

2011/12 HSBC SEVENS WORLD SERIES



STATISTICAL REVIEW HONG KONG & TOKYO

IRB GAME ANALYSIS

This statistical report summarises the **Hong Kong** and **Tokyo (Japan)** legs of the 2011/12 HSBC Sevens World Series. The cup winning teams were:

2011 Hong Kong Cup winners: **Fiji**
2011 Tokyo Cup winners: **Australia**

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.

Hong Kong and **Tokyo** produced the following team highlights:

SCORING

Most tries scored per match – **New Zealand**
Fewest tries conceded per match – **New Zealand & Fiji**
Most tries conceded per match – **Japan**
Fewest tries scored per match – **Japan**

Most points scored per match – **New Zealand**
Fewest points conceded per match – **New Zealand**
Best try scoring rate – **Fiji**
Best try conceding rate- **Fiji**
Highest conversion success - **Scotland**

TRY SCORING

Most tries scored from penalty/free kicks – **France**
Most tries scored from restarts – **South Africa**
Most tries scored from own half – **Scotland**
Highest % of tries with no rucks in build-up – **Japan**
Highest % of tries with 3 or fewer passes in build-up – **Hong Kong**

ACTIVITY/POSSESSION

Highest average possession – **Portugal**
Highest passing rate – **Hong Kong**
Lowest passing rate – **Fiji**
Highest rucking rate – **Hong Kong**
Lowest rucking rate - **Fiji**
Highest ruck success – **Australia**
Lowest ruck success – **France**
Most likely to kick – **Argentina**
Least likely to kick – **Hong Kong**

SET PIECE & DISCIPLINE




























Highest contestable restart success – **Hong Kong**
Most likely to kick contestable restarts – **Portugal**
Least likely to kick contestable restarts - **England**
Highest scrum success – **7 teams - 100%**
Highest lineout success – **6 teams - 100%**
Penalised the least – **South Africa**
Penalised the most – **Kenya**
Most yellow/red cards – **New Zealand**

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	19	17			128
 FJI	22	17	12	19	17	22	13			122
 SA	17	12	19	13	15	17	12			105
 ENG	10	22	15	17	10	15	15			104
 SAM	12	3	17	15	22	13	19			101
 AUS	15	13	10	7	7	10	22			84
 WAL	13	10	13	5	10	10	10			71
 ARG	8	15	5	5	12	12	10			67
 FRA	10	19	10	10	3	5	8			65
 USA	5	7	5	1	5	7	7			37
 KEN	1	2	2	8	13	8	2			36
 SCO	7	8	8	3	2	5	3			36
 CAN	-	5	7	10	8	3	-			33
 TON	5	-	-	12	-	-	-			17
 POR	0	5	1	-	-	1	5			12
 JAP	2	-	-	1	5	1	1			10
 HKG	-	-	-	-	-	-	5			5
 ZIM	0	1	3	-	-	-	-			4
 PNG	3	-	-	-	-	-	-			3
 COO	-	-	-	2	-	-	-			2
 SPA	-	-	-	-	-	2	-			2
 BRA	-	-	-	-	1	-	-			1
 MOR	-	-	1	-	-	-	-			1
 NIU	1	-	-	-	-	-	-			1
 RUS	-	-	-	-	-	-	1			1
 UAE	-	1	-	-	-	-	-			1
 URU	-	-	-	-	1	-	-			1



2011/12 IRB SEVENS OVERALL PLAYER STATISTICS

			POINTS SCORED 2011/12				TRIES SCORED 2011/12
	Tomasi Cama	NZL	281		Dan Norton	ENG	33
	Colin Gregor	SCO	191		Frank Halai	NZL	27
	Dan Norton	ENG	171		Paul Perez	SAM	27
	Branco du Preez	RSA	146		Tomasi Cama	NZL	25
	Metuisela Talebula	FIJ	139		James Fleming	SCO	25
					Mat Turner	ENG	25



