Rules of the game. The rules of soccer are straightforward and to the point. Soccer follows a set of rules that IFAB abides by. Some of them include, the number of players. The number of players is consisted of two teams of eleven players on each side, this includes the goalkeeper.. In sanctioned matches each team is allowed 3 substitutions during a match. A sanctioned match is an officially licensed by FIFA. The duration of matches are as follows, they have two forty five minute halves. Extra time is added for each half at the referee’s discretion. Even though the game has these time limits pressed, the referee is the one that determines when a game is over. The kick off of each game is determined by the coin toss, the winning team can either choose to start with the ball or choose which goal they would like to attack, the losing team if then afforded whatever choice the winner does not elect to take. A goal, is scored when and only the entire ball goes and crosses over the line within the frame of the goal. Players can also be penalized for misconduct. These are via yellow cards or red cards. A yellow card is generally used to warn the player that they are performing improperly during the match, either by demonstrating unsporting behavior, breaking rules of the game. Then there is also a red card, and that is given to a player that has seriously performed in an unjust way towards the game, which signifies the player to leave the playing field.

Those were some general rules of play of the game of soccer, now how does a soccer tournament work? The qualifiers, whichever country is hosting the world cup, is already qualified and entered in the world cup. Other then that, all the other nations need to play qualifier games to see which teams get to go to the world cup. Then the group stages will begin. In this years world cup, there are eight groups of four teams each. Each team in each group needs to play up to three matches with the other three teams in their group.The top two finishers in each group move onto the elimination brackets, the last two of each group goes home. The way points are tallied for each team in the group stages, is off of the wins/draws/losses. Wins earn their team 3 points. Draws earn each team 1 point. Losses do nothing at all. Then after group stages comes the knockout brackets. When either team wins on the bracket, they advance, while the other losing team is eliminated. The way the brackets are setup is as so, First place in group A goes up against second place in group B, and vice versa.Then whichever team makes it to the end of the brackets is pronounced the winner of the world cup for that series.