



Received: 4.04.2024

<http://dx.doi.org/10.16926/sit.2025.03.03>

Accepted: 8.07.2025

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ACTIVITY OF THE DĄBROWA BASIN DISTRICT FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION IN THE YEARS 1946–1962

How to cite [jak cytować]: Bakota D., *Activity of the Dąbrowa Basin District Football Association in the Years 1946–1962*, "Sport i Turystyka. Środkowoeuropejskie Czasopismo Naukowe" 2025, vol. 8, no. 3, pp. 63–74.

Działalność Zagłębiowskiego Okręgowego Związku Piłki Nożnej w latach 1946–1962

Streszczenie

Celem pracy jest ukazanie działalności Zagłębiowskiego Okręgowego Związku Piłki Nożnej (ZOZPN) w latach 1946–1962. Decyzję o jego powołaniu podjęto, obradując w dniach 16–17 lutego 1946 r., walne zgromadzenie delegatów Polskiego Związku Piłki Nożnej (PZPN). Aczkolwiek początki ZOZPN – biorąc pod uwagę okres po 1945 r. – wiążą się z Zagłębiowskim Podokręgiem Piłki Nożnej (ZPPN), który podlegał Śląskiemu Okręgowemu Związkowi Piłki Nożnej. Z kolei 28 lipca 1945 r. wydzielono autonomiczny ZPPN podlegający bezpośrednio PZPN. Kolejne zmiany organizacyjne nastąpiły w roku 1951. Rozwiązano wówczas PZPN, a w jego miejsce powołano Sekcję Piłki Nożnej (SPN) działającą przy Głównym Komitecie Kultury Fizycznej (GKKF). Tym samym Okręgowe Związki Piłki Nożnej (ZOZPN) zostały zastąpione SPN przy Wojewódzkich Komitetach Kultury Fizycznej. Proces zmian ponownie rozpoczął się jesienią 1956 r. Dokonały się one m.in. w sporcie. Dzięki tym zmianom 13 stycznia 1957 r. reaktywowano ZOZPN (istniał do roku 1962). Biorąc pod uwagę omawiany okres, najlepsze dla zagłębiowskiego piłkarstwa były lata 1946–1950. Z kolei nieprzychylny był okres, w którym istniała SPN GKKF (1951–1956). Dlatego też po reaktywacji ZOZPN działacze wzięli się do pracy, aby odbudować zagłębiowskie piłkarstwo, mimo niezmięszających się trudności organizacyjnych.

Słowa kluczowe: Zagłębiowski Okręgowy Związek Piłki Nożnej, Zagłębie Dąbrowskie, piłka nożna, sport.

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Abstract

The aim of the study is to present the activities of the Dąbrowa Basin District Football Association (DBDFA) in the years 1946-1962. The decision to establish it was taken by the general meeting of delegates to the Polish Football Association (PFA) who met on 16-17 February 1946. However, the beginnings of the DBDFA – taking into account the period after 1945 – are connected with the Dąbrowa Basin Football Subdistrict (DBFS), which was subordinate to the Silesian District Football Association. In turn, on July 28, 1945, the autonomous DBFS was established subordinate directly to the PFA. Subsequent organizational changes took place in 1951. At that time, PFA was dissolved, and the Football Section (FS) was established in its place at the Central Committee of Physical Culture (CCPC). Thus, District Football Associations (DFA) were replaced with FS at the Provincial Committees of Physical Culture. The process of change began again in the autumn of 1956, and it took place, among other things, in sport. Owing to to these changes, DBDFA was reactivated on 13 January 1957 (and existed until 1962). Considering the period discussed, the best years for Dąbrowa Basin football were 1946-1950. In turn, the period in which FS CCPC existed (1951-1956) was unfavourable. Therefore, after the reactivation of DBDFA, activists set out to work to rebuild Dąbrowa Basin football despite organizational difficulties continuing unabated.

Keywords: Dąbrowa Basin District Football Association, Dąbrowa Basin, football, sport.