2012 HONG KONG MATCH RESULTS

POOL	TEAM	SCORE	TEAM	KNOCKOUT	TEAM	SCORE	TEAM
Pool	SAMOA	14 - 12	ENGLAND	Final Cup Third Place Final Plate Final Bowl	FIJI	35 - 28	NEW ZEALAND
Pool	NEW ZEALAND	19 - 10	SOUTH AFRICA		ENGLAND	0 - 28	SOUTH AFRICA
Pool	FIJI	22 - 5	AUSTRALIA		ARGENTINA	10 - 12	SAMOA
Pool	ARGENTINA	19 - 7	KENYA		UNITED STATES	12 - 14	KENYA
Pool	WALES	42 - 7	UNITED STATES	SF Cup	SOUTH AFRICA	12 - 19	NEW ZEALAND
Pool	FRANCE	12 - 14	SCOTLAND	SF Cup	FIJI	14 - 7	ENGLAND
Pool	SAMOA	27 - 0	ARGENTINA	SF Plate	SAMOA	36 - 7	WALES
Pool	NEW ZEALAND	24 - 7	WALES	SF Plate	ARGENTINA	21 - 12	AUSTRALIA
Pool	FIJI	26 - 12	FRANCE	SF Bowl	KENYA	29 - 0	FRANCE
Pool	ENGLAND	21 - 17	KENYA	SF Bowl	SCOTLAND	14 - 28	UNITED STATES
Pool	SOUTH AFRICA	15 - 7	UNITED STATES	¼ Final Cup	NEW ZEALAND	31 - 7	WALES
Pool	AUSTRALIA	29 - 14	SCOTLAND	¼ Final Cup	SAMOA	14 - 27	SOUTH AFRICA
Pool	ENGLAND	19 - 10	ARGENTINA	¼ Final Cup	AUSTRALIA	14 - 19	ENGLAND
Pool	SOUTH AFRICA	10 - 0	WALES	¼ Final Cup	FIJI	26 - 7	ARGENTINA
Pool	AUSTRALIA	31 - 10	FRANCE				
Pool	SAMOA	19 - 7	KENYA				
Pool	NEW ZEALAND	29 - 5	UNITED STATES				
Pool	FIJI	39 - 5	SCOTLAND				



2012 TOKYO MATCH RESULTS

POOL	TEAM	SCORE	TEAM	KNOCKOUT	TEAM	SCORE	TEAM
Pool	FIJI	7 - 14	ENGLAND	CUP 3 rd /4 th PLATE BOWL SHIELD	AUSTRALIA	28 - 26	SAMOA
Pool	SOUTH AFRICA	7 - 38	SAMOA		ENGLAND	17 - 24	NEW ZEALAND
Pool	ARGENTINA	5 - 17	WALES		SOUTH AFRICA	10 - 14	FIJI
Pool	NEW ZEALAND	22 - 10	AUSTRALIA		FRANCE	17 - 12	UNITED STATES
Pool	FRANCE	24 - 5	JAPAN		SCOTLAND	26 - 12	KENYA
Pool	SCOTLAND	7 - 15	PORTUGAL	Cup S/F	SAMOA	17 - 12	NEW ZEALAND
Pool	KENYA	17 - 26	RUSSIA	Cup S/F	ENGLAND	12 - 33	AUSTRALIA
Pool	UNITED STATES	21 - 19	HONG KONG	Plate S/F	FIJI	21 - 14	ARGENTINA
Pool	ENGLAND	19 - 7	FRANCE	Plate S/F	SOUTH AFRICA	22 - 10	WALES
Pool	FIJI	26 - 7	JAPAN	Bowl S/F	PORTUGAL	10 - 20	UNITED STATES
Pool	SAMOA	14 - 7	SCOTLAND	Bowl S/F	FRANCE	26 - 15	HONG KONG
Pool	SOUTH AFRICA	12 - 7	PORTUGAL	Shield S/F	JAPAN	17 - 24	KENYA
Pool	WALES	22 - 0	KENYA	Shield S/F	SCOTLAND	21 - 19	RUSSIA
Pool	ARGENTINA	22 - 0	RUSSIA	Cup Q/F	NEW ZEALAND	40 - 5	ARGENTINA
Pool	AUSTRALIA	15 - 0	UNITED STATES	Cup Q/F	SAMOA	24 - 21	FIJI
Pool	NEW ZEALAND	40 - 0	HONG KONG	Cup Q/F	WALES	14 - 21	AUSTRALIA
Pool	ENGLAND	15 - 5	JAPAN	Cup Q/F	ENGLAND	21 - 17	SOUTH AFRICA
Pool	FIJI	17 - 0	FRANCE	Bowl Q/F	UNITED STATES	12 - 7	KENYA
Pool	SAMOA	21 - 20	PORTUGAL	Bowl Q/F	PORTUGAL	21 - 5	JAPAN
Pool	SOUTH AFRICA	14 - 0	SCOTLAND	Bowl Q/F	RUSSIA	12 - 17	HONG KONG
Pool	WALES	10 - 7	RUSSIA	Bowl Q/F	FRANCE	22 - 19	SCOTLAND
Pool	ARGENTINA	15 - 7	KENYA				
Pool	AUSTRALIA	17 - 14	HONG KONG				
Pool	NEW ZEALAND	26 - 5	UNITED STATES				





