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Eligiusz MAŁOLEPSZY\*

<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2373-6048>

Teresa DROZDEK-MAŁOLEPSZA\*\*

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0482-9655>

## The Discipline of Football in the Provinces of Stanisławów and Ternopil in the Years 1920–1939. An Outline

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### Sport piłki nożnej w województwach stanisławowskim i tarnopolskim w latach 1920–1939. Zarys problematyki

#### Streszczenie

Celem pracy jest przedstawienie sportu piłki nożnej w województwach stanisławowskim i tarnopolskim w latach 1920–1939. Obszar województw stanisławowskiego i tarnopolskiego zamieszkiwała głównie ludność polska, ukraińska i żydowska. W latach 1920–1939 zwiększała się liczba klubów i towarzystw sportowych, prowadzących sekcję piłki nożnej wśród ludności polskiej, żydowskiej i ukraińskiej. Początkowo kluby i towarzystwa sportowe wchodziły w skład Lwowskiego Okręgowego Związku Piłki Nożnej (OZPN). W II połowie lat dwudziestych oraz w latach trzydziestych XX w. tworzone były struktury organizacyjne piłki nożnej: podokręg stanisławowski, podo-

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\* Dr hab. (doctor habilitatus) prof. UJD, Jan Długosz University in Częstochowa, The Faculty of Social Sciences; e-mail: e.malolepszy@ujd.edu.pl (corresponding author)

\*\* PhD; Jan Długosz University in Częstochowa, Collegium Medicum; e-mail: t.drozdek-malolepsza@ujd.edu.pl

kręg tarnopolski oraz Stanisławowski OZPN. Sukcesy sportowe na arenie ogólnopolskiej osiągnęli piłkarze Rewery Stanisławów, Pogoni Stryj oraz Strzelca Górki Stanisławów. W latach 1934–1939 piłkarze z województwa stanisławowskiego brali udział – jako reprezentanci Stanisławowskiego OZPN – w rozgrywkach barażowych o awans do ligi państwowej. Juniorzy Rewery Stanisławów i Strzelca Górki Stanisławów uczestniczyli w turniejach finałowych mistrzostw Polski juniorów w latach 1936–1939.

**Słowa kluczowe:** sport, piłka nożna, Polska, województwo stanisławowskie, województwo tarnopolskie

## Abstract

The aim of the paper is to present the discipline of football in the provinces of Stanisławów and Ternopil in the years 1920-1939. The area of Stanisławów and Ternopil provinces was mainly inhabited by the Poles, Ukrainians and Jews. In the years 1920-1939, the number of clubs and sports associations that ran football sections among Polish, Jewish and Ukrainian citizens grew. Initially, those clubs and sports associations belonged to Lviv Regional Football Association (OZPN). In mid 20s and in the 30s of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, football organizational structures were created: sub-region of Stanisławów, sub-region of Ternopil and Stanisławów OZPN. The football players of Rewera Stanisławów, Pogoń Stryj and Strzelec Górka Stanisławów became successful all over Poland. In the years 1934-1939, the footballers from the province of Stanisławów – as representatives of Stanisławów OZPN – took part in playoffs to get promoted to the national league. Junior football players of Rewera Stanisławów and Strzelec Górka Stanisławów took part in final tournaments of Polish junior championships in the years 1936-1939.

**Keywords:** sport, football, Poland, Stanisławów province, Ternopil province.

## Introduction

The aim of the paper is to present the discipline of football in the provinces of Stanisławów and Ternopil in the years 1920-1939. The area of Stanisławów and Ternopil provinces was located in the south-eastern part of the Second Polish Republic. Both provinces were established on 23 December 1920. The province of Ternopil covered the area of 16 533 km<sup>2</sup> and hosted 1 600 400 inhabitants.<sup>1</sup> The province of Ternopil was inhabited by Polish (49.3%), Ukrainian (45.5%), Jewish (4.93%) and German (0.17%)<sup>2</sup> citizens. The province of Stanisławów covered the area of 16 894 km<sup>2</sup> and hosted 1 480 300 inhabitants.<sup>3</sup> The province of Stanisławów was inhabited by Polish (22.4%), Ukrainian (68.8%), Jewish (7.3%) and German (1.1%)<sup>4</sup> citizens.