Introduction

The aim of the study is to present the activities of the Dąbrowa Basin District Football Association (DBDFA) in the years 1946-1962. The start of the period covered by the paper – year 1946 – is associated with the establishment of the DBDFA after the end of World War II, while the closing date – year 1962 – marks the dissolution of the DBDFA. As far as the present state of research is concerned, there is no study that would synthetically present the activities of the DBDFA on the territory of the Dąbrowa Basin in the above-mentioned years.

The beginnings of the organizational structures of football in the Dąbrowa Basin are connected with the Football Association of the Dąbrowa Basin, established on 1 March 1922 and based in Sosnowiec. It became a subdistrict, headed by Aleksander Gawlik (from the Sports Club – SC Sosnowice¹), and joined the Cracow District Football Association (CDFA)². In turn, in 1923 it was transformed into the Sosnowiec subdistrict (in the CDFA releases, in addition to the term – the Sosnowiec subdistrict – the name of the subdistrict of the Dąbrowa Basin

¹ It is worth noting that the city of Sosnowiec used the names Sosnowice and Sosnowiec interchangeably, hence the name SC Sosnowice. However, by virtue of the resolution of the City Council of 17 June 1920, it was decided that only the name of Sosnowiec would be used. In spite of this, the name of SC Sosnowice was still used in "Tygodnik Sportowy" (in no. 46 of 1922). See "Głos Pracy" 1920, no. 136, p. 2; "Tygodnik Sportowy" 1922, no. 46, p. 14.

² "Tygodnik Sportowy" 1922, no. 46, p. 14.

was also used). Its manager was Edward Kula³. Its activity covered the area of four administrative districts of: Będzin, Częstochowa, Miechów and Olkusz⁴.

The distance between the Sosnowiec subdistrict and Cracow, as well as the need to act in their own interests, nudged some activists of the subdistrict to consider joining the Upper Silesian District Football Association (USDFA). Efforts in this regard were made in 1925, but they were unsuccessful. The letter addressed to the Sosnowiec subdistrict stated that its joining the USDFA is impossible due to "statutory reservations"⁵.

On February 5, 1928, the Kielce District Football Association (KielDFA) was established with its temporary seat in Sosnowiec. However, on December 9, 1928, representatives of 41 sports clubs decided to move it to Częstochowa. It is also noteworthy that the authorities of the Kielce Province legalized the activities of KielDFA only on August 21, 1930, by entering it in the register of associations and unions under no. 2471⁶. During the formation period of KielDFA, there were two subdistricts of football in its area, the ones of Częstochowa and Sosnowiec. In the years 1931–1932, two more subdistricts were created: in Radom and in Kielce⁷.

On 18 July 1937, by virtue of a resolution of the extraordinary general meeting of KielDFA, the seat of the district was again transferred to Sosnowiec. Thus, KielDFA was liquidated, and the newly created district took on the name of DBDFA⁸. It was composed of two subdistricts: of Częstochowa and Sosnowiec.

Methods and research problems

Methods such as synthesis, analysis of source texts, induction and deduction were used to prepare this work. In addition, the following research questions were formulated:

³ K. Kościański, *Od Ła Czenstochovienne do Rakowa. Piłka nożna w regionie częstochowskim w latach 1906–2016*, Wydawnictwo Naukowe Uniwersytetu Jana Długosza w Częstochowie, Częstochowa 2024, p. 54.

⁴ M. Ponczek, *Z międzywojennych dziejów Klubu Sportowego „Hr. Renard” w Sosnowcu*, "Prace Naukowe Wyższej Szkoły Pedagogicznej. Kultura Fizyczna" 2000, vol. 3, pp. 30–31. The author of this publication also mentioned, as an area of activity of the Sosnowiec sub-district, "[...] the urban district of the Sosnowiec powiat [...]", despite the fact that in 1923 Sosnowiec was not a city with powiat rights. It was not until 12 April 1928 that it became one. See the Ordinance of the Council of Ministers of 19 March 1928 on urban powiats (Dz.U. 1928, no. 45, it. 426).