2011/12 HSBC SEVENS STATISTICAL COMPARISON

	2011/12 SEVENS 302	2010/11 SEVENS 368	2009/10 SEVENS 368
MATCHES SCORING			
POINTS (average per game)	33	37	37
TRIES (average per game)	5.3	5.9	6.0
TRY RATE (rate)	Try every 80 secs	<i>Try every 74 secs</i>	<i>Try every 75 secs</i>
CONVERSION SUCCESS (%)	62%	64%	62%
PENALTY / DROP GOALS (total)	8	6	3
MATCHES WON by team scoring most tries (%)	89%	90%	88%
SOURCE OF TRIES - pens/fks (%)	34%	31%	29%
ORIGIN OF TRIES - own Half (%)	44%	44%	43%
BUILD UP TO TRIES – no rucks/mauls (%)	56%	55%	61%
BUILD UP TO TRIES - 3 Or fewer passes (%)	57%	52%	55%
ACTIVITY			
BALL IN PLAY (%)	51%	52%	50%
PASSES (average per game)	67	71	70
5+ PASSING MOEVENTS (rate)	1 in 9.2	<i>1 in 8.7</i>	<i>1 in 7.7</i>
RUCKS/MAULS (average per game)	19	19	17
RUCK/MAUL RETENTION (%)	83%	85%	84%
KICKS (average per game)	2.5	2.4	3.7
SET PIECE			
CONTESTABLE RESTARTS (%)	70%	74%	77%
CONTESTABLE RESTARTS REGAINED (%)	36%	36%	37%
RESTART ERRORS (rate)	1 in 15	<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 13	<i>1 in 10</i>	<i>1 in 10</i>
PENALTIES/FREE KICKS & CARDS			
PENALTIES (average per game)	5.9	5.4	5.4
CARDS (total)	71 + 4	72 + 4	110 + 4

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 27 points and conceded an average of 11 points, whereas **Japan** scored an average of 8 points and conceded an average of 22 points.

Overall there was a try scored every 87 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. **Fiji** had the best try scoring rate, scoring a try every **53** secs of own possession and the best try conceding rate, conceding a try every 139 secs of opposition possession.



		Av POINTS SCORED	Av POINTS CONCEDED	Av TRIES SCORED	Av TRIES CONCEDED			TRY SCORING RATE			TRY CONCEDED RATE
	NZL	27	11	4.2	1.8		FJI	53s		FJI	139s
	FJI	23	12	3.5	1.8		NZL	56s		NZL	126s
	SAM	22	14	3.5	2.2		SAM	60s		SAM	112s
	AUS	20	16	3.2	2.5		AUS	79s		SA	101s
	SA	16	13	2.7	1.9		ENG	87s		POR	101s
	ENG	15	16	2.3	2.5		SA	93s		ENG	91s
	POR	15	13	2.6	2		FRA	99s		WAL	86s
	WAL	14	17	2.2	2.7		POR	100s		AUS	84s
	SCO	13	21	1.9	3.4		WAL	101s		RUS	79s
	KEN	13	18	2.1	2.8		KEN	104s		FRA	78s
	FRA	13	19	2.2	3.1		USA	111s		ARG	77s
	HKG	13	24	2.2	3.6		HKG	111s		KEN	75s
	RUS	13	18	2	3		RUS	111s		USA	72s
	ARG	12	18	2	2.7		ARG	119s		SCO	68s
	USA	12	19	1.8	3.1		SCO	126s		JAP	60s
	JAP	8	22	1.4	3.6		JAP	143s		HKG	57s

There were **1** penalty goals and **0** drop goal.

The overall conversion success rate was **57%**.

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 **Scotland** having the highest conversion success rate with **84%** and **South Africa** the lowest with **38%**.

