

The influence of “Galician football” on the development of Polish and Ukrainian football

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Abstract

Background: Galicia – the former lands of southern Lesser Poland, eastern Roztocze, eastern Subcarpathia and Podolian Upland west of Zburcz. At the end of the 19th century, these areas were under Austrian Partition, Polish and Ukrainian people lived there, so these environments were subject to numerous mutual influences in many areas of social and economic activity. Such dependencies also concerned sports activities, especially when it comes to the most popular discipline, football. Taking into account the fact that Polish and Ukrainian organizations and sports clubs existed in this area, there are many assumptions that football in these two countries had common roots. The aim of the study is to determine a remarkable socio-cultural phenomenon in the sports field – the search for common roots for Galician football. In the research there was a fundamental question raised: whether “Galician football” can constitute a common source for Polish and Ukrainian football. **Methods:** The research method used was the analysis of literature, however the research materials consisted of reports on the history of football (Polish and Ukrainian editions) and information contained on the websites of Polish and Ukrainian clubs. **Results:** The analysis of literature and research documents indicates that Galician football has been a common source for Polish and Ukrainian football. **Conclusion:** The city of Lviv, as the capital of Galicia and the site of numerous sports organizations, has significantly contributed to the flourishing of the sports life of Poles and Ukrainians. Galicia was the place where the first football clubs for the later Polish and Ukrainian nations were established.

Key words: Galician football, the history of Polish football, the beginnings of football in Ukraine

Introduction

Galicia is the common name of the Austrian crownland of the Kingdom of Galicia and Lodomeria, which existed in the years 1772-1918. It includes the lands of southern Lesser Poland, eastern Roztocze, eastern Subcarpathia and Podolian Upland west of Zburcz (1). These areas, in their current geographical distribution, constitute the eastern regions of Poland and the western territory of Ukraine, therefore they are subject to numerous mutual influences for many areas of social and economic activity. Such dependencies also apply to sports activities, especially when it comes to the most popular discipline – football. Examples of this include numerous football tournaments, training conferences and performances (at various levels) of Polish and Ukrainian football players in the leagues of both nations. The culmination of these mutual dependencies and cooperation was a prestigious sports event – the European Championships in 2012, hosted by both Poland and Ukraine.

One of the reasons that brought these two nationalities much closer to cooperation in such a great football venture is their common football history, especially its beginning.

The development of football in Poland and Ukraine occurred with a significant delay, because only at the end of the 19th century. While in Western Europe there were already football clubs and championships matches taking place, information about the game, which was developing rapidly in Western countries and causing a big sensation, slowly reached Poland. Unfortunately, Poland was in captivity and divided into three partitions, which prevented the rapid development of sports life. Of the three partitions into which Poland was divided, Galicia had the most favorable conditions of the development of football. It was here that the Austrian authorities provided society with a number of democratic solutions (the unstable situation of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy), which could not be counted on in the other two partitions (2).

The aim of the study is to determine a remarkable socio-cultural phenomenon in the sports field in the aspect of playing football.

The research procedure raised a fundamental question: whether “Galician football” can constitute a common source for Polish and Ukrainian football.

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The "Falcon" Polish Gymnastic Society – the seeds of the introduction of football in Galicia

In the second half of the 19th century, associations were established in Galicia to develop the health and fitness of Polish youth, deepen the sense of national independence, develop patriotism and prepare them to fight for Poland's independence. The physical and cultural development of society was treated as a means to achieve higher national goals. Educating the young generation in this spirit, capable of fighting for the nation's freedom in the future, was considered the highest social value.

The direct model for establishing such organizations was the first Czech "Falcon" in Europe, which was established on 16th February, 1862 on the initiative of Professor Mirosław Tyrz. He proposed to future members of the society to expand the ideas of falconry among all Slavic nations within the borders of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. Tyrz's brilliant idea soon found its supporters also in enslaved Poland, where the first Polish Gymnastic Society "Falcon" was established in Lviv, on the initiative of Polish activists (K. Żukotyński, L. Gotenthal, J. Żaplachta-Zapałowicz, J. Dobrzański, Ż. Krówczyński, A. Durski and J. Miller). The main goals were, among others, maintaining national awareness among both Polish children and youth as well as taking care of their physical fitness. After 17 years of activity, "falcons' nests" (branches of the society) began to appear in other cities in Galicia: in 1894 in Tarnów and Stanisławów, in 1895 in Cracow, Tarnopol and Kołomyja. At the end of the 19th century, such organizations also began to emerge in the Prussian and Russian partitions. These organizations were subordinated to the Polish Falcons Association established in Lviv in 1892, which managed them.