⁵ „Przegląd Sportowy” 1925, no. 18 (207), p. 19; K. Kościański, op. cit., pp. 54–55.

⁶ K. Kościański, op. cit., pp. 59–61.

⁷ E. Małolepszy, *Działalność Częstochowskiego Podokręgowego Związku Piłki Nożnej w latach 1928–1939 (zarys dziejów)*, "Prace Naukowe Wyższej Szkoły Pedagogicznej. Kultura Fizyczna" 2000, vol. 3, p. 45.

⁸ K. Kościański, op. cit., p. 62.

- How did legal and organizational conditions shape the activities of DBDFA in the years 1946–1962?
- Did the jurisdiction of DBDFA result in the development of the Dąbrowa Basin football in the period discussed?

Discussion

After the end of World War II the Dąbrowa Basin Football Subdistrict (DBFS) – with its seat in Będzin – was established which was subordinate to the Silesian District Football Association (SDFA)⁹. However, the aspirations of DBFS activists were much higher. They sought to create their own district. There were several reasons for this including:

- 1) traditions of the Dąbrowa Basin football, which had its own district before World War II;
- 2) unfair award of promotion to the Silesian class “A”, to which eliminations began in April 1945, to only 3 clubs from the Dąbrowa Basin (out of 30 registered), and 10 clubs from Silesia (out of 38 registered);
- 3) inadequate attitude of the SDFA to the DBFS expressed, for example, by nearly excluding leading footballers from training, with the sub-district being allocated only 6 places out of a total of 40, which the activists of the sub-district learned from the press¹⁰.

In connection with the above, on July 28, 1945, an autonomous DBFS was set up, reporting directly to the Polish Football Association (PFA)¹¹. In turn, on January 6, 1946, the general meeting of the DBFS applied to the PFA for the establishment of the DBDFA. The resolution on its establishment was adopted by the general meeting of PFA delegates six weeks later (on 16-17 February 1946)¹². According to information from 1946, 51 clubs were registered with the DBDFA, which made it one of the largest football districts in Poland¹³.

In the years 1946–1950, the presidents of DBDFA were: Władysław Wolski (until 1948), Bronisław Bitnerowski (1948–1950) and Józef Michalak (1950)¹⁴.

⁹ “Dziennik Zachodni” 1946, no. 21 (336), p. 5.

¹⁰ “Trybuna Robotnicza” 1945, no. 124 (131), p. 6.

¹¹ “Dziennik Zachodni” 1946, no. 21 (336), p. 5.

¹² A. Konieczny, K. Krawczyk, *Piłka jest okrągła: 50 lat piłkarstwa w województwie katowickim*, Wydawnictwo Śląsk, Katowice 1971, pp. 81–82.

¹³ “Dziennik Zachodni” 1946, no 337 (651), p. 7.

¹⁴ A. Gowarzewski, J. Waloszek, *75 lat OZPN Katowice. Księga pamiątkowa*, Wydawnictwo GiA, Katowice 1996, p. 164. This publication contains information that Bronisław Bitnerowski was the president of DBDFA in the years 1948–1951. But it is wrong, because the change in the position of the president of DBDFA took place already in 1950. At that time, it was Józef Michalak who took the place of Bronisław Bitnerowski. See “Dziennik Zachodni Wieczór” 1950, no. 125 (1678), p. 3.

