team – more possession means more passes. If possession is taken into account, therefore, the rate at which each country passed the ball can be far closer.

Samoa, USA and **Uruguay** had the highest passing rates and **Tonga** had the lowest.

PASSING MOVEMENTS

Of these passing movements:

- 30% comprised 1 pass
- 27% comprised 2 passes
- 20% comprised 3 passes
- 10% comprised 4 passes
- 13% comprised 5+ passes

Most teams fell into this profile – ie around 50% of their passing movements contained 2 or fewer passes. Where major differences arose, these were seen in the more lengthy passing movements. Of all passing movements, **1 in 8** contained 5+ passes.

		PASSING RATE	AVERAGE PASSES			5+ PASSING
	SAM	11.0	42		URU	4.0
	USA	11.0	40		KEN	5.1
	URU	10.5	25		NZL	6.0
	WAL	10.1	38		JAP	6.6
	KEN	9.8	36		ENG	6.9
	ENG	9.7	37		SAM	7.5
	COO	9.7	28		FRA	7.6
	FJI	9.5	34		FJI	7.7
	JAP	9.5	28		WAL	7.8
	ARG	9.3	33		USA	7.9
	BRA	9.2	24		CAN	8.1
	SA	9.1	36		ARG	8.3
	FRA	9.1	28		BRA	8.5
	NZL	8.9	34		SCO	9.6
	SCO	8.8	29		AUS	10.5
	AUS	8.8	33		COO	10.7
	CAN	8.8	31		TON	11.8
	TON	8.3	30		SA	12.6

Certain teams were far more inclined to continue passing than others. This is shown in the above table which notes the proportion of 5+ pass movements to total number of passing movements made by each country.

Uruguay, Kenya and **New Zealand** were the most likely to make a 5+ passing movement, **Tonga** and **South Africa** were least likely.

4.2 RUCKS & MAULS

The average number of rucks and mauls in a game was **18**. The average number of ruck and mauls by a team was **9** but, not surprisingly, there were major variations around this average.

	RUCKS
AVERAGE RUCKS	18
RUCK RATE	2.7
HIGHEST RUCKING MATCH	32
LOWEST RUCKING MATCH	10
SUCCESS %	83%

RATES & AVERAGES

The table below shows major differences in the average number of rucks created by each team. Some of this can be explained by the amount of possession obtained by each team. If this is taken into account, the rate at which each country rucked is far closer, as also shown in the table. This expresses rucks as 'rucks per minute possession'. **Brasil** had the highest rucking rate and **Fiji** had the lowest.

	RUCKING RATE	AVERAGE RUCKS		SUCCESS % OWN RUCKS	SUCCESS % OPP RUCKS
BRA	4.0	8	TON	89%	18%
AUS	3.5	13	FJI	87%	23%
ARG	3.2	11	SA	87%	24%
SA	3.1	12	AUS	86%	16%
JAP	3.1	9	ENG	86%	23%
WAL	2.9	11	NZL	85%	20%
SAM	2.8	11	SCO	85%	17%
TON	2.8	10	SAM	84%	17%
USA	2.7	10	CAN	83%	20%
ENG	2.6	10	JAP	83%	13%
SCO	2.5	8	KEN	82%	9%
FRA	2.5	8	USA	82%	14%
URU	2.5	6	ARG	81%	14%
CAN	2.4	9	WAL	79%	22%
KEN	2.3	8	FRA	78%	13%
NZL	2.2	8	BRA	76%	10%
COO	2.2	6	COO	76%	14%
FJI	1.7	6	URU	64%	12%





































RUCK SUCCESS

At the breakdown, the team taking in the ball retained possession by either winning the ball or being awarded a penalty on **83%** of occasions. The percentage success rate of each team in attack and defence is shown above. In Attack, **Tonga, Fiji** and **South Africa** the highest success rates while **Uruguay** had lowest success rates. In defence, **South Africa** won ruck possession from opponents more frequently than other teams, while of the core teams **Kenya**, had the least success rate at opponent's rucks.

NUMBER OF PLAYERS COMMITTED TO RUCKS – ATTACK & DEFENCE

What became immediately noticeable was that there were clear differences in the approach of the various countries in committing players to the breakdown. While certain teams frequently committed few additional players, other countries consistently committed more.

It can be seen that in the table below, in attack, **USA** committed more than just one player on 18% of occasions while **Kenya** committed more than just one player 2% of the time. In defence, **a number of teams did not** commit more than 1 player, while **South Africa** committed more than 1 player on 9% of the time.