The first years of activity were mainly devoted to gymnastics classes in specially prepared rooms. Over the years, other sports disciplines began to dominate athletics, cycling, skating and football, which had not been known before.

The areas of eastern Galicia, apart from the Polish population, most of which were concentrated in larger cities (Przemyśl, Lviv, Stanisławów, Tarnopol), were also inhabited by Jews, Armenians, Germans and, above all, Ukrainians – who were the ethnic population (3). Attempts to organise Falcons among the significant Ukrainian nation were initiated similarly to the Polish Falcon organisations. There appeared even a new idea of creating an all-national organisation, which on the model of the Polish organisations would become the first in Galicia Ukrainian sports and social association.

On 17th July, 1892, Wasyl Nagierny, a dedicated social activist and engineer by education, and a lawyer Włodzimierz Wawryski summoned representatives from all over Galicia to the legislative meeting in the National House. The aim of the meeting was to create a universal "Falcon", which would expand its activities to all areas in Galicia inhabited by Ukrainians. For a year, there were disputes and attempts to convince the authorities that the matter was right, and only on 26th July, 1893, during the third attempt, the Austro-Hungarian Ministry of Internal Affairs gave in and agreed to approve the society's statute, which had been prepared by Volodymyr Lavriwsky back in 1892. However, the condition was to expand the association's activities to Bukowina. The activists agreed to these conditions and the official date of establishment of the Ukrainian "Falcons" is 11th February, 1894 (4).

The dynamics of development and expansion of the ranks of "Falcon" in the Kingdom of Galicia and Lodomeria was impressive, according to research it increased by 3500 people on average per year (5).

Galicia – the cradle of the creation of Polish and Ukrainian football

Undoubtedly, the cradle of Polish football was Galicia, or more precisely, Cracow and Lviv. In these cities, at the end of the 1880s (following the example of English school curricula), the problem of enriching the school's pedagogical process with outdoor games and physical activities began to be raised. In the summer of 1890, one of the Lviv pedagogical magazines included most useful games and physical activities for young people. Among them, in the issue of 2nd August, there were general rules in "English football". These were the first football rules written in Polish (6).

However, the publication of the first regulations did not result immediately in the practice of football in Lviv. This was due to the lack of a playing field, which at that time only Cracow had in Galicia. It was in this city in the spring of 1889, Henryk Jordan, PhD born in Przemyśl (Figure 1), professor of medicine at the Jagiellonian University, created the Park of Games and Amusements for young people.

It was the first public garden of games and activities in Europe, modelled on the American ones, for children and teenagers up to 15 years of age. The park had rich sports infrastructure: a swimming pool, tennis courts, a slide, several fields for various team games, including football, playgrounds for children as well as gymnastic equipment and athletics centres, all with a full range of facilities such as: locker rooms, showers, warehouses and rooms for theoretical classes (8). Dr H. Jordan, wanting to

expand his knowledge about the game of football (which was very popular in Western Europe), went to Braunschweig, in November 1890, together with Kazimierz Chomiński (the manager of the Park). Soon, the Krakow press reported that young people were playing English football in the Park. This information, which was the first evidence of football being practiced in our lands, concerned the Sunday afternoon of 14th December, 1890. Hence, according to Wasztyl (6), this date should be considered the official birth of Polish football, the undisputed cradle of which was Dr Henryk Jordan's Park in Krakow! In Krakow, on 30th September, 1891, the first public football demonstration with the participation of the audience was organized (9). Also in this city - in the years 1890 - 1896, the game of football became very popular and was played not only in Jordan's Park but also in the meadows near Cracow (10).

The popularity of football in Cracow through Jordan's Park and the "falconry movement" in which Dr H. Jordan participated is also spreading to the entire eastern Galicia. In Lviv, in 1891, Edmund Cenar, a professor of the Polish teachers' seminary, published the first description of the game of football and its basic rules in the monograph "Gymnastic games of school youth". On the initiative of an ambitious professor, on June 5, 1892, a group of teachers (following the Krakow example) demonstrated a game according to these rules for the public (4). Also for a better understanding of the rules of playing football among Ukrainian youth, at the end of 1894, Volodymyr Lavrivsky published the rules of the game of football in Ukrainian for the first time (4).

