

The background is a gradient from dark purple on the left to dark blue on the right, with a starry or particle-like texture. On the left side, there are several overlapping circular elements. A prominent one is a large arc with a scale from 140 to 260 in increments of 10. Other circles are partially visible, some with dashed outlines and arrows indicating a clockwise direction. The overall aesthetic is technical and futuristic.

BRITISH SPORTS

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We all know football was invented and codified in England but there are some weird and extraordinary sports that are also codified and developed in England.



TIN BATH RACING

- ✓ The World Tin Bath Championships take place each year in Castletown on the Isle of Man.
- ✓ Participants from as far away as the Antipodes take to the water to race their baths over a 400m course.
- ✓ The winner is the first to finish. Sometimes , the competitor who just gets the furthest without sinking! The 44th annual event took place in July 2016.



CHEESE CHASING

- ✓ On the second bank holiday in May each year contestants from all over the world, gather at the top of Cooper's Hill in Brockworth, Gloucestershire, for its famous cheese-rolling race .
- ✓ Their goal is the madcap pursuit of a Double Gloucester cheese sent hurtling down a precipitous 200-metre slope.
- ✓ The winner gets the cheese. Others get bruises and breaks.



EGG THROWING

- ✓ Staged every June in the Lincolnshire village of Swaton, the World Egg Throwing Championships claims origins of as early as 1322, when a local abbot offered local peasants an egg every time they came to church.
- ✓ Today's competitions include catching eggs hurled across the local river, as well as Russian Egg Roulette.
- ✓ People choose from five hard-boiled eggs and one raw, then smash it against their forehead.



BOG SNORKELLING

- ✓ The World Bog Snorkelling Championships are staged each August in a bog on the edge of the Welsh town of Llanwrtyd Wells.
- ✓ Contestants from around the globe battle to negotiate 60 yard-long trenches filled with gloopy mud and water. Some add fancy dress as an extra handicap.
- ✓ The current world record was set in 2014 by a Surrey woman, who did the course in 82.56 seconds. Impressive!



CURLING

- ✓ **Curling** is a sport in which players slide stones on a sheet of ice towards a target area which is segmented into four concentric circles.
- ✓ Two teams, each with four players, take turns sliding heavy, polished granite stones, also called *rocks*, across the ice *curling sheet* towards the *house*, a circular target marked on the ice. Each team has eight stones.
- ✓ The purpose is to accumulate the highest score for a *game*; points are scored for the stones resting closest to the centre of the house at the conclusion of each *end*, which is completed when both teams have thrown all of their stones. A game usually consists of eight or ten ends.



HEN RACING

- ✓ For over a century, the Derbyshire village of Bonsall has staged World Championship Hen Races outside the Barley Mow pub.
- ✓ Local villages compete, racing chickens over a 15-metre track – with the birds given three minutes each heat to cross the finish line and any fighting between hens resulting in disqualification.
- ✓ And any spectator who makes jokes about runny eggs may be asked to leave.



LAWNMOWER RACING

- ✓ Lawnmower races are held around England during the summer.
- ✓ Despite it being contested in England, the idea for this eccentric sport actually came from an Irishman named Jim Gavin in 1973 – surprisingly, after a trip to the pub...
- ✓ So if you fancy an alternative to the Le Mans 24 hour motor race, there's a 12-hour lawnmower endurance event in August.



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CONKERS

- ✓ The very nutty World Conker Championships has taken place every October since 1965 near the ancient Northants market town of Oundle.
- ✓ Thousands gather to watch modern-day gladiators battle for glory armed only with a nut and 12 inches of string.
- ✓ There are separate events for men, women and juniors, with the winner in each category led to the Conker Throne and crowned with conkers.



BLACK PUDDING HURLING

- ✓ The black pudding hurling event staged in September near Bury is basically a sporting riff on the ancient grudge between Yorkshire and Lancashire - played out by contestants hurling black puddings at a pile of Yorkshire puddings set on a 20-foot-high plinth.
- ✓ Competitors have three attempts to knock down as many Yorkshire puddings as possible.
- ✓ Fans of The Goodies will mutter it's just a tamer version of the deadly martial art of Ecky-Thump.





THE END

Thanks for your attention