	CONVERSION SUCCESS %		CONVERSION SUCCESS %
SCO	84%	AUS	57%
FJI	69%	FRA	45%
USA	65%	ARG	41%
NZL	64%	SA	38%
ENG	64%	POR	3/13
SAM	62%	HKG	5/11
WAL	59%	JAP	2/7
KEN	57%	RUS	7/10

2. TRY SCORING

There were **398** tries giving an average of **5.2** per match. **New Zealand** averaged 4.2 tries scored per match and averaged 1.8 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 **201** tries scored (**average – 4.8 per match**) and during the *knockout stages* there were **197** tries scored (**average – 5.6 per match**)

2.1 IMPACT OF TRIES

With 1 penalty goals, 0 drop goal and a conversion success rate of 57%, 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 77 matches, **68 (or 88%)** were won by the team scoring the most tries. There were 9 matches where the tries were the same – all **9** matches were won by scoring more conversions.

















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** (40%). The table shows the importance of restarts, with nearly a fifth of all tries scored originating from restarts possession.

	TRY SOURCE
PENALTY/FREE KICK	40%
TURNOVER	18%
RESTART	16%
SCRUM	16%
LINEOUT	7%
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 **France** and from restarts was **South Africa**.

















	PEN & FK		TURNOVER		RESTART		SCRUM		LINEOUT		KICK		TOTAL	
	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP
 NZL	22	11	10	2	5	5	7	1	3	2	3	1	50	22
 FJI	17	5	8	3	5	4	7	6	4	2	1	1	42	21
 SAM	11	10	11	7	8	6	7	2	5	1			42	26
 AUS	18	13	6	6	4	3	3	3	2	3	2		35	28
 SA	12	8	3	4	8	5	6	3	3	2		1	32	23
 ENG	9	13	2	5	5	2	5	7	6	1	1	2	28	30
 KEN	6	14	8	5	3	2	4	8		2	2		23	31
 ARG	5	10	8	4	2	4	6	6	1	4		2	22	30
 FRA	12	14	1	10	3	1	3	3	3	1		2	22	31
 WAL	11	8	2	7	4	5	4	5	1	2			22	27
 USA	10	13	1	5	4	10	5	5				1	20	34
 SCO	8	15	4	2	2	9	5	3		4		1	19	34
 POR	5	5	1	3	6		1	1		1			13	10
 HKG	5	11	3	2	1	3		2	1		1		11	18
 RUS	3	4	2	3	2	2	2	4		2	1		10	15
 JAP	4	4	2	4	1	2		6		2			7	18

2.3 ORIGIN & LOCATION OF TRIES

Tries originate from various parts of the pitch. Of all the tries scored, **48%** originated in the try scoring team's own half and **52%** in the opposition half, with **32%** scored behind the posts.

	TRY ORIGIN LOCATION
OWN HALF	48%
OPP HALF	52%
	TRY SCORING LOCATION
LEFT HAND SIDE OF POSTS	32%
BEHIND THE POSTS	32%
RIGHT HAND SIDE OF POSTS	36%

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 **Scotland**. The team that scored the lowest percentage of their tries from their own half was **Argentina**.

	OWN HALF		HW – 10m		10m – 22m		22m - TRY		TOTAL	
	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP	OWN	OPP
 NZL	26	11	8	2	11	7	5	2	50	22
 FJI	22	9	3	3	12	3	5	6	42	21
 SAM	24	12	1	1	12	10	5	3	42	26
 AUS	12	19	4	3	9	5	10	1	35	28
 SA	12	15	4		12	4	4	4	32	23
 ENG	13	11	4	5	8	10	3	4	28	30
 KEN	11	11	3	4	6	6	3	10	23	31
 ARG	5	18	3	3	7	5	7	4	22	30
 FRA	10	14	1	5	8	10	3	2	22	31
 WAL	12	12	4	1	4	10	2	4	22	27
 USA	10	15	2	4	4	10	4	5	20	34
 SCO	16	14		3	2	10	1	7	19	34
 POR	7	6			5	3	1	1	13	10
 HKG	3	10	2		3	5	3	3	11	18
 RUS	5	5		3	2	2	3	5	10	15
 JAP	2	8	1	3	1	6	3	1	7	18

2.4 BUILD-UP TO TRIES

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

The table shows that **59%** 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 **52%** of tries were preceded by **3 or fewer** passes.

