The game of football in Galicia is also popularized by the Falcon Rally. Although no football match was played at the 1st Falcon Rally in Lviv in 1892 (due to lack of time), a football match was played between Lviv and Cracow at the 2nd Falcon Rally in Lviv on 14th July, 1894 (1: 0), unfortunately after scoring a goal in the 6th minute by Włodzimierz Chomicki, the match ended. However, this match was special because it was the first time that teams from different cities competed against each other and preparations for this event took a long time (10).

The duel took place in the presence of a seven-thousand-seat audience at a stadium in Stryisky Park built especially for this event. This event is confirmed by articles in contemporary magazines: „Gazeta Lwowska” („Lvivska hazeta”), „Kurier lwowski” („Lvivskýj kurier”), „Dilo” (4).

The great popularity of football in Lviv is also the reason for the founding of the Falcon Football Association in 1903 by Zygmunt Gebert. As a model of such activity, in 1903, the Stawa Sports Club was established at the Realna School in Lviv, from which in the fall of that year the Czarni Lwów Sports Club in Lviv was established - the oldest Polish club - Figure 2. In the same year, Lechia Lwów was also founded (4).

In the following years, other largest clubs were established in Galicia: 1904 - LKS Pogoń Lwów, 1906 - Cracovia and Wisła Kraków, which are an example for the creation of associations and football clubs in Drohobycz, Sambor, Stryj, Stanisławów, Przemyśl, Jarosław, Rzeszów and Tarnów.

Following the example of the Polish organization of club teams, in 1907 the first Ukrainian football team „Ukraina” was established at the Ukrainian Sports Club

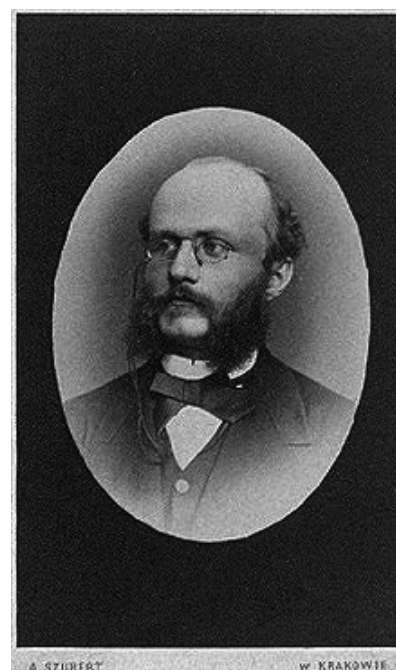


Figure 1. Henryk Jordan, PhD – the main initiator of the creation of football in Galicia [7].



Figure 2. Coat of arms of the Czarni Lwów Sports Club.



Figure 3. Coat of arms of "Ukraina" Lviv [4].

(Figure 3), which in 1911 was transformed into the „Ukraina” Sports Society.

The founder of TS „Ukraina” Lviv was a professor of the Ukrainian gymnasium, Ivan Boberskyi (Figure 4). This organization was the first football club created by Ukrainians (Gowarzewski 1997). In 1928, the „Ukraina” Sports Society was the first among Ukrainian clubs to join the Polish Football Association, gaining the right to play for the class A championship. In later years, TS Ukraina competed with great success for the championship of the District League of the Lviv district until the beginning of World War II.

In 1905, the city’s first football championship took place in Lviv. The winners were the players of the „Czarni” club, who repeated the same result in the next championship held in 1906 (4).

In June 1906, „Czarni” and students of the 4th Junior High School visited Cracow, where on 4th June, in Dr Henryk Jordan’s Park, the team of Cracow students won 2:0 (Figure 5).

On 25th June, 1911, in Lviv, on the initiative of the president of Cracow Cracovia, Stanisław Kopernicki, representatives of four Polish clubs: Czarni Lwów, Pogoń Lwów, RKS Kraków and Cracovia founded the Polish Football Association (ZPPN). The first temporary president was Stanisław Kopernicki from Cracow, so the first headquarters of the Association was located there, and from 1913 the headquarters was in Lviv (Wasztyl 2006). After the founding of ZPPN, Polish clubs came under the authority of this organization. The Polish Football Association itself became part of the Austrian Football Association, which had belonged to FIFA since 1907. This meant that ZPPN could organize its own local tournaments, but could not take part in international tournaments (e.g. the Olympic Games).