In the summer of 1950, PFA carried out a reorganization, according to which football districts coincided with the borders of provinces¹⁵. Therefore, DBDFA was renamed to an autonomous subdistrict subordinate to SDFA. In turn, at the end of 1950 the Central Committee of Physical Culture (CCPC) – established on December 30, 1949 – took actions aimed at adapting the structures of Polish sport to the model functioning in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Among others, sports associations were liquidated and replaced with sections at the physical culture committees¹⁶. The PFA was dissolved on February 4, 1951, and the Football Section (FS) operating at the CCPC was established in its place. Thus District Football Associations (DFA) were replaced with FS at the Provincial Committees of Physical Culture (PCPC)¹⁷. They also operated at district and municipal physical culture committees¹⁸. In fact, these sections were deprived of the self-governance of the former unions. They were headed by officers of the party apparatus, who replaced pre-war activists and thus took over the tasks of active members¹⁹. This state of affairs lasted until 1956, when, after the October changes, the process of changes began, among others, in the organizational system of sport. Unions and sports clubs were restored (in place of associations and sports clubs), but social activities also regained importance²⁰. Owing to these changes, DBDFA was reactivated on 13 January 1957²¹. The resumption of its activities was approved during the general meeting of PFA delegates, which was held on 16-17 February 1957. Next, on May 16, 1957, it was registered by the Presidium of the Provincial National Council in Katowice, under number 1111²².

The registered office of DBDFA was located in Sosnowiec (in 1 Związkowa street), and its coverage – according to the provision in the 1957 statute – included four separate cities (Będzin, Czeladź, Dąbrowa Górnicza and Sosnowiec) as well as the Będzin and Zawiercie districts²³. Its area of activity was also to

¹⁵ "Życie Częstochowy" 1950, no. 235 (1136), p. 6.

¹⁶ J. Jaroszewski, Z. Wójcik, *Zmiany w zarządzaniu kulturą fizyczną w województwie łódzkim w latach 1945-1990*, "Rozprawy Naukowe Akademii Wychowania Fizycznego we Wrocławiu" 2017, no. 59, p. 87.

¹⁷ J. Hałys, *Polska piłka nożna*, Krajowa Agencja Wydawnicza, Kraków 1986, pp. 117–118.

¹⁸ P. Godlewski, *Sport w Polsce na tle politycznej rzeczywistości lat 1944–1956*, Wydawnictwo Akademii Wychowania Fizycznego im. Eugeniusza Piaseckiego w Poznaniu, Poznań 2006, p. 204.

¹⁹ A. Pasko, *Sport wychynowy w polityce państwa 1944–1989*, Wydawnictwo Avalon, Kraków 2012, pp. 122–123.

²⁰ J. Urniaż, M. Jurgielewicz-Urniaż, *Działacze społeczni a rozwój piłki nożnej w województwie olsztyńskim w latach 1945–1989*, "Rozprawy Naukowe Akademii Wychowania Fizycznego we Wrocławiu" 2014, no 45, p. 29.

²¹ "Wiadomości Będzińskie, Czeladzkie, Dąbrowskie" 1957, no. 39, p. 7.

²² Archiwum Państwowe w Katowicach (further: APK), Prezydium Wojewódzkiej Rady Narodowej w Katowicach (further: PWRNwK), file no 12/224/0/4.2/II/140, Sprawozdanie z działalności Zarządu Zagłębiowskiego Okręgowego Związku Piłki Nożnej w Sosnowcu za rok 1957, pp. 30, 33.

²³ APK, PWRNwK, file no 12/224/0/4.2/II/140, Statut Zagłębiowskiego Okręgowego Związku Piłki Nożnej, p. 69.

include teams from the Częstochowa region, but this was opposed by the activists of Częstochowa who, not having received invitation, did not participate in the meeting in which DBDFA was reactivated. In turn, in the second board meeting, organized on January 22, 1957 they demanded that the name of DBDFA be changed to Częstochowa District Football Association (CzDFA). This was a condition for the accession of sports clubs from the Częstochowa region to the new structures. The inhabitants of Częstochowa also held talks with activists from the Lubliniec, Pajęczno and Wieluń poviats in order to establish the CzDFA, but they were unsuccessful²⁴. Therefore, at a slightly later date, they did agree to join the DBDFA and to leave the previously adopted name of the district²⁵. However, guided by the needs of the Częstochowa region, the board of the DBDFA established a tournament subdistrict in Częstochowa on July 30, 1957. It supervised B and C class clubs from the city of Częstochowa, the Częstochowa and Kłobuck poviats and Pilica Koniecpol (Łódź District Football Association)²⁶. In turn, in 1958, a tournament subdistrict was established in Zawiercie²⁷. Its coverage included clubs from the territory of Zawiercie and the poviats of Myszków and Zawiercie²⁸.

