



Rich Stars

It isn't about the money... or is it? The richest people in sport. By Patrick Howarth

Who are the richest people in sport? **Golfers?** Tiger Woods **earns** a fortune. **Footballers?** Just think how rich David Beckham must be. Tennis players? Rafa Nadal is a very wealthy young man. Actually, you'd be surprised.

The British newspaper *The Sunday Times* has just published a list of the richest sporting stars in the UK and Ireland. And the richest man in British sport is a footballer who doesn't even play football any more: Dave Whelan. In 1960, Dave broke his leg in a cup final. Unfortunately for him, the **injury** ended his **career**, although he did receive £400 as compensation. Later, Dave used the money to open a shop selling cheap sports equipment. Today, his company, JJB, has helped make him **worth** £190 million, which is more than anyone actually playing sport!



Dave Whelan

Beckham is second on the list with a fortune of £125 million. However, the majority of his money has come from **sponsorship deals** rather than money earned from playing football. Experts believe that Beckham will further **increase** his earnings after he **retires** because he's so well-known.



Incredibly, 10 of the next 15 names on the list are all involved in motor sport, most notably Formula One.

Drivers such as world champion Jenson Button (£43 million) and former world champion Lewis Hamilton (£35 million) are both on the list. However, they aren't as rich as Nigel Mansell (£50 million) and David Coulthard (£50 million), who have both retired from racing.

I'M WORTH IT!

Another surprise member of the list is Dario Franchitti from Scotland.



Fanchetti drives in **IndyCar races** in the US and is hardly known in the UK. He's worth £36 million and is

married to film star Ashley Judd.

Once you look outside the top 15 on the list, footballers do start to dominate. In fact, 57 of the top 100 are footballers – 18 of them being players with Manchester United or Chelsea. Michael Owen (with £40 million) is the second richest footballer after Beckham.



Michael Owen



Lennox Lewis

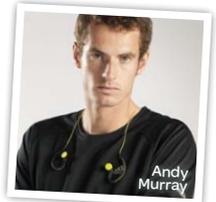
Boxing has three names on the list, all **retired** former champions, including Lennox Lewis (who's worth £95 million).

There are nine golfers, the richest of whom is Sir Nick Faldo, three times' winner of the British Open and the US Masters. He's got £32 million.



Sir Nick Faldo

The youngest name on the list is also possibly the person with the most potential to enter the top 10: Scottish tennis player Andy Murray. Andy has earned £15 million and is only 22 years old. However, he has yet to win a major **title** and he won't become seriously rich until he does... and Rafa Nadal and Novak Djokovic will be trying to **put a stop to** that! Perhaps Andy should follow Dave Whelan's footsteps and use his £15 million to open a shop. *



Andy Murray

GLOSSÁRIO

- a golfer** *n* um jogador de golfe
- to earn** *v* receber, ganhar (dinheiro, geralmente salário)
- a footballer** *n* um jogador de futebol
- an injury** *n* um machucado, um ferimento
- a career** *n* uma carreira
- worth** *adj* com valor de
- to be worth** *exp* valer, ter o valor de
- a sponsorship** *n* um patrocínio
- a deal** *n* um acordo, um negócio
- to increase** *vb* aumentar
- to retire** *vb* aposentar-se
- IndyCar races** *n* corridas de fórmula Indy
- a title** *n* um título (de uma competição)
- to put a stop to** *exp* por fim a