Already in March 1912, 10 clubs belonged to ZPPN, including 5 clubs from Kraków, 3 from Lviv and one each from Podgórze and Rzeszów. In turn, in the spring of 1914, the ZPPN already had 24 football teams.

In parallel with its organizational development, the Association also conducted increasingly broader program activities. In June 1912, traditional matches between the football teams of Cracow and Lviv were inaugurated (3:1), which were also played in independent Poland. August of the following year brought the first appearance of the Galicia national team, which was defeated (1:2) in Cracow by the

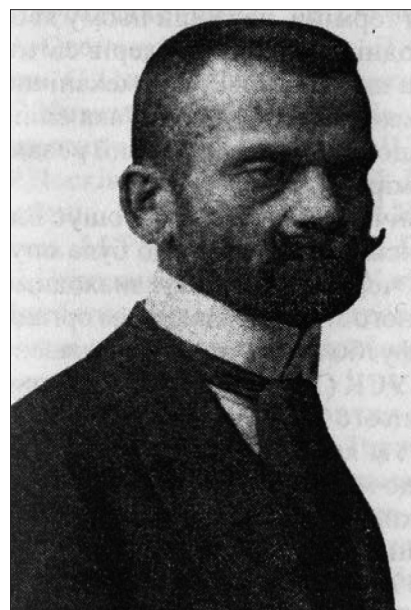


Figure 4. Professor Ivan Boberski – founder of TS „Ukraina” Lviv [4].



Figure 5. Dr Henryk Jordan surrounded by „Czarni” Lwów players and the Cracow students’ team – 4th June, 1906 [13].

Silesia and Moravian national team. In the same year, there was also a meeting between the Cracow and Lviv teams (0:4). Clubs belonging to ZPPN also organized a number of matches between themselves and with foreign teams (14).

On 8th May, 1913, the Polish Football Association organizes the first Galician championship, won by Cracovia. The fruitful activities of ZPPN were interrupted by the outbreak of World War I. After its completion, ZPPN resumed its activities in the spring of 1919. It was then that it changed its statutory name to the Polish Football Association. Despite this name, the Association only brought together clubs from the Austrian partition, which is why it was commonly called the Małopolska (Lesser Poland) ZPN, which already in the middle of that year decided to take the initiative to create a nationwide association. As a result of his efforts, the founding congress was held on 20th and 21st December, 1919 in Warsaw. At this Congress, the Polish Football Association with its headquarters in Cracow was established, and Edward Cetnarowski became its president. In this situation, in May 1920, the Małopolska ZPN was dissolved, whose activities and achievements were of fundamental importance for creating the organizational and programmatic basis for Polish football and its further development in the interwar period and after World War II (5). The Ukrainian Football Association (compared to the Polish Football Association) was established much later (6th March, 1991), only after separation from the USSR and the establishment of the Ukrainian state.

Football competitions in the Lviv District

Since 1920, regular football games were held in Lviv. However, after the establishment of the Polish League in 1926, which began in 1927, the competition was conducted in individual districts called A classes (from 1934 District League), from which the best teams met in the final tournament for the Polish Championship. The establishment of the Polish League did not mean the end of the LOZPN games. There were still competitions in class A and B, and the winner of the district had the right to play in the play-offs for the Polish League, the equivalent of today's Ekstraklasa (14). After the end of hostilities in 1918, more and more football teams willing to take part in the competition began to be established in the regained territories. Therefore, the structures expanded, creating more and more league subgroups (Polish League, District League, class A, class B, etc.). Numerous teams that had been in the organizational structures of the Polish Football Association until 1939 competed for the championship of the Lviv District, including Polish, Ukrainian and Jewish teams - an example of this is the table of the Lviv District League (Table 1).

6th January, 1927 is considered the official date of establishment of the Polish Football League. This event was preceded by a December meeting of 14 representatives of clubs that expressed their willingness to participate in the competition. The league was inaugurated on 3rd April, 1927. Three teams from Lviv took part in the competition: "Pogoń", "Czarni" and "Hasmonea", which finished in fourth and ninth place, respectively. The first Polish Champion selected in the league competition (in 1927) was "Wisła" Kraków.