	%	CUMULATIVE %
None	59%	59%
1 rucks/mauls	21%	80%
2+ rucks/mauls	20%	100%

	%	CUMULATIVE %
No passes	10%	10%
1 - 3 passes	42%	52%
4 - 6 passes	23%	75%
7+ passes	25%	100%

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

Pool: **62%** of tries had no r/ms & **54%** of tries had 3 or less passes
Knockout: **57%** of tries had no r/ms & **48%** 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 79% of tries scored by **Fiji** contained no rucks in the build-up, while 74% of tries conceded by **Kenya** contained no rucks. It can also be seen that 82% of tries scored by **Hong Kong** contained 3 or fewer passes in the build-up, compared with 26% by **Scotland**.

		% OF TRIES WITH NO RUCKS				% OF TRIES WITH 3 OR FEWER PASSES	
		TRIES SCORED	TRIES CONCEDED			TRIES SCORED	
	JAP	86%	56%		HKG	82%	
	FJI	79%	62%		FJI	74%	
	NZL	78%	36%		NZL	62%	
	SAM	76%	62%		RUS	60%	
	ENG	64%	47%		ARG	59%	
	HKG	64%	72%		JAP	57%	
	RUS	60%	47%		KEN	57%	
	USA	60%	59%		ENG	54%	
	KEN	57%	74%		FRA	50%	
	FRA	55%	58%		SAM	48%	
	SCO	53%	53%		POR	46%	
	WAL	50%	67%		USA	45%	
	AUS	46%	57%		WAL	45%	
	ARG	41%	67%		AUS	34%	
	POR	31%	60%		SA	34%	
	SA	25%	70%		SCO	26%	

3. BALL IN PLAY & POSSESSION

	BALL IN PLAY & POSSESSION
AVERAGE B-I-P	7m 26s
HIGHEST B-I-P	9m 30s
LOWEST B-I-P	5m 13s
HIGHEST POSSESSION TIME	5m 35s
LOWEST POSSESSION TIME	1m 59s

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. **Portugal** averaged the highest possession per match, with **Fiji** only averaging 32 mins 05s.

South Africa and **Portugal** achieved the highest proportion of possession to their opponents with 56%, followed closely by **Australia, Hong Kong** and **Argentina**. Of the core teams, **Fiji** had the least proportion of possession to their opponents, averaging only 43%.



	OWN AVERAGE POSSESSION	%	OPPONENTS AVERAGE POSSESSION	%
SA	4m 08	56%	3m 15	44%
POR	4m 19	56%	3m 21	44%
AUS	4m 12	54%	3m 34	46%
HKG	4m 03	54%	3m 24	46%
ARG	3m 57	53%	3m 28	47%
SCO	3m 59	51%	3m 49	49%
KEN	3m 37	51%	3m 32	49%
NZL	3m 54	50%	3m 50	50%
WAL	3m 42	49%	3m 51	51%
RUS	3m 42	49%	3m 55	51%
USA	3m 22	48%	3m 43	52%
JAP	3m 20	48%	3m 35	52%
ENG	3m 24	47%	3m 47	53%
SAM	3m 31	47%	4m 02	53%
FRA	3m 37	47%	4m 02	53%
FJI	3m 05	43%	4m 03	57%

4. ACTIVITY

4.1 PASSING

The average number of passes in a game was **71**. The average number of passes by a team was **35.5** but, not surprisingly, there were major variations around this average.

	PASSES
AVERAGE PASSES	71
PASS RATE	9.5 per min
HIGHEST PASSING MATCH	101
LOWEST PASSING MATCH	43

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.

Hong Kong, Samoa and **Japan** had the highest passing rates and **Fiji** had the lowest.

PASSING MOVEMENTS

Of these passing movements:

- 29% comprised 1 pass
- 26% comprised 2 passes
- 18% comprised 3 passes
- 10% comprised 4 passes
- 16% 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 6** contained 5+ passes.

		PASSING RATE	AVERAGE PASSES			5+ PASSING
	HKG	10.9	44		AUS	1 in 4.2
	SAM	10.6	38		JAP	1 in 4.5
	JAP	10.3	35		NZL	1 in 4.8
	AUS	10.2	43		HKG	1 in 5.0
	SA	9.9	41		USA	1 in 5.5
	ARG	9.9	39		ARG	1 in 5.8
	USA	9.9	34		POR	1 in 5.8
	KEN	9.7	36		SAM	1 in 5.9
	RUS	9.6	36		SA	1 in 5.9
	SCO	9.5	38		WAL	1 in 6.0
	WAL	9.2	34		FRA	1 in 6.1
	NZL	9.1	36		KEN	1 in 6.4
	FRA	9.1	33		RUS	1 in 6.7
	POR	9.1	40		SCO	1 in 7.0
	ENG	7.9	27		FJI	1 in 9.3
	FJI	7.2	25		ENG	1 in 15.4

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.