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<sup>1</sup> L. Gradowski (ed.), *Polska 1918–1988*, GUS Warszawa 1989, p. 16.

<sup>2</sup> [https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wojew%C3%B3dztwo\\_tarnopolskie](https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wojew%C3%B3dztwo_tarnopolskie) [accessed on 19.06.2023]

<sup>3</sup> L. Gradowski, op. cit., p. 16.

<sup>4</sup> [https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wojew%C3%B3dztwo\\_stanis%C5%82awowskie](https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wojew%C3%B3dztwo_stanis%C5%82awowskie) [accessed on 19.06.2023].

As far as the state of the art is concerned, the work by S. Zaborniak entitled *Physical Culture of the Ukrainian citizens on the Polish territory (1868–1939) (Kultura fizyczna ludności ukraińskiej na ziemiach polskich (1868–1939))*<sup>5</sup> is of the greatest importance. The author presented physical culture of the Ukrainian minority in the area of the provinces of Stanisławów, Ternopil, Volhynia and Lviv of the Second Polish Republic. One has to also mention the publications by T. Drozdek-Małołepsza and E. Małołepszy dealing with the history of physical culture in the provinces of Stanisławów and Ternopil during the mid-war period.<sup>6</sup>

## Problems and research methods

The following research methods were used in order to prepare this publication: historical sources analysis, synthesis, induction, deduction and the comparative method. The following research problem were identified:

1. What influenced the development of football in the provinces of Stanisławów and Ternopil?
2. How did the discipline of football develop among the Poles, Ukrainians and Jews?
3. How successful were football sections in sports clubs and associations from the provinces of Stanisławów and Ternopil in the region and in the whole country?

## Results and discussion

Football sections in sports clubs and associations from the area of the provinces of Stanisławów and Ternopil belonged to Lviv Regional Football Association (Lviv OZPN), which commenced its activity together with the establishment of the Polish Football Association – PZPN (December 1919).<sup>7</sup> In fact, it became active in 1921. The activity of Lviv OZPN encompassed the provinces of Lviv,

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<sup>5</sup> S. Zaborniak, *Kultura fizyczna ludności ukraińskiej na ziemiach polskich (1868–1939)*, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Rzeszowskiego, Rzeszów 2007.

<sup>6</sup> T. Drozdek-Małołepsza, E. Małołepszy, *Chosen forms of participation in physical culture in the multinational Stanisławowski province in the period 1920–1939*, “Physical Activity Review” 2021, 9(2), pp. 149–154; doi: 10.16926/par.2021.09.31; E. Małołepszy, T. Drozdek-Małołepsza, *The Outline of the History of Physical Culture in the Province of Ternopil in the Years 1920–1939*, “Central European Journal of Sport Sciences and Medicine” 2022, vol. 37, no 1, pp. 5–11; doi: 10.18276/cej.2022.1-01.

<sup>7</sup> *Rocznik Polskiego Związku Piłki Nożnej. Pięćlecie Polskiego Związku Piłki Nożnej (1919–1924)*, Kraków 1925, p. 24; *Polski Związek Piłki Nożnej. Rocznik Jubileuszowy 1930*, Warszawa, no publication date (npd), p. 18.

Stanisławów, Ternopil and Volhynia (in the years 1928–1930). In the years 1928–1930, the Sub-region of Volhynia was active too.<sup>8</sup> In 1925, Lviv OZPN united 94 football sections from various sports clubs and associations and it counted 2720 football players; in 1930, the number of football players grew up to 4180.<sup>9</sup> At the time of the third decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the number of referees was growing too. They belonged to the Regional College of Football Referees (OKS) in Lviv; in 1930 it counted 120 members.<sup>10</sup>

In the first half of the 20s of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, in the area of the province of Stanisławów, the following sports clubs had football sections: Sports Club (KS) Stanisławovia Stanisławów, OKS "Sokół" Stanisławów, Police Sports Club (PKS) Bystrzyca Nadworna, School Sports Club (SKS) Bystrzyca Stanisławów, SKS Rewera Stanisławów, SKS Victoria Stanisławów, SKS Pogoń Stryj, Football Association (SPN) "Sokół" Śniatyń, Jewish Sports Club (ŻKS) Admira Stanisławów, ŻKS Hakoach Stanisławów, ŻKS Hakoach Stryj, ŻKS Judea Stanisławów, Jewish Gymnastics Association (ŻTG) Razes Kołomyja.<sup>11</sup>