Table 1. The order of teams at the end of the District League championship games in the 1938/39 season (4).

Order	Team name	Matches	Points	Goal ratio
1	„Junak” Drohobycz	24	36	65-35
2	„Ukraina” Lwów	24	31	65-37
3	„Czarni” Lwów	24	27	43-34
4	„Pogoń II” Lwów	24	26	50-42
5	„Hasmonea” Lwów	24	26	32-30
6	„Lechia” Lwów	24	24	31-34
7	„Pogoń” Stryj	24	22	52-49
8	„Resovia” Rzeszów	24	22	41-47
9	„Sian” Przemyśl	24	22	32-47
10	„Polonia” Przemyśl	24	21	39-51
11	„RKS” Lwów	24	20	27-31
12	„Korona” Sambor	24	19	38-70
13	„WKS” Jarosław	24	16	35-43

Lviv clubs in the competition for the Polish Football League Championship

The years 1928-1931 were a series of failures for the Lviv teams. In 1928, „Pogoń” finished in sixth place, „Czarni” in eighth place, and „Hasmonea” was relegated. In 1928, „Wisła” Kraków again became the league champion.

The year 1929 was another „decrease of quality” and „Pogoń” took ninth place and „Czarni” took eleventh place. Championship title for Warta Poznań. „Lechia” Lviv was close to joining the league elite this season, and in the final promotion tournament only one point was missing to achieve the desired goal.

The next season saw equally average play by „Pogoń” and „Czarni” and places number seven and nine in the reformed twelve-team league. The group of Lviv teams in the top league was expanded by „Lechia”, which defeated AKS Chorzów in the decisive match for promotion.

In 1931, „Pogoń” fought for the Polish Championship until the last round. Ultimately, the final triumph was two points short. Cracow’s Garbarnia, which won its only championship at that time, collected much more. „Pogoń” and „Garbarnia” were separated by Wisła and Legia, who had one point more than the Lviv team and one point less than the „Lwy Ludwinów”. „Czarni” finished the season in 10th place, and the debuting „Lechia” failed to stay in the elite (14).

In 1932, „Pogoń” won the vice championship, but there was still dissatisfaction because the champion „Cracovia” was only one point away. Interestingly, the points that ultimately determined the championship were won by the Cracow team at the green table, receiving them as a walkover for the play of an unregistered „Czarni” player - Żurkowski. The Lviv team thus lost as many as 7 points and was trembling for relegation until the end. Ultimately, the „Czarni” overtook Polonia with a better goal balance and the team from the capital was relegated (4).

The championship in 1933 was held according to a new system. The twelve teams were divided into two subgroups, six teams each. The eastern group included the Lviv teams „Pogoń” and „Czarni”, which won second and fourth places, respectively. In the final matches for places first-fourth, „Pogoń” gave way to Chorzów’s „Ruch” again with a difference of only one point and eventually took second place again.

„Czarni” were unlucky not to advance to the championship group, and the second part of the season turned out to be exceptionally poor in their performance and another Lviv club left the top league.

The following year, the team from Chorzów became champions again. A decline in their form was noticed and they finished the competition in sixth place.

In 1935, under the leadership of the Hungarian coach Moldar, the Lviv team fiercely competed with Ruch for the championship. They won a convincing 4-1 victory on home soil. However, Ruch celebrated the championship for the third time in a row. And again „Pogoń” lacked a „magic” point.

The 1936 season turned out to be historic, as Ruch repeated the achievement of „Pogoń” from 1922-26 (4 official Polish Championships, in 1924 no champion was selected) and won the championship title for the 4th time in a row. The Lviv team finished the competition in sixth place, repeating this feat a year later. 1937 turned out to be a championship year for Cracovia.

In 1938, the last year before the war when the competition was completed, „Pogoń” took 5th place, and the title went to Ruch Chorzów again.

An attempt to establish the birth of football in Ukraine

For many years, there have been discussions and questions about the birth of football in Ukraine. Historical sources and scientific works provide many dates and interesting information about the first attempts to play football. Among other things, interesting information came from Odessa, where, allegedly in 1878, British navy soldiers presented a new game to local residents (4).