Australia, Japan and **New Zealand** were the most likely to make a 5+ passing movement, **England** and **Fiji** 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.

AVERAGE RUCKS	18
RUCK RATE	2.4 per min
HIGHEST RUCKING MATCH	28
LOWEST RUCKING MATCH	8
SUCCESS %	81%

RUCKS	
AVERAGE RUCKS	18
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LOWEST RUCKING MATCH	8
SUCCESS %	81%

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'. **Hong Kong** had the highest rucking rate and **Fiji** had the lowest.

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 **Australia** had the highest success at own rucks while **France** had least. In defence, **Kenya** had the highest success at opponent's rucks, while **England** had the least.

		RUCKING RATE		AVERAGE RUCKS				SUCCESS % OWN RUCKS		SUCCESS % OPP RUCKS	
	HKG	3.0	13		AUS	88%	17%				
	SA	2.9	12		FJI	85%	25%				
	AUS	2.8	12		RUS	85%	20%				
	KEN	2.7	10		SCO	85%	13%				
	ARG	2.7	11		SA	85%	24%				
	ENG	2.6	9		POR	84%	12%				
	SCO	2.4	10		ARG	81%	18%				
	WAL	2.4	10		NZL	81%	21%				
	FRA	2.3	8		ENG	79%	11%				
	POR	2.3	10		SAM	79%	19%				
	JAP	2.2	8		USA	79%	20%				
	RUS	2.2	9		WAL	79%	24%				
	SAM	2.0	7		JAP	78%	23%				
	USA	2.0	7		HKG	77%	12%				
	NZL	1.7	7		KEN	75%	26%				
	FJI	1.4	5		FRA	67%	17%				

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 25% of occasions while **Fiji** committed more than just one player 6% of the time. In defence, **Kenya** committed more than 1 player on 24% of the time.

		(1) ATTACK				(2) DEFENCE		
		1 PLAYER	2+ PLAYERS			NO PLAYER	1 PLAYER	2+ PLAYERS
	FJI	94%	6%		ENG	33%	58%	9%
	RUS	93%	7%		SCO	26%	65%	9%
	SAM	93%	7%		WAL	25%	72%	3%
	SA	90%	10%		AUS	24%	64%	11%
	JAP	89%	11%		SA	24%	52%	23%
	AUS	87%	13%		NZL	22%	69%	10%
	NZL	86%	14%		USA	22%	66%	12%
	HKG	85%	15%		FRA	19%	74%	7%
	ARG	84%	16%		SAM	19%	66%	15%
	SCO	84%	16%		ARG	18%	69%	13%
	FRA	83%	17%		FJI	17%	69%	14%
	KEN	83%	17%		KEN	15%	61%	24%
	WAL	82%	18%		POR	12%	81%	7%
	ENG	81%	19%		HKG	9%	76%	15%
	POR	78%	22%		RUS	9%	78%	13%
	USA	75%	25%		JAP	8%	82%	10%

















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 **2.5**.

As can be seen in the table below, on average **Argentina, England and Fiji** were most likely to kick while **Hong Kong, Portugal and Japan** kicked the least.

There were a wide variety of kicks - 16% were **chip** kicks, 44% were **punt** kicks, 16% were **ground** kicks and 24% were **grubber** kicks.