As of 1930, Lviv OZPN – from the area of the province of Stanisławów – united the following clubs and associations: Military Sports Club (WKS) 49 pp. Kołomyja, ŻKS Hasmonea Kołomyja, ŻKS Bystrzyca Nadworna, ŻKS Hakach Nadworna, Ukrainian Sports Association (UTS) Beskid Nadworna, SKS Rewera Stanisławów, ŻKS Hakoach Stanisławów, SKS Górka Stanisławów, KS Jedność Stanisławów, SKS Stanisławovia Stanisławów, Workers' Sports Club (RKS) TUR Stanisławów, ŻKS Admira Stanisławów, KS Strzelec Stanisławów, Railroad Military Training (KPW) Ruch Stanisławów, SKS Pogoń Stryj, KPW Stryjenka Stryj, Gymnastics-Sports Jewish Association (ŻTGS) Dror Stryj, ŻTGS Hakoach Stryj.<sup>12</sup> In the province of Stanisławów, the twenties of the 20<sup>th</sup> century witnessed the expansion of clubs and associations running football sections.

In the years 1928–1933, within the framework of Lviv OZPN, the sub-region of Stanisławów was active. At that period of time, the best football teams in the sub-region of Stanisławów were as follows: 1928, 1930 – Hakoach Stanisławów;

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<sup>8</sup> E. Małolepszy, T. Drozdek-Małolepsza, *Kultura fizyczna i turystyka w województwie wołyńskim w latach 1921–1939*, Wydawnictwo Nauka i Innowacje, Poznań 2020, pp. 115–120. Volhynia OZPN was created in the second half of 1930, with its office in Rovno. When it was created, it counted 18 football sections and 168 footballers.

<sup>9</sup> *Rocznik Polskiego Związku Piłki Nożnej. Pięćdziesiąt lat Polskiego Związku Piłki Nożnej (1919–1924)*, Kraków 1925, p. 139.

<sup>10</sup> *Polski Związek Piłki Nożnej. Rocznik Jubileuszowy 1930*, Warszawa, npd, p. 18.

<sup>11</sup> *Rocznik Polskiego Związku Piłki Nożnej. Pięćdziesiąt lat Polskiego Związku Piłki Nożnej (1919–1924)*, Kraków 1925, pp. 122–125.

<sup>12</sup> *Polski Związek Piłki Nożnej. Rocznik Jubileuszowy 1930*, Warszawa, npd., pp. 61–63. See also: T. Drozdek-Małolepsza, E. Małolepszy, *Chosen forms of participation in physical culture in the multinational Stanisławowski province in the period 1920–1939...*, p. 152.

1929, 1931 – Górka Stanisławów; 1932–1933 – Stanisławovia Stanisławów.<sup>13</sup> The year 1933 was a breakthrough in the history of Stanisławów football. Stanisławów OZPN was created then, uniting six sports clubs and associations, which ran football sections, among all, from the following places: Kopyczyńce, Nadwórna, Stanisławów: ŻKS Admira Stanisławów, SKS Baworów Kopyczyńce, Sok. KS Belweder Stanisławów, UTS Beskid Nadwórna, PKS Bystrzyca Nadwórna, SKS Bystrzyca Stanisławów. The registered office of the association was located in Stanisławów at 3, 3 Maja St.<sup>14</sup>



**Photo 1.** Football team of KS Strzelec Kołomyja (August 1938)

Source: National Digital Archives (NAC), sygn. 1-S-2096, no pagination

It should be emphasised that many clubs (as of 1933 and in relation to some teams mentioned in 1934) were active within the framework of Lviv OZPN: ŻTGS Dror Stryj, ŻTG Dror Kołomyja, SKS Górka Stanisławów (“Sokół” II), KS Groedłów Skole, ŻKS Hakoach Stanisławów, ŻKS Hakach Nadwórna, ŻTGS Hakoach Stryj, ŻKS Hakoach Kołomyja, KS Jedność Stanisławów, ŻTGS Makkabi Stanisławów, Military-Civilian Sports Club (WCKS) Pogoń Stryj, Ukrainian Sports Association (USP) Prołom Stanisławów, SKS Strzelec Raz Dwa Trzy Stanisławów, SKS Rewera Stanisławów, KPW Ruch Stanisławów, USS Skała Stryj, SKS Stanisławovia

<sup>13</sup> D. Mandziuk, *Kopanyi miach. Korotka istoriia ukrainskoho futbolu v Halychyni (1909–1944)*, Vyd-vo Staroho Leva, Lviv 2016, p. 252.