In 1993, activists of the „Karpaty” Lviv football club, led by Bohdan Kobryn, decided to answer this question in order to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of Ukrainian football. He issued an open letter to the then state authorities, as well as football clubs, asking for help in establishing very important facts. National deputy Yaroslav Kendzior, who organized the request of national deputies to the President of Ukraine, as well as the president of the „Ukraina” football club Roman Melekh, who initiated a scientific and theoretical dispute on the occasion of the birth of Ukrainian football, came to the aid of the „Karpaty” club in the matter of the anniversary (4).

The first meeting on this matter was held in Kiev in 1994 with the participation of representatives of all interested regions. It was decided to extend the time of historical research so that each region could prepare appropriate documents useful for further work.

The case dragged on for over five years until another meeting was finally scheduled. It took place on 19th April, 1999 at the headquarters of the National Football Federation in Kyiv, and provided the criteria according to which the commission was to use when establishing the authentic

facts. According to the guidelines for the research, the following factors were to be included: the organization of the match officially announced in the press, the participation of local players in the team who are members of sports structures, playing football according to the rules applicable at that time, the players' equipment, a pitch of sufficient size, the presence of a referee and spectators (4). As it later turned out, only the match played on 14th July, 1894 in Lviv (2nd Falcon Rally) met all the above-mentioned criteria. Representatives of Odessa, Mykolaiv and Kharkiv, who had previously tried to prove their case, were unable to provide the required documents. It was finally decided to complete the research work and on 3rd July, 1999 the "Lviv date" was validated as the beginning of football in Ukraine (3). It should be added here that the Falcons Rally was organized by the Polish Falcons Association, established in 1892, and representatives of two Polish cities, Cracow and Lviv, took part in the football match. Perhaps the Ukrainian Falcon, as a young organization (11th February, 1894), could have co-organized part of the program of this rally. However, taking into account the fact that today's Lviv is a Ukrainian city, which is why this date was probably determined - as the beginning of the creation of Ukrainian football, this argument was decisive. The fact is that all sports activities of Ukrainian organizations were modelled on Polish initiatives, which preceded them and were better organized.

Discussion

The freedom that prevailed in the Austrian partition (Austro-Hungarian monarchy) at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries allowed for the cultural development of Cracow and Lviv, so various trends arrived from Western Europe. The beginning of the development of sports activities was the establishment of TG "Falcon" in Galician lands. Over time, other sports were added to the sport, including football. The interest in "kicked ball" indicated that there would soon be a significant development of this type of activity. The ball hit the hardest into the hearts of all nations living in Lviv at that time: Poles, Ukrainians, Jews, Germans and Roma. Nevertheless, Poles, who constitute the majority, turned out to be the most active in the development of football in Lviv. The conditions prevailing in this part of the Austrian Partition made Cracow and Lviv the birthplace of football for Galicia. But due to the dynamics of sports activity and the size of the Polish and Ukrainian nations, Lviv is the place where Polish and Ukrainian football was founded. Lviv is the source of football for Poland and Ukraine, because Lviv football - or rather the activities of people creating the organizational structure of football in Lviv - became the starting point for later Polish and Ukrainian teams. An example of this can be the Polish clubs - WKS Jarosław and Ukrainian - Junak Drohobycz, which were branches of Pogoń and "Czarni" Lwów (16,17).

The city of Lviv is the football foundation for Polish teams because administratively and territorially Lviv was part of Poland, especially independent Poland after the end of World War I, when there was an intense increase in interest in football. For Ukraine - as many citizens of Lviv have always felt like Lvivians - ethnically Ukrainians, because an independent and invincible national spirit, Ukrainian consciousness, has lived in them all along (18).