		(1) ATTACK				(2) DEFENCE		
		1 PLAYER	2+ PLAYERS			NO PLAYER	1 PLAYER	2+ PLAYERS
	KEN	98%	2%		SA	78%	13%	9%
	COO	97%	3%		TON	80%	31%	7%
	AUS	94%	6%		FJI	82%	16%	2%
	FRA	94%	6%		ARG	86%	14%	0%
	SA	94%	6%		COO	86%	14%	0%
	SAM	93%	7%		KEN	86%	9%	5%
	FJI	92%	8%		CAN	88%	9%	3%
	JAP	91%	9%		NZL	88%	9%	3%
	NZL	91%	9%		FRA	89%	8%	3%
	URU	90%	10%		AUS	90%	10%	0%
	SCO	89%	11%		SAM	91%	6%	3%
	WAL	88%	12%		USA	91%	6%	3%
	ENG	87%	13%		JAP	93%	7%	0%
	BRA	85%	15%		BRA	95%	5%	0%
	CAN	85%	15%		ENG	95%	5%	0%
	ARG	84%	16%		WAL	96%	4%	0%
	TON	83%	17%		SCO	97%	3%	0%
	USA	82%	18%		URU	100%	0%	0%

4.3 KICKS



















Kicks comprise all kicks made in general play including punts, chips, ground (i.e. football kick) and grubber kicks. The average number of kicks in a game was **2.6**.

As can be seen in the table below, on average **Argentina, Tonga, Uruguay** and **Kenya** were most likely to kick while **South Africa, USA** and **Australia** kicked the least.

	KICKS
AVERAGE KICKS	2.6
HIGHEST KICKING MATCH	11
LOWEST KICKING MATCH	0
KICK REGAIN RATE	1 in 3.3

Of the total kicks made by teams in open play, the attached table shows how many were regained. The overall kick regain rate was **1 in 3.3**. **Samoa** and **Uruguay** were the most successful at regaining kicks in general play, regaining 1 in every 2.8 kicks.

There were a wide variety of kicks - 24% were **chip** kicks, 38% were **punt** kicks, 15% were **ground** kicks and 23% were **grubber** kicks.

	AVERAGE KICKS	KICKS REGAINED	TOTAL CHIPS	TOTAL PUNTS	TOTAL GROUND	TOTAL GRUBBER	TOTAL KICKS
 ARG	2.3	1 in 2.8	2	8	3	12	25
 TON	2.2	1 in 3.3	3	3	1	6	13
 URU	1.8	1 in 2.3	2	2	3	2	9
 KEN	1.8	1 in 4.4	4	13	3	2	22
 ENG	1.7	1 in 3.2	6	8	2	3	19
 COO	1.5	1 in 3.0	3	2	3	1	9
 CAN	1.5	1 in 5.3	5	6	3	2	16
 FRA	1.5	1 in 2.7	2	3	6	5	16
 BRA	1.4	1 in 7.0	3	2		2	7
 WAL	1.4	1 in 4.7	3	7	1	3	14
 SCO	1.1	1 in 2.6	5	4		4	13
 NZL	1.3	1 in 2.5	4	9	2		15
 SAM	1.3	1 in 2.3	3	6	3	4	16
 FJI	1.2	1 in 3.5	7	6		1	14
 JAP	0.7	0 in 7	1	2		4	7
 SA	0.6	1 in 3.5	3	4			7
 USA	0.5	1 in 5.0			3	2	5
 AUS	0.5	1 in 3.0		3	3		6

5. RESTARTS, SCRUMS & LINEOUTS

Restarts are the most common set pieces in sevens rugby with an average of 6 restarts per match. Restarts have been classified into 2 types, contestable and non contestable:

72% of restarts kicks were **contestable** & 28% of restarts kicks were **non contestable**





































AVERAGE
HIGHEST IN A MATCH
LOWEST IN A MATCH
SUCCESS %

	RESTARTS	SCRUMS	LINEOUTS
AVERAGE	6	4	2
HIGHEST IN A MATCH	9	10	6
LOWEST IN A MATCH	4	1	0
SUCCESS %	34%	94%	72%

Retention rates reflect the number of times that possession was retained at contestable restarts – they varied considerably. Of all contestable restarts, the kicking team regained **34%** or **1 in 2.9**. **Samoa, England** and **Kenya** were the most successful in regaining own short restarts. **Brasil** always kicked contestable restarts whereas **Uruguay** were most likely to kick a non contestable restart. There was a restart error every **16**.