	KICKS
AVERAGE KICKS	2.5
HIGHEST KICKING MATCH	8
LOWEST KICKING MATCH	0

	AVERAGE KICKS	TOTAL CHIPS	TOTAL PUNTS	TOTAL GROUND	TOTAL GRUBBER	TOTAL KICKS
 ARG	2.3	4	6	2	13	25
 ENG	2.2	3	14	3	5	25
 FIJ	2.0	4	8	5	7	24
 WAL	1.5	1	9	2	2	14
 SAM	2.2	1	9	2	1	13
 FRA	1.2		5	5	2	12
 KEN	1.0	3	4	3	1	11
 RUS	2.2	1	8		2	11
 SA	0.9	4	4	2	1	11
 AUS	0.8	3	3	1	2	9
 NZL	0.7	1	5		2	8
 SCO	0.8	3	1	3	1	8
 USA	0.6	1	5		1	7
 JAP	1.0	1	1		3	5
 POR	0.8			2	2	4
 HKG	0.6	1	1		1	3

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:

AVERAGE
SUCCESS %


RESTARTS	SCRUMS	LINEOUTS
6	4	2
28%	94%	74%

64% of restarts kicks were **contestable** & 36% of restarts kicks were **non contestable**

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 **28%** or **1 in 3.6**. **Hong Kong, Fiji** and **Portugal** were the most successful in regaining own short restarts. **Portugal** kicked the highest percentage of contestable restarts whereas **England** were most likely to kick a non contestable restart. There was a restart error every **12**.

		OWN RESTARTS	OWN RESTARTS	
		REGAIN SUCCESS	CONTESTABLE	NON CONTESTABLE
	HKG	1 in 1.2		
	FJI	1 in 1.3		
	POR	1 in 1.3	80%	20%
	AUS	1 in 1.4	75%	25%
	KEN	1 in 1.4	74%	26%
	SAM	1 in 1.5	73%	27%
	SA	1 in 1.5	73%	27%
	WAL	1 in 1.6	72%	28%
	JAP	1 in 2.3	70%	30%
	ARG	1 in 2.6	67%	33%
	ENG	1 in 3.0	59%	41%
	FRA	1 in 4.0	56%	44%
	USA	1 in 4.0	55%	45%
	NZL	1 in 4.5	53%	47%
	SCO	1 in 19.0	50%	50%
	RUS	0 in 7	46%	54%
			45%	55%

Overall Scrum success was **94%** and overall Lineout success was **74%**. Because of the relatively few 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. **England, France, Hong Kong** and **Japan** won possession on every one of their scrum put ins and **New Zealand, Scotland, Australia, USA, Russia** and **Portugal** won possession on every one of their throw ins.

		SCRUM			LINEOUT
		OWN			OWN
	ENG	100%		NZL	10/10
	FRA	100%		SCO	7/7
	HKG	100%		AUS	6/6
	JAP	100%		USA	3/3
	NZL	100%		RUS	2/2
	RUS	100%		POR	1/1
	SAM	100%		JAP	2/3
	USA	96%		SA	18/20
	ARG	95%		HKG	6/8
	POR	92%		ENG	15/18
	KEN	91%		SAM	9/13
	SA	90%		FJI	8/12
	SCO	89%		WAL	5/9
	WAL	88%		FRA	7/13
	AUS	87%		KEN	5/11
	FJI	87%		ARG	5/11

6. PENALTIES & FREE KICKS

The average number of penalties and free kicks per game (not inc restart free kicks) was 6.

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 **6 teams** were awarded more penalties than they conceded.

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

Of the penalties awarded, **75%** were awarded at the breakdown, with **82%** of the penalties **FOR** the attacking team and **18%** **AGAINST** the attacking team. Of penalty/free kick options, **96%** were tap kicks.

7. CARDS

There were **16** yellow cards and **0** red card issued. The offences for which yellow cards were awarded were as follows:

	YELLOW + RED CARDS	OFFENCES
NZL	4	Dangerous Tackle x 2 / Knock on / Ruck
KEN	2	Deliberate Knock on / Unsportsmanlike
FJI	2	Dangerous Tackle / Offside
SCO	2	Offside / Charging
SA	2	Unsportsmanlike / Not 10m
JAP	1	Unsportsmanlike
SAM	1	Dangerous Tackle
ARG	1	Obstruction
AUS	1	Dangerous Tackle

AVERAGE PENS/FKs
HIGHEST IN A MATCH
LOWEST IN A MATCH

PENS/FKS
6
14
2

	PENS & FKS FOR	PENS & FKS AGAINST
	TOTAL	TOTAL
SA	61%	39%
WAL	57%	43%
AUS	55%	45%
JAP	55%	45%
USA	55%	45%
FJI	51%	49%
ENG	50%	50%
POR	50%	50%
ARG	47%	53%
NZL	47%	53%
SAM	47%	53%
FRA	46%	54%
HKG	45%	55%
SCO	45%	55%
RUS	41%	59%
KEN	39%	61%