<sup>14</sup> *Rocznik Sportowy 1934*, Główna Księgarnia Wojskowa, Warszawa 1934, p. 403.

Stanisławów, SKKS Stryjenka Stryj, KS Strzelec Broszniów, Sports Association (SS) TUR Tur Stryj, KS TUR Tur Kołomyja, WCKS 49 pp. Kołomyja.<sup>15</sup>

According to J. Goksiński, league games (Lviv OZPN, Stanisławów OZPN) – apart from the aforementioned teams – were attended by: Gymnastics Association (TG) „Sokół” Kołomyja, Strzelec Górka Stanisławowska, Workers’ Sports Club (RKS) TUR Stanisławów, ŻKS Hasmonia Kołomyja, KSZN Rypne, Świt Monasterzyska, Strzelec Kałusz, Strzelec Tyśmienica, TESP Kałusz.<sup>16</sup> As for Ukrainian sports clubs and association that ran football sections in the province of Stanisławów, one should mention the following: UTS Prołom Stanisławów, Beskid Nadwórna, Skała Stryj, Zorza Kałusz and Beskid Kosów.<sup>17</sup>

The beginnings of Stanisławów OZPN were not easy. At the meeting of Lviv OZPN on 21 January 1935, it was decided that the sub-region of Podkarpacie (sub-region of Stryj) shall be left in its original region of Lviv.<sup>18</sup> The General Meeting of PZPN was planned for 16-17 February 1935. As for the motions for the meeting, as the journal editor put it, “Stanisławów demands the incorporation of Stryj, Żydaczow and Chodorow to Stanisławów OZPN.”<sup>19</sup> During the meeting, PZPN decided to “make the district of Stryj part of Stanisławów Region.”<sup>20</sup> The decision was negatively received by activists of sports clubs from Stryj. It is worth mentioning that a year earlier (1934) “PZPN management, considering the arguments given by clubs of Stryj district, let them stay in the sub-region of Podkarpacie LOZPN, where also Zagłębie Naftowe and Sambor belong.”<sup>21</sup> A strong asset “in the hands” of Stryj activists were financial issues of their sports activity: “Incorporation to Stanisławów region equals bigger distances and, what follows, more expenses. For instance, a journey from Skoly to Nadwórna would require 6 hours with two changes, whereas you can reach Lviv within 2 hours (and there are six connections a day), and Sambor in 2 hours and 20 minutes. Drohobycz and Borysław are so close that even B and C class clubs can afford a journey.”<sup>22</sup> Another argument of Stryj region club activists concerned sports matters. They were of an opinion that Stanisławów PZPN Region was artificially established in order to keep some clubs in a higher class, though their level was not “appropri-

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<sup>15</sup> Ibidem, pp. 395–398.

<sup>16</sup> J. Goksiński, *Klubowa historia polskiej piłki nożnej do 1934 roku*, vol. I: *Regiony – branże – frekwencja*, PZI Softena, Warszawa 2012, pp. 262–280.

<sup>17</sup> D. Mandziuk, op. cit., p. 252. See also: S. Zaborniak, op. cit., pp. 287–291, 299–300.

<sup>18</sup> „Przegląd Sportowy” 1935, no 8, p. 2. The district of Stryj belonged to the province of Stanisławów.

<sup>19</sup> „Przegląd Sportowy” 1935, no 13, p. 3. The district of Żydaczów belonged to the province of Stanisławów whereas Chodorów belonged to the district of Bóbrka, which belonged to the province of Lviv.

<sup>20</sup> „Przegląd Sportowy” 1935, no 19, p. 3.

<sup>21</sup> Ibidem.

