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# Whistle!, Volume 1



## Synopsis

Sho Kazamatsuri wants to be the best football player he can possibly be. He's the spirited leader of the Josui Junior High team and everyone looks up to him. In turn, he tries to keep the team together at any cost!"

## Book Information

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Age Range: 11 - 15 years

Grade Level: 6 - 10

## Customer Reviews

Although he's no Pele or David Beckham, Sho is trying to take the high school soccer world by storm. Unfortunately, he's very short and not on the first team at his new school, but he's still determined to practice as much as possible to be the best. With the rest of the second string and Tatsuya, a star player who's not into lording his ability over others like the rest of the regulars, Sho challenges the Captain to a game for leadership of the team and a starting position. Like Bad News Bears, Little Giants, Mighty Ducks or any other movie where the underdogs take on the "chosen ones," this is a feel-good story that tugs at readers' heartstrings and pulls them in. It's always rewarding to see a smug grin replaced by a look of shock, and there are several moments like that in Whistle, each better than the last. Higuchi supplies a satisfying series of obstacles for Sho and company, crafting a tale that's not just for sports enthusiasts but for anyone interested in seeing the little guy make good. The art manages to encompass just about every convention of the shonen manga genre, while keeping storytelling and characterization strong. Like many sports manga, illustrated text pages about soccer are sprinkled throughout the volume. Copyright © Reed

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Daisuke Higuchi's manga career began in 1992 when the artist was honored with third prize in the 43rd Osamu Tezuka Award. In that same year, Higuchi debuted as creator of a romantic action story titled Itaru. In 1998, Weekly Shonen Jump began serializing Whistle! Higuchi's realistic football manga became an instant hit with readers and eventually inspired an anime series, debuting on Japanese TV in May of 2002. The artist is currently working on yet-to-be-published new series.

Thank you! Good Read!

If you like sports manga, or dedication to the thing you love, or even friendship , you should definitely read this.

Love this series! Book arrived in perfect condition.

you will still want to buy the next in the series but the first book concludes a mini story line so left me happy.

It came the day it said it would and there was no scratches.

I absolutly LOVE this series!!!! There are going to be 24 books in total, a very long series, but worth it. The anime has 39 episodes, but as of now it's only in japanese with english subtitles. Whistle! By Daisuki Higuchi is about a boy named Sho Kazamatsura who just wants to play soccer. He got into the nation's best school with an awesome soccer team, but he was only accepted as a substitute to do all cleaning work because he was short! A dumb excuse if you ask me! In the first book Sho defy's his parent's wishes and goes to live with his brother and transfers to Josui Junior High School instead of staying at the all powerful Musashinomori as a substitute. He is a terrible soccer player at first, and he's only on about the third grade soccer level. When he just transferred to Josui his teacher and students all expected him to be an awesome soccer player because he went to Musashinomori, but they were really disappointed. Sho doesn't give up, though, and skips school to play soccer alone in a park. Tatsuya, the best soccer member on the team, happened to be jogging by and sees Sho practicing. Sho asks Tatsuya to play just one match with him. Dribble and get past the opponent. Sho's persistence and stamina surprises Tatsuya. The next day he suddenly

challenges the soccer captain for the position of captain. Tatsuya's team would only use substitutes (like Sho) while the "captain" could use whoever he wanted. A teacher asked why Tatsuya suddenly decided to challenge the "captain" and his answer was simply "It's because Sho is here now, I think it's time to try something new." They have their match and the scores tie up, until.... You'll have to read it to find out! Whistle! Is really an encouraging book, and it inspires you to never give up! Even if you're not a soccer fan (like me) The author explains the game really well, so you're not left behind. Whistle! deserves 7 stars!!!!

When Japan made it to the World Cup in 1998, it was the perfect time to come out with another soccer manga, and this one has definitely succeeded in capturing the attention of readers all over the world. Whistle! is the only quality manga / anime about soccer that I have seen since the introduction of the outstanding Captain Tsubasa, and therefore, has filled a much needed void. The story centers on the struggle of Sho Kazamatsuri, a very small kid, whose dream is to play soccer. Since the school he was attending had a great squad and there was no hope for making the team, he did the only reasonable thing left to do, he changed schools! Thus starts the journey of this underdog. After a very embarrassing first meeting with his new teammates, Sho dedicates himself thoroughly to improve his skills, and shows everyone his great love for the game. The character development is pretty good, and I particularly liked how Daisuke Higuchi created a couple of characters that allow him to introduce an emotional element in the story. I am referring to Sho's brother, an irresponsible guy, who works as an escort for ladies, but who when it comes to Sho, shows the qualities that define an exemplary brother. And also to Oyassan, an old man who owns a food stand and who establishes a special relationship with Sho. Higuchi does an OK job with the drawings, and even though these may not be the best quality I have seen, he is proficient in conveying the feel for the action, which is one of the hardest aspects to perfect in a sports manga. The main problem with this manga is the mistakes in the translation. At the start of each volume, there are explanations about soccer and the strategy involved in the sport, and the reader can quickly feel that the translator is not familiar with the game, since in many cases he does not use the right terminology. Also, and maybe even more maddening, when referring to real players, the translator made egregious mistakes, some that make it hard to figure out which player the author was referring to. A clear example of this is when the translated version refers to Batistuta, the great Argentinean striker, as Patis Torta. If you can stomach these errors and are looking for a good underdog story, then I would definitely consider giving this series a try, since most other elements are outstanding. In many aspects, Whistle! has a similar feeling than my favorite sports

manga of all time, which by the way is another underdog story, Hajime no Ippo. Sadly, this manga has not been released in English yet, but you can find the scanlations online, or watch the anime, which has been released as *Fighting Spirit*.

I have been a soccer player for ten years before I stopped playing. I then heard of a soccer themed manga called "Whistle!" I picked up the soccer ball again and started playing. "Whistle!" is a very well put together story of one kid's love of a sport. Sho Kazamatsuri is a young upcoming soccer player who was put down at his old school. He decides to transfer to another school and try his luck there. The other players feel fortunate to have him (his last school had the best soccer program in the district) and expected great things from young Sho. Unfortunately, Sho has never played a real soccer game with anyone before! Now Sho must work from Dawn to Dusk to become the greatest player ever! I remember just going to a book store and reading of the shelf (when you read a book at the store, but don't buy it!). I remember reading this book and I ended up buying the entire series! It's comical, strong and will make you either to continue to peruse any sport or activity guaranteed! I began running and started getting tired and then I remembered Sho and I began to sprint! It may sound corny but it really does happen to ever one I lent this series to! If you don't believe me, read it yourself! It's one of the best underdog stories that will make you turn page after page and will make you hold your breath everytime! Whistle! Vol. 1 gets 5 stars out of 5. My name is Amon! Adios!

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