



# **Society for American Soccer History Newsletter | Fall, 2025**



## **Message from the President**

Autumn greetings to everyone! The leaves may change color but SASH stays true to its hues...

Your board met recently to continue its stewardship of our collective mission to preserve, promote, and produce the best history possible for soccer in the USA. If you have missed the recent September and October First Friday sessions, then you can find them on our website and social media. We are pleased to have been able to offer a full slate of sessions this fall. The program until the end of the year is set with additional sessions lined up well into 2026.

Your board has also continued the slow but essential groundwork on our internal policies and governance. We aim to continue to grow and improve our operations with a yearly budget beginning in 2026. Our finances are healthy (if modest) and your board has sought to better manage our limited resources, particularly with streamlining some administrative and legal costs.

In connection to this, have you seen any of our newly digitized resources online since the summer? If you have enjoyed viewing these or shared them, then please consider supporting our ongoing digitization fundraising campaign. We have identified a number of additional visual items that we would like to add to our library. Support from you (and beyond!) helps us consolidate SASH as the leading repository for soccer history materials.

Our various committees and delegates continue their important work, particularly in support of the National Soccer Hall of Fame's nominations process. We are also grateful to our Elections committee which will be leading the upcoming SASH elections for 2026. We count on your active participation!

As you will discover below, members continue to do innovative, interesting, and essential historical work. We hope that everyone will be able to contribute to the events/date calendar project which will help build an "anniversary library", something that we can leverage in the future. With the men's World Cup on the horizon, we also hope to offer specialized content around the host cities for next summer in the form of a "city guide" of soccer history. Please reach out if you would like to contribute!

Lastly, we are considering some options for an in-person AGM (without forgetting a hybrid online presence) sometime next year to coincide with the lead up to the men's World Cup. Stay tuned!

As always, thank you to each and every one of you who volunteer to make SASH live and breathe (and kick!). You are SASH and together we can continue the historical work of all those who came before us.

Warm regards,

KTM

# Upcoming SASH Election

The annual SASH election for officers and directors is coming soon. Officer positions up for election this year are President and Treasurer. Three director positions are also up for election. All positions are for two-year terms.

Look for election related emails in early November. Below are important election related dates to keep in mind:

- **November 14 (Friday):** 1-week nomination window email sent day before nomination window opens
- **November 15 (Saturday):** 1-week nomination window opens at 12:01 am
- **November 21 (Friday):** 1-week nomination window closes at 11:59 pm
- **December 5 (Friday):** Election email sent day before election window opens
- **December 6 (Saturday):** 7-day election window opens at 12:01 am
- **December 12 (Friday):** 7-day election window closes at 11:59 pm
- **December 15 (Monday):** Election results announced

You must be a fully paid member of SASH to nominate someone, be eligible for election, and to vote in the election. Emails have been sent to current members who must renew before the election to be eligible to vote. **Your paid renewal must be received by 11:59 pm on December 1, 2025, to be eligible vote.** Renewals can be made via the SASH membership page on the SASH website. For more details about the election process, see the SASH Constitution and Bylaws.

# **Bethlehem Steel, Newark, Brooklyn Wanderers, and Fall River Marksmen identified as teams in historical American soccer footage**

Among the 27 clips published on [the SASH YouTube channel](#) as part of the summer's Historical American Footage Release Campaign were four clips from Philadelphia. When the clips were released nothing was known about which teams were portrayed, the grounds the matches were played on, and when the matches were played. Thanks to some fine sleuthing by former SASH board member Dan Creel, the clips have all been identified as matches featuring Bethlehem Steel FC against Newark, Brooklyn Wanderers, and Fall River Marksmen played at Philadelphia's I and Tioga Street Grounds and Northeast High School Field in March 1928.

You can read about how Creel identified the clips [in his essay on the SASH site](#). You can view the clips -- and 28 additional clips of historic footage -- on the [Early American Soccer playlist](#) via the SASH YouTube channel.

Please contribute to the [SASH Historical American Soccer Footage Campaign on GoFundMe](#) so we can continue our efforts to enrich the visual history of American soccer. Your contribution is tax deductible.