The first ball reached Lviv thanks to Edmund Cenar, who brought it from England. The first football match so well documented and based on specific rules was played in Lviv on 14th July, 1894, and in the competition between the teams taking part in this match, it was a resident of Lviv - Włodzimierz Chomicki - who scored the first goal. It was again in Lviv that the rules and regulations of football were first published (11). And it was in Lviv that the first Polish club was founded - Sława Lwów in 1903, followed by other strong ones: Lechia, Czarni, Pogoń. Polish clubs were a kind of model for Ukrainian and Jewish clubs - they were more numerous and they created the structures of organized sports competitions in the Lviv district. These competitions, despite Polish dominance, also brought together Ukrainian clubs. Interestingly, there was a mixing of players from different nations. Football players of Ukrainian nationality were associated with Polish clubs, and Polish players represented Ukrainian clubs. An example of this is the "Pogoń" Lwów player, Michał Matyas, who in 1939-41 represented clubs such as "Borysław" and "Dynamo" Kyiv (19). Historical sources also indicate that Michał Matyas played a match in 1941 for the national team of the emerging Ukrainian state (20). In turn, in Ukrainian clubs, e.g. ST "Ukraina", there were Polish players' surnames, e.g. Mikosz (4). Such mixing could not be avoided and no one seemed to pursue such behaviour. There were teams dominated by one or the other nation, but primarily they were teams from Lviv.

The Lviv district is also the place of birth and activity of many distinguished people, precursors of Polish football: E. Piasecki born in Lviv, H. Jordan born in Przemyśl, E. Cetnarowski born near

Rzeszów, J. Kałuża born in Przemyśl and R. Koncewicz, K. Górski, M. Matias, S. Albański, and W. Kuchar from Lviv. These are significant figures in the history of Polish football. To this day, taking into account the outstanding influence of the above-mentioned people in the development of sports and football organizations in Lviv, patronage tournaments are organized in national competitions (21). Historical threads confirm that Polish organizational structures were created first, and Ukrainian teams followed the example of good Polish models. Even such a small number of typically Ukrainian teams can prove this. Even in the sources of our eastern neighbours, it is difficult to find more mentions of other strong teams than TS „Ukraina”, even those playing in the Kyiv district. Ukrainian professional literature also indicates that the origins of Ukrainian football can be found in Lviv - a former Polish city (4).

None of the Lviv teams survived World War II. However, over the dozen or so years of their existence, all of them have created a wonderful, common history of football development for both nations. They laid the foundations for new, post-war football teams in Poland and the Ukrainian Republic, which existed within the structures of the USSR. They educated and directed the development of many wonderful people, players and athletes. After the war, many players from Lviv found a haven in Polish clubs, passing on to players and young people the knowledge and football skills they acquired in Lviv. Lviv raised many great Polish representatives, coaches who won championships and led national teams: Ryszard Koncewicz, Kazimierz Górski and Michał Matyas. And they were not necessarily big clubs from Lviv, such as the mentioned Kazimierz Górski - RKS Lviv - Robotniczy Klub Sportowy. However, all of them, without exception, became a forge of characters (22).

Who should be given the „priority” for the beginnings and development of football in Lviv, Poland or Ukraine? Certainly to Poles, because they were the most numerous inhabitants of Lviv and created the first sports organizations, and partly also to Ukrainians, because they created the ethnic society of eastern Galicia (23). It seems that both nations had a huge influence on the development of football in this region. Multinational Lviv united residents of Polish, Ukrainian, Jewish and other nationalities, and it was this cultural and ethnic mix that triggered such a dynamic development of the new discipline. Clubs did not shy away from accepting players of other nationalities into their ranks - the most characteristic thing was that they included people from Lviv in their ranks. After World War II, the geopolitical system changed completely, but the values from before 1939 remained. They survived the war and took root in the regained territories, both Polish and Ukrainian. From the analysis of existing source facts, it can be concluded that the new sports discipline gave an incentive to other cities and regions to take action in this direction.

Lviv as a significant cultural centre of Galicia, where numerous sports organizations (including football) had their origins, contributed to the flourishing of football in Polish lands, the main centre - Cracow, and in Ukrainian lands, the main centre - Kyiv. It can therefore be concluded that in the context of the analysis of source materials indicating that the areas of Galicia were a place not only of dynamic development of football but, above all, the place of establishment of the first Polish and Ukrainian football clubs and organizations, hence „Galician football” was a significant source of football for both developing countries.

Conclusions

1. The city of Lviv as the capital of Galicia and the place of numerous sports organizations has significantly contributed to the flourishing of the sports life of Poles and Ukrainians.
2. Galicia was the place where the first football clubs were established for the later Polish and Ukrainian nations.
3. The original and superior football organizations for Poland and Ukraine were established in Galicia
4. Due to the dynamic development of football in Galicia, it can be considered that these areas are the founding ground of Polish and Ukrainian football.

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