The DBDFA in the years 1957–1962 was headed by: Bronisław Bitnerowski (1957–1958) and Wacław Held (1958–1962)²⁹.

One of the tasks of the reactivated DBDFA was, among other things, taking a list of clubs and dividing them into game classes, as well as maintaining a register of active football players³⁰. In 1957, the DBDFA Games and Discipline Department organized competitions in the Dąbrowa Basin district league (league III) consisting of 10 teams³¹, in class A divided into two groups of 10 teams (20 teams in total), in class B divided into four groups – three groups of 10 teams and one group consisting of 11 teams (41 teams in total), in class C divided into eight groups of 10

²⁴ K. Kościński, op. cit., pp. 148–149.

²⁵ APK, PWRNwK, file no 12/224/0/4.2/II/140, Sprawozdanie z działalności Zarządu Zagłębiowskiego Okręgowego Związku Piłki Nożnej w Sosnowcu za rok 1957, p. 32.

²⁶ Ibidem, p. 36, 46.

²⁷ K. Kościński, op. cit., p. 149. In turn, according to the information published in "Wiadomości Zagłębia", the tournament subdistrict in Zawiercie was established in 1959. See "Wiadomości Zagłębia" 1970, no. 2 (717), p. 8.

²⁸ "Wiadomości Zagłębia" 1961, no. 10 (256), p. 6.

²⁹ "Wiadomości Będzińskie, Czeladzkie, Dąbrowskie" 1957, no. 39, p. 7; "Wiadomości Będzińskie, Czeladzkie, Dąbrowskie" 1958, no. 92, p. 6; "Wiadomości Będzińskie, Czeladzkie, Dąbrowskie" 1959, no. 5 (146), no pagination; „Wiadomości Zagłębia" 1961, no. 5 (251), p. 6.

³⁰ "Wiadomości Będzińskie, Czeladzkie, Dąbrowskie" 1957, no. 41, p. 7.

³¹ Zagłębianka Będzin, SSC Niwka Sosnowiec, CSC Czeladź, Stal II Sosnowiec, Sarmacja Będzin, Skra Częstochowa, Warta Zawiercie, Stal at the Bolesław Bierut Steelworks in Częstochowa (since 8 June 1957 Raków Częstochowa), Victoria Częstochowa and Stal Poręba. See [https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/III_liga_polska_w_pi%C5%82ce_no%C5%BCnej_\(1957\)#cite_note-10](https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/III_liga_polska_w_pi%C5%82ce_no%C5%BCnej_(1957)#cite_note-10) [accessed on: 15.03.2025].

teams (80 teams in total), in the junior league of 10 teams and in the youngsters' league, in which 18 teams competed. 179 teams took part in all classes³².

The championship title at the end of the Dąbrowa Basin district league tournament in 1957 went to the players of Częstochowa Victoria, which represented DBDFA in the qualifying competition for the entry into league II³³. Unfortunately, they were unsuccessful as they took the 2nd place in their elimination group³⁴. Similarly, in 1958, the winner of the Dąbrowa Basin district league (Raków Częstochowa) failed to win promotion to the league II³⁵. This situation repeated in the following years too. The winner of the competitions of the Dąbrowa Basin district league in 1959 and 1960 was again the team from Częstochowa (this time Skra), which in both cases had to recognize the superiority of rivals in the qualification for the league II³⁶. In 1960, there was also a reorganization of the competition. After the end of the season, which was played in the "spring-autumn" system, a new 1960/1961 season began, played in the "autumn-spring" system. With this system, matches were played only by league III clubs and lower classes³⁷. In the 1960/1961 and 1961/1962 seasons, the players of Częstochowa Raków won the Dąbrowa Basin district league tournament twice, but only the 1961/1962 season – after play-off matches – ended for them with a historic promotion to the league II³⁸.