# Upcoming SASH Sessions

- **November 7, 2025 at 12 pm ET: Anniversaries, Soccer Origin Stories, and the Oneida football club**

November 2025 is full of anniversaries which have shaped sporting memory and scripted a national history of all codes of “foot ball.” The Oneida Football Club of Boston will celebrate three such events including the 100th anniversary of the monument in their honor. Replete with twists and turns, Kevin Tallec Marston and Mike Cronin will explain how the surprising story of a handful of old Boston boys has become a foundational origin point for soccer in the USA.

- **December 5, 2025 at 12 pm ET: Blue Chippers**

Connor Curran will discuss Irish male and female soccer players’ experiences of US soccer scholarships in the twentieth century and how valuable these scholarships were in terms of playing, education and post-university careers.

If you are unable to attend a SASH Session, all sessions are posted after they take place on the [SASH YouTube channel](#) and available [in podcast form](#).

## SASH Members in Action

- In September SASH VP James Brown went on a three-day road trip with his son to pick up the archives of SASH founder Sam Foulds -- 16 plastic storage tubs on material -- from Foulds family members in New Hampshire to deliver them to the NSHOF storage facility in Hillsborough, North Carolina. The load was so heavy that it blew out one of the rear tires, forcing James to leave some of the tubs with family in New Jersey to be delivered at a later date. Before meeting with the Foulds family James visited Jane Britto, daughter of Arnie Oliver, a teammate of James’ grandfather on the US 1930 World Cup team, who gave him VHS tapes and photos to scan. After delivering the Foulds archive, James spent two days going through the NSHOF archive uncovering photos, documents and especially VHS tapes. Look for these videos on the SASH YouTube channel in the near future.

During the trip, James heard from the grandnephew of James Gentle, another member of the US 1930 World Cup team. James noted that building relationships with families of past players or personalities in US soccer's rich history often reveals important information that would otherwise stay within the family.





- SASH board member Chuck Carlson participated in a panel titled "Black Soccer in the United States: Diasporic Formations, Migrations, and Labors in the Twentieth Century" at the 110th Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) conference in Atlanta in September. Carlson was joined by Maxwell Murray from Detroit City FC in a presentation on the life and career of Gil Heron in Cleveland, Chicago and Detroit. The panel also included Jermaine Scott, whose presentation "Soccer in the Chocolate City: Lincoln Phillips and the Diasporic Formation of the Washington Darts" focused on the experiences of Black soccer players during the late 1960's and early 1970's in professional leagues in the US.
- SASH president Kevin Tallec Marston was on a panel entitled "From 1971 to 2031: Evolution and Perspectives in Women's Football" at the FIFA Master 25th Anniversary conference in September. Along with co-author Mike Cronin, Tallec Marston appeared on the Rugby Reloaded podcast to discuss their book on Boston's Oneida Football Club. The authors will discuss the book at the Massachusetts Historical Society on November 18. The discussion will be moderated by *New Yorker* sports journalist, Louisa Thomas.

## Recent Research Inquiries Addressed by SASH

Provided information to the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council (Rhode Island) with information regarding soccer in Pawtucket/Providence.

Connected a student journalist Walter Cronkite School of Journalism at Arizona State University with Tom McCabe and James Brown for a podcast interview.

Connected a relative of ASL I player Jack Surgener (Brooklyn Wanderers, Providence) with Dan Creel

**SOCCER GAME**

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BETWEEN  
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(Preston, England)  
 and selected team of  
**Washington Soccer Club**  
Scheduled for  
**AMERICAN LEAGUE PARK**  
 TOMORROW, 3 P. M.  
Will Start at 12:45 p.m.  
So it will be completed before  
**World Series Game**  
Pantomimed by  
**The Washington Times**  
 WHICH STARTS AT 2 P. M.

Those attending soccer game are invited to remain for World Series game as guests of The Times. See full page announcement elsewhere in this paper.

### In case you missed it

From June 2015, Grant Czubinski's look at the Dick, Kerr Ladies match in Washington DC that was part of the teams 1922 US tour.

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