		OWN RESTARTS REGAIN SUCCESS	OWN RESTARTS	
			CONTESTABLE	NON CONTESTABLE
	SAM	1.9	100%	0%
	ENG	2.1	93%	7%
	KEN	2.1	84%	16%
	JAP	2.2	83%	17%
	TON	2.3	83%	17%
	SA	2.5	80%	20%
	CAN	2.6	78%	22%
	SCO	2.7	77%	23%
	NZL	2.8	75%	25%
	ARG	4.0	75%	25%
	URU	4.0	70%	30%
	USA	4.3	70%	30%
	FJI	4.5	65%	35%
	AUS	5.0	62%	38%
	WAL	5.3	53%	47%
	FRA	6.3	52%	48%
	BRA	8.0	50%	50%
	COO	8.0	40%	60%
	BRA		100%	0%
	TON		93%	7%
	FJI		84%	16%
	KEN		83%	17%
	SAM		83%	17%
	ARG		80%	20%
	FRA		78%	22%
	SCO		77%	23%
	AUS		75%	25%
	WAL		75%	25%
	CAN		70%	30%
	SA		70%	30%
	JAP		65%	35%
	NZL		62%	38%
	ENG		53%	47%
	USA		52%	48%
	BRA		50%	50%
	URU		40%	60%

Overall Scrum success was **94%** and overall Lineout success was **72%**. Because of the relatively few scrums and lineouts by some teams, applying percentages can be misleading. The following table shows the success rates for each team on their own put/throw in and on their opposition' put/throw in. **New Zealand, Canada, USA, South Africa, Wales** and **Argentina** won possession on every one of their scrum put ins and **Uruguay** and **Cook Islands** won possession on every one of their throw ins.

		SCRUM				LINEOUT	
		OWN	OPP			OWN	OPP
	NZL	25/25	0/18		URU	8/8	1/6
	CAN	24/24	1/12		COO	1/1	4/6
	USA	21/21	0/18		BRA	6/7	1/3
	SA	19/19	2/25		TON	6/7	1/4
	WAL	19/19	1/17		FJI	10/12	7/20
	ARG	18/18	1/28		AUS	6/8	4/15
	FJI	29/30	1/23		ENG	14/17	5/16
	SAM	25/26	0/26		ARG	13/16	3/12
	FRA	17/18	2/16		SA	13/16	3/8
	ENG	14/15	4/23		SAM	12/15	4/11
	SCO	13/14	3/26		USA	9/12	5/17
	JAP	13/14	1/24		NZL	15/19	3/18
	URU	6/7	1/11		FRA	7/13	3/15
	AUS	18/20	2/24		KEN	8/12	3/10
	TON	13/15	0/12		WAL	5/10	4/14
	COO	11/13	0/9		CAN	9/15	5/17
	BRA	5/8	1/9		JAP	4/10	1/11
	KEN	25/30	1/15		SCO	7/15	3/10

6. PENALTIES & FREE KICKS

The average number of penalties and free kicks per game (not inc restart free kicks) was 7.

What needs to be noted that absolute statistics and averages do not necessarily reflect the true degree of discipline or ill-discipline of a particular team.

The number of penalties can, for example, vary from match to match. Some referees penalise more than others. A better and probably more accurate indicator, therefore, is the proportion of penalties conceded by a team in all their matches compared with their opponents. Each team's proportion % for and against can be seen in the following table together with the totals. It can be seen that **11 teams** were awarded more penalties than they conceded.

Of the core teams, and on this basis, **South Africa** and **Australia** were penalised the least. Conversely, **Argentina** were penalised the most.

Of the penalties awarded, **70%** were awarded at the breakdown, with **78%** of the penalties **FOR** the attacking team and **22%** **AGAINST** the attacking team. Of penalty/free kick options, **84%** were tap kicks.

7. CARDS

There were **26** yellow cards and **2** red card issued. The offences for which yellow cards were awarded were as follows:

	YELLOW + RED CARDS	OFFENCES
FRA	3	1 x Tackle 1 x Dangerous play 1 x Offside
KEN	3	1 x Not 10m 1 x Tackle 1 x Knock on
SAM	3	2 x Tackle 1 x Not 10m
ARG	2	1 x Tackle 1 x Repeated
CAN	2	1 x Knock on 1 x Ruck
ENG	2 + 1	1 x Obstruction 1 x Ruck
JAP	2 + 1	2 x Tackle
SCO	2	1 x Offside 1 x Obstruction
SA	2	1 x Ruck 1 x Not 10m
COO	1	1 x Dangerous play
FJI	1	1 x Knock on
NZL	1	1 x Knock on
TON	1	1 x Unsportsmanlike behaviour
USA	1	1 x Dangerous play

	PENS/FKS
AVERAGE PENS/FKS	7
HIGHEST IN A MATCH	13
LOWEST IN A MATCH	2

	PENS & FKS FOR	PENS & FKS AGAINST
	TOTAL	TOTAL
SA	63%	38%
AUS	62%	38%
COO	61%	39%
CAN	55%	45%
NZL	55%	45%
WAL	54%	46%
SAM	53%	47%
SCO	52%	48%
ENG	51%	49%
TON	51%	49%
USA	51%	49%
FJI	44%	56%
FRA	43%	57%
KEN	42%	58%
ARG	39%	61%
BRA	38%	62%
JAP	37%	63%
URU	34%	66%