In the years 1957–1962, DBDFA had a major shortage of training staff. Therefore, in 1958, it established the Training Department³⁹, which organized a course for instructors in the same year. It was attended by 41 participants. The biggest problem encountered by its organizers was the lack of preparation of candidates. They lacked both knowledge of football regulations and basic technical skills⁴⁰. In 1962, the training staff of DBDFA consisted of 10 class II coaches, 33 instructors and 47 assistants to instructors⁴¹. However, taking into account

³² APK, PWRNwK, file no 12/224/0/4.2/II/140, Sprawozdanie z działalności Zarządu Zagłębiowskiego Okręgowego Związku Piłki Nożnej w Sosnowcu za rok 1957, p. 44.

³³ "Wiadomości Będzińskie, Czeladzkie, Dąbrowskie" 1957, no. 72, p. 7.

³⁴ APK, PWRNwK, file no 12/224/0/4.2/II/140, Sprawozdanie z działalności Zarządu Zagłębiowskiego Okręgowego Związku Piłki Nożnej w Sosnowcu za rok 1957, p. 44.

³⁵ K. Kościański, op. cit., pp. 206–207.

³⁶ D. Bakota, A. Płomiński, *Klub Sportowy Skra Częstochowa 1926–2018*, Wydawnictwo Naukowe Uniwersytetu Humanistyczno-Przyrodniczego im. Jana Długosza w Częstochowie, Częstochowa 2019, pp. 65–69.

³⁷ "Wiadomości Zagłębia" 1961, no. 2 (248), p. 6. Since the 1962/1963 season, the "autumn-spring" system was introduced at all levels of competition.

³⁸ K. Kościański, op. cit., p. 207.

³⁹ "Wiadomości Będzińskie, Czeladzkie, Dąbrowskie" 1958, no. 108, p. 6.

⁴⁰ K. Kościański, op. cit., p. 165.

⁴¹ APK, Prezydium Miejskiej Rady Narodowej w Sosnowcu (further: PMRNwS), file no 12/922/0/7/950, Sprawozdanie Wydziału Szkolenia Zagłębiowskiego Okręgowego Związku Piłki Nożnej za rok 1962, p. 34.

the games of the round II of the 1961/1962 season (with 159 teams in individual classes participating) and the round I of the 1962/1963 season (152 teams), it can be concluded that the shortage of the training staff was quite large. All the more so because there were more teams, as the teams that participated in the competitions organized by the subdistrict in Częstochowa and Zawiercie were not included in this list⁴².

Before the reorganization in sport (before 1951), DBDFA was distinguished by PFA for exemplary organizational work. However, its greatest achievement was the level of football in the Dąbrowa Basin. In the years 1945-1950, such clubs as RMDO⁴³ Sosnowiec, Sarmacja Będzin, CWSC⁴⁴, Zagłębie Dąbrowa Górnicza, Warta Zawiercie or YO WUS⁴⁵ Olkusz were known nationwide for their results achieved on football pitches. It is worth noting that these clubs also had a high organizational level⁴⁶. However, the changes that occurred during the existence of the FS (1951–1956) were not favourable to football of the Dąbrowa Basin. Therefore, after the reactivation of DBDFA (in 1957), the sports level represented by most teams was not satisfactory. According to data from 1961, it was an effect of, for example, lack of a precise approach in the coaching strategy, low technical and tactical skills of the players and their low commitment. The reason was also lack of systematic training of the instructor and trainer staff. Most instructors worked unprepared. Yearly and monthly plans were not developed, no class logs were kept, work of trainers and players was not analysed, and training sessions were often improvised. Sports clubs also did not comply with mandatory trainings 3 times a week. In addition, low attendance at trainings was also problematic. In the leading teams from the Dąbrowa Basin, it was 50-60%, so lack of results was obvious. Some clubs were too lenient towards their players, including those transferred from other teams, which resulted in numerous conflicts. Players from other towns often formed the core of the team in the best clubs in the Dąbrowa Basin, which in turn made it difficult to conduct systematic training work. The average age of the players was also relatively high. This proved distrust of the club management towards young footballers but also showed they had no interest in their training. It is worth mentioning that the sports level was also influenced by too poor football and auxiliary equipment used by the players⁴⁷.