<sup>22</sup> Ibidem.

ate". As far as this argument is concerned, one should disagree. Creating a "new" region gave way to new opportunities, including the improvement of sports abilities. The problem was solved at the turn of May and June 1935. "Przegląd Sportowy" published an article entitled "LOZPN backs down and promises to make Stryj obedient", whose fragments read as follows: „The meeting of LOZPN Management Board, run in the presence of engineer Przeworski, made a resolution in which it states that not accepting the fact of suspending Stryj clubs by PZPN was only meant to protest against the resolution of PZPN General Meeting excluding the region of Stryj from LOZPN, and not to confront PZPN. At the same time, LOZPN undertook to influence Stryj clubs to make them comply with the resolution of PZPN General Meeting and its further orders, assuring the sub-region of Stryj that PZPN Management shall submit a formal request at PZPN General Meeting to make Stryj join Lviv again.”<sup>23</sup>

**Table 1.** Final Class A Table of Stanisławów OZPN in the season of 1938/1939

Place	Team name	No of matches	No of points	Goals
1.	Strzelec Górka Stanisławów	14	21	29:17
2.	Rewera Stanisławów	14	18	51:23
3.	KSZN Rypne	14	14	53:40
4.	TESP Kałusz	14	14	25:18
5.	Raz Dwa Trzy Stanisławów	14	14	29:23
6.	Strzelec Broszniów	14	11	19:42
7.	Pokucie Kołomyja	14	10	37:46
8.	Bystrzyca Nadworna	14	10	19:25

The team classification as of 15 June 1939. The results of two matches provoked protests and were to be investigated by PZPN

Source: „Przegląd Sportowy” 1939, no 48, p. 2.

Stanisławów OZPN organised sports competitions in the years 1934–1939. At that time the best teams in the region were: 1934–1935, 1936/1937, 1937/1938 – Rewera Stanisławów; 1936 (spring) – Pogoń Stryj; 1938/1939 – Strzelec Górka Stanisławów.<sup>24</sup> Stanisławów OZPN organised class A, B and C football contests. In the season of 1937/1938, Class A counted 8 teams: Rewera Stanisławów, KSZN Rypne, Strzelec Górka Stanisławów, Raz Dwa Trzy Stanisławów, KS Strzelec Broszniów, Pokucie Kołomyja, Bystrzyca Nadworna, UTS Prołom Stanisławów.<sup>25</sup>

<sup>23</sup> „Przegląd Sportowy” 1935, no 54, p. 5.

<sup>24</sup> D. Mandziuk, op. cit., p. 252.

<sup>25</sup> Ibidem, p. 268.

The teams from Stanisławów OZPN took part in the final tournament of Polish junior championships (during a football camp in Sieraków, the province of Poznań, in 1936). In 1936, the region was represented by Rewery Stanisławów team, which lost 2:4 in the 1<sup>st</sup> round with Wisła Kraków (the match to get to the group of the best four teams of these championships). Nine teams from particular PZPN regions participated in the tournament. Wisła Kraków turned out to be the best team. The next final tournament took place in Kozienice in August 1937, and it was attended by 16 teams (representing particular PZPN regions). In the first round, the representatives of Stanisławów OZPN – Rewery Stanisławów team – won with WKS Śmigły Wilno (2:1); in the second round, the footballers of Rewera lost with later Polish vice champions, Pogoń Lwów (1:4).<sup>26</sup> In the years 1938–1939, Stanisławów OZPN was represented by a junior team of Strzelec Górka Stanisławów. The footballers of Strzelec Górka played better in 1939, when only in the semi-finals they lost with WKS Łuck (1:2).<sup>27</sup>

In the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, on the territory of the province of Ternopil, the following clubs ran football sections: Lubicz Brody, ŻKS Hakoach Brody, KS Sieniawa Brzeżany, ŻKS Brzeżany, PKS Kresy Tarnopol, PKS Zarudzianka Tarnopol, ŻKS Gideon Tarnopol, ŻKS Jehuda Tarnopol, KS Złoczowski Złoczów, PKS Janina Złoczów, ŻKS Scholder Izrael Złoczów.<sup>28</sup>

