

Sam T.N. Foulds  
Editor  
8. Diamond Avenue  
Salem, N.H. 03079

# HISTORICAL QUARTERLY

\* \* \* \* \*

WELCOME TO THE FIRST ISSUE OF THE HISTORICAL QUARTERLY.

We plan to use this bulletin as a catalyst to bring together members of the soccer fraternity, who may be interested in our American soccer heritage, which spans more than 130 years of organized play.

To those of us, who may have become acquainted with the past, it has been a revelation. It would seem, that American soccer has been a subliminal sports empire all these years, surfacing only, occasionally, to seek its due recognition in an unappreciative American sports culture.

Ironically, soccer is America's original football, the game of all Americans, whether native or foreign born.

Soccer is fast becoming America's leading participant team sport.

Although the World Cup 1994 may be our crowning glory, we can only achieve our ultimate mission by the emergence of a permanent major professional soccer league in the United States.

It is for that reason, that we, as American soccer historians and researchers must bring the American soccer tradition out of the shadows into the full light of day.

A HAPPY HOLIDAY AND A GREAT NEW YEAR TO ALL OF YOU.

Organizational Committee.

Sam Foulds  
Roger Allaway  
Jack Huckle  
Albert Colone





"A Double Header"

SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN SOCCER HISTORY

SPORTS HISTORY

AIMS OF THE SOCIETY

To stimulate, promote and co-ordinate interest in the historical study of American soccer.

To advance scholarship in the study and teaching of the various aspects of soccer history.

It will seek to achieve these aims by

1. Encouraging and assisting in the preservation and cataloging of historical records.
2. Publishing literature and disseminating information by such means as conferences, exhibitions, tours and courses.
3. Developing and advancing the research and teaching of soccer history and the American soccer tradition.
4. Developing links with national and international bodies with like aims and objectives.
5. Providing a forum for the discussion of new approaches, ideas and information.

\* \* \* \* \*

All prospective members of the Society for American Soccer History, who register by January 1, 1994 will be listed, as Charter Members.

## EDITORIAL COMMENT

The American public in general and most soccer followers in particular have very little knowledge of our rich soccer heritage.

Football has been an American pastime since the settlers of the first English colony in America at Jamestown, VA in 1607-09 engaged in kick-about with a blown-up pig's bladder.

In the early years between 1820 and 1860 a few American colleges engaged in various types of intra-mural football, which were in reality kick-about, where pushing, handling and slugging were as often as not a part of the game. The rowdy behavior of the footballers, eventually, brought a ban on the game at Harvard and Yale Universities in 1860.

The schoolboys of Boston were active in late 1850s on Boston Common with pick-up football games, which had all the elements of soccer. In 1862 the first organized football (soccer) club in America, the Oneidas, was formed with players from the Boston high schools. The rules of the game played by the Oneidas coincided, largely, with the "Laws of the Game" promulgated a year later in 1863 by the newly formed Football Association of England at London.

It was from these Football Association rules for football devised in 1863, that the modern code for soccer developed. FIFA at its formation in 1904 adopted intact the football rules of the International Board (England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales). Today other member countries of FIFA, also, serve as active members of this Board.

In 1869 the first intercollegiate football game between Princeton and Rutgers Universities was played at New Brunswick, N.J. The rules of the game were those of soccer.

In this coming World Cup '94 year the United States can take pride in its pioneering soccer heritage.

**Sam T.N. Foulds**

HOW IT ALL BEGAN --

CREATION OF THE SOCCER CODE - -

-Meeting Dates at the Freemasons' Tavern in London, England.  
-October 26, 1863, November 24, 1863, December 8, 1863.

-Clubs present: N.N.(Kilburn), Barnes, War Office, Crusaders, Forest(Leytonstone), Percival House(Blackheath), Crystal Palace, Blackheath, Kensington School, Surbiton and Blackheath School.

-It was proposed and the proposal adopted "that the clubs represented at this meeting now form themselves into an association, to be called, The Football Association."

-The code proposed at the October 26th meeting included the following rules:

- - A player may be hacked on the front of the leg below the knee while running with the ball.
- - A player is entitled to run with the ball in his hands, if he makes a fair catch or catches the ball on the first bound.
- - Tripping shall not be allowed except when running with ball.
- - A player may be held, when running with the ball.

-These provisions of the new code, which were of Rugby origin, found little favor with the followers of the dribbling game. When it was learned in London, that a committee had met at Cambridge University to set-up a dribbling code, it was decided to hold additional meetings to which the Cambridge element was invited.