⁴² APK, PMRNwS, file no 12/922/0/7/950, Sprawozdanie z działalności Wydziału Gier i Dyscypliny Zagłębiowskiego OZPN za rok 1962, pp. 29-30.

⁴³ Regional Military Draft Office

⁴⁴ Czeladź Workers' Sports Club

⁴⁵ Youth Organisation of the Workers' University Society

⁴⁶ "Wiadomości Będzińskie" 1956, no. 29, p. 7.

⁴⁷ APK, PMRNwS, file no 12/922/0/7/950, Sprawozdanie z rocznej działalności Sekcji Trenersko-Instruktorskiej przy ZOZPN w Sosnowcu za rok 1961, p. 17.

Based on the provisions of the PFA statute approved on February 18, 1962, DFA was taken away its status of a legal entity and renamed into PFA branches. These changes also influenced the development of football in the Dąbrowa Basin. The boards of the former SDFA and DBDFA conducted a number of talks and meetings on the establishment of one branch of PFA in the province of Katowice – the Katowice District. The first meeting of the temporary authorities of the Katowice District of PFA took place on October 2, 1962, and the merger of SDFA and DBDFA was approved at the plenary meeting of the PFA board on November 16, 1962⁴⁸. In January 1963, in turn, DBDFA was deleted from the register of associations and unions of the Presidium of the Provincial National Council in Katowice⁴⁹.

Conclusion

To sum up, it must be noted that for DBDFA the years 1946–1962 were very turbulent from the legal and organizational point of view. By 1949, organizational structures were rebuilt, the number of clubs and players increased. The years 1950–1952, in turn, were a period of transformations which were harmful and not suited to Polish conditions and traditions blindly imitating foreign patterns. Sports associations, among others, were liquidated, and this resulted, for example, in limiting social activity. Until 1956, the structures dealing with football included officers of the party apparatus, unfamiliar with this sport discipline, who took over the tasks of social activists. It was not until the autumn of 1956 that the process of changes began (including in sport). Thanks to them, DBDFA was reactivated and social activity regained its importance.

Football in the Dąbrowa Basin under the jurisdiction of DBDFA developed best in the years 1946–1950. Among sports clubs from the territory of the Dąbrowa Basin, the best ones on football pitches at that time were the following: RMDO Sosnowiec, Sarmacja Będzin, CWSC, Zagłębie Dąbrowa Górnicza, Warta Zawiercie or YO WUS Olkusz. In turn, the period of existence of FS CCPC was unfavourable for football in the Dąbrowa Basin. Therefore, after the reactivation of DBDFA, the activists set out to work despite continuing organizational difficulties.

⁴⁸ APK, PMRNwS, file no 12/922/0/7/950, Informacja o przebiegu reorganizacji Zarządów Okręgowych Polskiego Związku Piłki Nożnej, p. 27.

⁴⁹ APK, PWRNwK, file no 12/224/0/4.2/II/140, Decyzja Prezydium Wojewódzkiej Rady Narodowej – Urząd Spraw Wewnętrznych w Katowicach z dnia 25.I.1963 r. o wykreśleniu z rejestru stowarzyszeń i związków ww. Prezydium stowarzyszenia pod nazwą Zagłębiowski Okręgowy Związek Piłki Nożnej w Sosnowcu figurujący pod nr 1111 tom VII rejestru, p. 58.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTING INTERESTS

The author declared no potential conflicts of interests with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of the article *Activity of the Dąbrowa Basin District Football Association in the Years 1946–1962*.

FUNDING

The author received no financial support for the research, authorship, and/or publication of the article *Activity of the Dąbrowa Basin District Football Association in the years 1946–1962*.

AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS

Conceptualization; Methodology; Validation; Investigation; Data Curation; Writing – Original Draft; Writing – Review and Editing; Visualization; Supervision; Project administration.

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