As of 1930, Lviv OZPN – from the area of Ternopil province – united the following clubs and associations: ŻKS Brzeżany, ŻKS Jechuda Tarnopol, WCKS Kresy Tarnopol, UST Podilla Tarnopol, ŻKS Gordon Tarnopol, ŻRKS Tarnopol, WKS Janina Złoczów, ŻTGS Złoczów, PDS Strzelec Złoczów.<sup>29</sup> 1934 Yearbook informed that the following sports clubs and associations from the area of Ternopil province belonged to Lviv OZPN: ŻKS Gordon Tarnopol, WCKS Janina Złoczów, ŻKS Jehuda Tarnopol, PKS Kresowiaczy Zbaraż, WCKS Kresy 54 pp. Tarnopol, PKS Legion Tarnopol, Ukrainian Sports Association (USS) Podilla Tarnopol, PDS Strzelec Złoczów, KS Strzelec Czortków, KS Trembowelski Trembowla, ŻKS Trumpeldor Kopyczyńce, RKS Żydowski Tarnopol.<sup>30</sup>

As for league matches of Lviv OZPN from the area of Ternopil province, in the years 1921–1939, they were played by football sections of the following sports clubs and associations: WCKS Kresy Tarnopol, Janina Złoczów (it was

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<sup>26</sup> [https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mistrzostwa\\_Polski\\_junior%C3%B3w\\_w\\_pi%C5%82ce\\_no%C5%B3Cnej](https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mistrzostwa_Polski_junior%C3%B3w_w_pi%C5%82ce_no%C5%B3Cnej) [accessed on 7.07.2023].

<sup>27</sup> Ibidem

<sup>28</sup> *Rocznik Polskiego Związku Piłki Nożnej. Pięciolecie Polskiego Związku Piłki Nożnej (1919–1924)*, Kraków 1925, pp. 122–125.

<sup>29</sup> *Polski Związek Piłki Nożnej. Rocznik Jubileuszowy 1930*, Warszawa, npd, pp. 61–63; See also: E. Małolepszy, T. Drozdek-Małolepsza, *The Outline of the History of Physical Culture in the Province of Ternopil in the Years 1920–1939...*, p. 8.

<sup>30</sup> *Rocznik Sportowy 1934*, Główna Księgarnia Wojskowa, Warszawa 1934, pp. 395–398.



formed under the name of Złoczovia Złoczów), Gwiazda Brody, Jehuda Tarnopol, PKS Kresowiaczy Zbaraż, Legion Tarnopol, Lubicz Brody, Meta Tarnopol, KS Strzelec Czortków, Rusałka Złoczów, Gymnastics Association (TG) "Sokół" Czortków, TG "Sokół" Brody, Sparta Trembowla, USP Podilla Tarnopol, WKS 54 pp. Tarnopol, WCKS Brody, Jewish Workers' Sports Club (ŻRKS) Tarnopol, ŻKS Złoczów, ŻTGS Złoczów.<sup>31</sup> Among Ukrainian sports clubs and associations that ran football sections in the province of Ternopil one should mention, among others, UST Podilla Tarnopol, Meta Tarnopol and Rusałka Złoczów.<sup>32</sup>

The footballers of "Janina" Złoczów, beginning with the sports season of 1927, played in class A contest of Lviv OZPN. In the season of 1927, they took a very good third place in class A matches, giving way only to clubs from Lviv, i.e. WKS and Lechia. In the season of 1930, in class A matches of Lviv OZPN, they occupied the last 9<sup>th</sup> place, winning two matches, drawing one and losing 13 of them. They were relegated to class B contests of Lviv OZPN.<sup>33</sup>

For the first time in the season of 1935, class A matches of the sub-region of Ternopil (belonging to Lviv OZPN) were organized. The teams of Janina Złoczów, Jehuda Tarnopol, UST Podilla Tarnopol and WCKS Kresy Tarnopol participated in the competition. The footballers of Jehuda Tarnopol became the champions of the sub-region of Ternopil. In the following seasons, the best teams of the sub-region of Ternopil were: WCKS Kresy Tarnopol (the season of 1936/1937), Jehudy Tarnopol (the season of 1937/1938), Janina Złoczów (the season of 1938/1939).<sup>34</sup> The team of Kresy Tarnopol had played in league contests since the season of 1921, participating in class C matches of Lviv OZPN. From 1934, the club was under the patronage of military circles and adopted the name of WCKS Kresy Tarnopol.

