

An even number of teams play one another once a week with no tie allowed and have played all other teams. Four weeks into the tournament, A has won all its games, B,C, and D have won three games, the other teams have won at least one games. What is the minimum number of teams? Show an instance.

By sheer random search

```
tnmt=function(K=10,gamz=4){
  t1=t0=matrix(1,K,K)
tnmt=function(K=10,gamz=4){
  tnmt=t0=matrix(0,K,K)
  while (!prod(apply(tnmt^2,1,sum)==4)){
    tnmt=t0
    for (i in 1:(K-2)){
      if((a<-gamz-sum(tnmt[i,]^2))> K-i-1) break()
      if(a>0){
        j=sample((i+1):K,a)
        tnmt[i,j]=sample(c(-1,1),a,rep=TRUE)
        tnmt[j,i]=-tnmt[i,j]}}
    tnmt}
chk=function(1,gamz=4){
  sumz=apply(tnmt,1,sum)
  max(sumz)==gamz&
  sum(sumz==2)>2&
  min(sumz)>-gamz}
```

I found that 8 teams were not producing an acceptable game out of 10^6 tries. Here is a solution for 9 teams:

	[,1]	[,2]	[,3]	[,4]	[,5]	[,6]	[,7]	[,8]	[,9]
[1,]			-1	-1		1			-1
[2,]			-1		1		-1		-1
[3,]	1	1				1			-1
[4,]	1				1		1	-1	
[5,]		-1		-1				1	-1
[6,]	-1		-1				-1	1	
[7,]		1		-1		1		1	
[8,]				1	-1	-1	-1		
[9,]	1	1	1		1				

where team 9 wins all four games, 7,4 and 3, win three games, and the other 4 teams win one game. Which makes sense since this is a zero sum game, with a value of 10 over the four top teams and $2(N-4)=10$ if no team has two wins (adding an even number of such teams does not change the value of the game).