-At the November 24th meeting, the dribblers prevailed and adopted a resolution " that the rules of Cambridge University embrace the true principles of the game."

-At the next meeting on December 8th, Blackheath, led by a Mr. Campbell, and the other Rugby playing clubs, formally, withdrew to organize their own association.

-The remaining clubs then accepted the revised rules, which became the code of The Football Association.

These rules were published shortly there-after in Bell's Life, the leading sports magazine of that time.

# ORIGINAL RULES OF ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL ( SOCCER )

Laws adopted by the Football Association in December 1863

1. The maximum length of the ground shall be 200 yards and the maximum breadth shall be 100 yards.

The length and breadth shall be marked off with flags.

The goals shall be defined by two upright posts 8 yards apart, without any tape or bar across them.

2. The winner of the toss shall have choice of goals. The game shall be commenced by a place kick from the centre of the ground by the side losing the toss. The other side shall not approach within 10 yards of the ball until it is kicked off.

3. After a goal is won, the losing side shall kick off and goals shall be changed.

4. A goal shall be won when the ball passes between the goal-posts or over the space between the goal-posts (at whatever height) not being thrown, knocked on or carried.

5. When the ball is in touch, the first player who touches it shall *throw* it from a point on the boundary line where it left the ground in a direction at right angles with the boundary line, and it shall not be in play until it has touched the ground.

6. When a player has kicked the ball, any one of the same side who is nearer to the opponents' goal line is out of play and may not touch the ball himself nor in any way whatever prevent any other player from doing so until the ball has been played, but no player is out of play when the ball is kicked from behind the goal line.

7. In case the ball goes behind the goal line, if a player on the side to whom the goal belongs, first touches the ball, one of his side shall be entitled to a *free* kick from the goal line at the point opposite the place where the ball shall be touched.

If a player of the opposite side first touches the ball, one of his side shall be entitled to a *free* kick (but at the goal only) from a point fifteen yards from the goal line opposite the place where the ball is touched; the opposing side shall stand behind their goal line until he has had his kick.

8. If a player makes a fair catch, he shall be entitled to a free kick, provided he claims it by making a mark with his heel at once; and in order to take such a kick, he may go back as far as he pleases, and no player on the opposite side shall advance beyond his mark until he has kicked.

9. No player shall carry the ball.

10. Neither tripping nor hacking shall be allowed and no player shall use his hands to hold or push an adversary.

11. A player shall not throw the ball nor pass it to another.

12. No player shall take the ball from the ground with his hands while it is in play under any pretence whatever.

13. A player shall be allowed to throw the ball or pass it to another if he made a fair catch or catches the ball at the first bounce.

14. No player shall be allowed to wear projecting nails, iron plates or gutta-percha on the soles or heels of his boots.

These Laws are very similar to those previously in force at Cambridge, set out earlier, but there were points of difference.

While these Laws are the recognisable ancestors of the modern Laws, there are many of them which are equally relevant, or more relevant in some instances, to the modern game of Rugby Football. Not one of the original Laws remains unaltered at the present time, but many of the underlying principles have been retained.

This first code was really an experimental one and during the early years of the Association's existence, alterations were frequent, as will be seen when the Laws as agreed in 1870 are set out later in this chapter. It must also be remembered that these Laws were followed only by the clubs in or near London. In the north various clubs in the Sheffield area had also formed themselves into an Association in 1866, and they had adopted a code of Laws which differed in many respects from those of the Football Association.

When the Sheffield team challenged the London team to a match it was obvious that some agreement would have to be reached in respect of the laws and set out below is the



SASH Organizational Information. - -

Membership Registrations received by January 1, 1994 will be entered on the rolls of the Society, as Charter Members.

A constitution and bylaws will be submitted to the membership at our Annual Meeting next spring at the National Soccer Hall of Fame Convention in Oneonta, N.Y.

The election of permanent officers for the Society will take place at that time.

The Organizational Committee would welcome suggestions from the membership to aid them in their deliberations.

Suggestions should be forwarded to Roger Allaway, 1263 Stirling St., Philadelphia, PA 19111, who is serving as Secretary - Pro-tem of the Committee.

If you have any ideas or suggestions for the Quarterly, forward them to Sam Foulds, 8 Diamond Ave., Salem, N.H. 03079. Tel. 1-603-898-7566

Membership fees should be sent to SASH, Albert Colone, National Soccer Hall of Fame, 11 Ford Avenue, Oneonta, N.Y. 13820.

\* \* \* \* \*