Within the framework of the sub-region of Ternopil of Lviv OZPN, there were class A, B and C league matches organized. There were more and more teams participating in class A matches. In the season of 1935, there were four teams, in the season of 1936/1937 – five teams, in the season of 1937/1938 – six teams, and in the season of 1938/1939 – seven teams.<sup>35</sup> In the season of 1938/1939, apart from Janina Złoczów, class A matches were played by the footballers of Jehuda Tarnopol, Legion Tarnopol, Kresy Tarnopol, Podilla Tarnopol, Sparta Trembowla, WCKS Brody.

In 1938, UST Podilla Tarnopol juniors turned out to be the best in the sub-region of Ternopil and they got qualified to the final tournament of Lviv OZPN. The final tournament took place in July 1938, with the participation of the following teams: Podilla Tarnopol, Resovia Rzeszów, Junak Drohobycz and Lechia

<sup>31</sup> J. Goksiński, *op. cit.*, pp. 313–324; D. Mandziuk, *op. cit.*, p. 237–251.

<sup>32</sup> D. Mandziuk, *op. cit.*, p. 252; S. Zaborniak, *op. cit.*, pp. 300–306.

<sup>33</sup> J. Goksiński, *op. cit.*, pp. 317–319.

<sup>34</sup> D. Manidziuk, *op. cit.*, p. 237–251.

<sup>35</sup> *Ibidem*

Lwów. The junior footballers of Resovia Rzeszów became the champions of Lviv OZPN, whereas young players of Podilla Tarnopol took the third place.<sup>36</sup>



**Photo 2.** Football team of ŻKS Jehuda Tarnopol, champion of Ternopil sub-region in the season of 1935. From the left: Safia, Denker, Hornung, Katz I, Katz II, Barban, Kuj, Wagszal, Epstein, Likenfeld, Finkelstein, Kelber, Friedman, team leader – Gruberg

Source: NAC, sygn. 1-S-2025, no pagination.



**Photo 3.** Football team of WCKŚ Kresy Tarnopol (1934), champion of Ternopil sub-region in the season of 1936/1937

Source: NAC, sygn. 1-S-2035, no pagination.

<sup>36</sup> Ibidem, p. 248.

In the years of 1934–1939, the footballers of Rewera Stanisławów, Pogoń Stryj and Strzelec Górka Stanisławów, as the representatives of Stanisławów OZPN, took part in playoffs to get promoted to the national league.<sup>37</sup> Rewera Stanisławów team was the most successful in 1934 as it won in the first round of playoffs with the following teams in the same group: Czarne Lwy, Police Sports Club Łuck and WKS 7 pp. Legionów Chełm. It lost in the semi-finals in two matches with the team of Śląsk Świętochłowice (0:5, 1:0). The footballers of Śląsk Świętochłowice won in the final group and got promoted to the national league. The history of SKS Rewera Stanisławów goes back to 1908. After the end of WWI, the club received the army's support from 48<sup>th</sup> infantry regiment, whereas in 1922 it took part in class A matches of Lviv OZPN. On 5 June 1938, the club celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, during which the team of Rewera Stanisławów defeated Cracovia 5:4.<sup>38</sup> Similarly, the participation of Pogoń Stryj footballers, in 1936, in playoffs can be considered successful. Pogoń faced the teams of Cracovia, RKS Wielkie Hajduki and Polonia Przemyśl. It lost its matches with Cracovia (0:11 and 0:3); won and lost with the team of RKS Wielkie Hajduki (3:0 and 1:2) and won and drew with Polonia Przemyśl (2:1 and 1:1), getting the 2<sup>nd</sup> place in its group, though it did not automatically guarantee qualification to the next round.<sup>39</sup> It is worth emphasizing that in the following season the footballers of Cracovia won in the national league contest and became Polish champions.



**Photo 4.** Football match Śląsk Świętochłowice – Rewera Stanisławów (Świętochłowice, 18 November 1934)

Source: NAC, sygn. 1-S-2416-2, no pagination

<sup>37</sup> J. Hałys, (Study by: P. Dobosz, L. Śledziona, E. Kowszewicz), *Piłka nożna w Polsce*, vol. 3, Mielec – Kraków 2020, pp. 171–341.

<sup>38</sup> Ibidem, p. 334.

<sup>39</sup> Ibidem, p. 238.



**Photo 5.** Football team of KS Pogoń Stryj (1934)

Source: NAC, sygn. 1-S-2065, no pagination.

