

# Strange but true!

## Four amazing sporting records

### 1 Surfing

Standing on a surfboard is difficult enough normally, but in 2013, American Bernie Boehm surfed for thirty-three seconds while spinning a basketball on one finger!

### 2 Athletics


In 2008, German Christopher Irmischer ran 100 metres along a running track and jumped over ten hurdles. It took him 14.82 seconds. That's not fast. That's because he was wearing flippers on his feet instead of trainers, and a mask and snorkel on his head! How strange!

### 3 Cycling

In 2013, another German, Jens Stötzner, went cycling ... underwater! He rode his bike around the bottom of a swimming pool seventy-eight times – a distance of 6.708 kilometres! I wonder if he was wearing a helmet!

### 4 Ice hockey

In 2008, the Slovakian women's ice hockey team beat Bulgaria. They won the match very easily, scoring a goal every forty-four seconds! On the electronic scoreboard, the final score was 82–0!


**5**  Read the article again and answer the questions. In pairs, compare your answers.

- Which record do you think is the most amazing?
- Which is your favourite? Why?
- What other sporting records do you know?

**5.05 WORD FRIENDS** Complete the phrases with these words. Listen and check.


beat goal medal record take part  
take up team volunteer

- volunteer at a sports event/a club
- (...) in a race/competition
- (...) a sport
- win a (...) / game / match
- break / hold a (...)
- score a (...)
- support a (...)
- (...) a team / an opponent

**7**  **5.03** Study and listen to the Vocabulary B box. Check you understand the words.

#### VOCABULARY B Sporting events

changing room court fan opponent pitch  
scoreboard stadium tournament track

**8**  **5.04** Complete the blog post with the correct form of the words in the Vocabulary B box. Listen and check.

### My greatest sporting success

My greatest sporting success didn't take place on a running <sup>1</sup> track in a big <sup>2</sup> (...). It was on the tennis <sup>3</sup> (...) behind my school last June. It was the first game in a tennis <sup>4</sup> (...). I didn't feel nervous as I took my kit out of my bag in the <sup>5</sup> (...) rooms. Nobody expected me to win, not even me. I'm not very good at tennis. But that day I played brilliantly. My racket felt like part of my arm. Almost every ball I hit went flying over the net. My <sup>6</sup> (...) didn't know what to do. I won the match easily. The final score was 6–1, 6–2. I've never played so well since then!