Beginning with 1936, Poland organized Polish Cup matches.<sup>40</sup> They were played by representatives of particular PZPN regions and national league teams (PZPN). During the contest of 1936, in the first round, the representatives of Stanisławów defeated Lviv (2:1), to draw in the second round in Stanisławów with a League B team (2:2). Stanisławów team consisted of the following players: Kazimierz Ogonowski (Pogoń Stryj), Roman Ficek (KSZN Rypne), Feliks Gabara (Pogoń), Wilhelm Schaffer (Rewera), Tadeusz Jończy (Rewera), Mieczysław Juny (Pokucie Kołomyja), Władysław Hrabal (Rypne), Jan Rudziak (Rewera), Józef Zasławski (Pogoń), Bolesław Legaszewski (Pogoń), Eugeniusz Zdobyłak (Rypne); the League B team consisted of the footballers from Garbaria Kraków, Łódź Sports Club (ŁKS), Pogoń Lwów, Śląsk Świętochłowice, Warta Poznań, Wisła Kraków. In an extra match, the League B footballers defeated Stanisławów (5:1). The results and the participation of Stanisławów representatives should be regarded as success.<sup>41</sup> The same Stanisławów team enjoyed good results in Polish Cup matches organised the following year (1937). In the first round it won with Lviv (2:1), to lose in the quarterfinals with Kraków (1:4). In 1939, in the first round, Stanisławów was better than Volhynia (3:2), but it lost with Kraków in the quarterfinals (0:2).<sup>42</sup> The footballers of Stanisławów enjoyed the best results in Polish Cup in 1939. In the first round they beat Lublin

<sup>40</sup> The award funded by the president of Poland – Ignacy Mościcki.

<sup>41</sup> J. Hałys, *op. cit.*, p. 239.

<sup>42</sup> *Ibidem*, pp. 282, 313.

representatives (3:1), and in the quarterfinals they were better than Lviv team (5:2), defeating Vilnius team in the semi-finals (1:0). The final match between the representatives of Stanisławów and Poznań was to be played on 5 November 1939. Due to the German and Soviet invasion of Poland in September 1939, the match did not take place.<sup>43</sup>

## Conclusion

Sports clubs and associations from the provinces of Stanisławów and Ternopil, which ran football sections, organizationally belonged to Lviv OZPN. Establishing organizational structures contributed significantly to the development of football activity in the aforesaid area. Initially, these clubs and associations belonged to Lviv OZPN. In the province of Stanisławów, the sub-region of Stanisławów was active from 1928, and from 1933 Stanisławów OZPN commenced its activity. In the province of Ternopil, the sub-region of Ternopil was active from 1935 within the structure of Lviv OZPN. The development of organizational structures positively influenced the formation of this sports discipline in the aforesaid area. It is worth mentioning that only two provinces of the Second Polish Republic lacked any OZPN structures. These were the provinces of Nowogródek and Ternopil.

Football activity developed among Polish, Ukrainian and Jewish inhabitants of the provinces of Stanisławów and Ternopil. It was a popular sports discipline. In the 20s and 30s of the 20th century, the number of clubs and association running football sections grew significantly.

The province of Stanisławów hosted the following best teams: Rewera Stanisławów, Strzelec Górka Stanisławów, Pogoń Stryj – among Polish citizens; among Ukrainian citizens – UTS Prołom Stanisławów. The most distinguished football teams in the province of Ternopil were: WCKS Kresy Tarnopol, Janina Złoczów – among Polish citizens; Jehuda Tarnopol, ŻKS Złoczów – among Jewish citizens, and UST Podilla Tarnopol among Ukrainian citizens.

In the years 1934–1939, the footballers of Rewera Stanisławów, Pogoń Stryj and Strzelec Górka Stanisławów participated as the representatives of Stanisławów OZPN in playoffs to get promoted to the national league. Junior footballers of Rewera Stanisławów and Strzelec Górka Stanisławów took part in final tournaments of Polish Junior Championships in the years 1936–1939. In 1939, the footballers of Strzelec Górka reached the semi-finals, where they lost with WKS Łuck (1:2). The team representing Stanisławów obtained good results in Polish Cup matches in the years 1936–1939.

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<sup>43</sup> Ibidem, p. 341.

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