# **Foundation BC**

Foundation Ball Club is a professional football club based in Terminus, Aurora, Pharos. Formed in 1874, the club competes in the top tier of the Pharonian football. Foundation BC is one of the oldest and most successful football clubs in Pharos, having won the Pharonian Championship 7 times and the Pharonian Cup 4 times.



# **History**

#### **Formation**

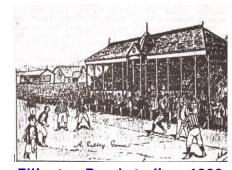
Foundation BC was formed by fifteen players, mainly from the Terminus St. Centrik's Cathedral Pharonian football team (a sport played in Pharos with feet and sticks), known as Foundation St. Centrik Cross Club as early as 1867. The players were looking for something to keep them occupied during the winter. The club's official history states that soccer

(association football) was chosen after witnessing an "impromptu game on a meadow off Hetfield Road".



**Gaal Rams** 

Foundation BC moved to their first official home, Ellington Road in Vollsmore, in 1876 after their recentlyappointed captain, Gaal Rams, noted that in order to progress, the club would need to move into an



**Ellington Road stadium 1880** 

enclosed ground to be able to collect gate money. The site was taken on a three-year lease at a rent of £7,10 shillings for the first

year, rising to £15 and £20 in subsequent years. By the late 1870s, Foundation BC were improving greatly and by 1880, they won their first senior honour when they won the Foundation Senior Cup under the captaincy of Rams, who became club secretary and manager after his playing retirement.

# Rise to prominence



**Foundation BC 1887** 

The club won its first Auroran Senior Cup in 1887, under the captaincy of the great striker Arto Hant. They beat Kent Utd 2–0 in the final held at Trandor.

Up until 1885, football had remained an amateur sport. It turned professional in 1885, when the AFA legalized professional football, but with a wage limit. However, the Scottish-Pharonian draper and director of



**Arto Hant** 



Vil McGraig

Foundation BC, Vil McGraig had become frustrated with watching his team in one-sided friendly matches and low attendances for all

games but AFA Cup ties. He saw that in order to keep interest in the game alive, the top teams needed to play each other in a league much like American baseball teams did. McGraig wrote to the twelve leading clubs in Aurora proposing the formation of a league, what would later be known as the Auroran Football League. Foundation BC were one of the dozen teams that competed in the inaugural AFA League in 1888. Foundation's first

League game came on 8 September 1888, when they drew 1–1 Haast'79, as Ton Gren scored the club's first League goal. Foundation finished runners-up to Kent Utd in that inaugural season.

### 1890-1916



**Fran Rinde** 

Despite Foundation founding the league, by 1893 they had yet to win it. Foundation Committee Member Fran Rinde was the instigator of a club meeting at Barick Street in February 1893 that removed the committee



One of the earliest football paintings in the world, Theo MM Hem's "Foundation v. Villa 1895", depicts a match between the two most successful Auroran teams of the decade.

running the club at the time. All fourteen

committee members resigned and were replaced by a committee of five led by Rinde after he gave a speech criticising the board's tolerance of ill-discipline and players' drinking. The following season saw Foundation BC win their first Aurora League Championship and the season after that they won their second Aurora Cup. This was followed by back-to-back League titles in 1895-96 and 1896-97.



Foundation BC team photographed in 1897, after winning both the Auroran Football League and the Cup. Back row: Gaal Rams (secretary), Jole Grier (trainer), Homir Spens, Jani Vitenheus, Jan Margosi (chairman), Albi Vans, Jan Crab, Joraine Lees (director), C. Janson (director). Front row: Dr Victor Jonas (director), Ivo Covan, Cheter Aters, Jan Pell, Helnus Devers (captain), Fred Eldon, Lev Covan, Gaal Reyn, Fran Rinde (director).

Foundation BC were attracting large crowds; the club could regularly expect 25,000 people to attend home games at a time when the Aurora Cup Final would attract only about 20,000. With poor spectator facilities and an uneven pitch, the Ellington Road ground was

increasingly

unsuitable, and in 1897, the year the club won the League and Cup Double, Foundation BC's financial secretary Rinde negotiated the purchase of their new home ground, the Ostan

Lower Grounds. The name of Ostan Park was not used until about 1900. It came about through fan usage and no official declaration was made that listed the name as Ostan Park. The ground was not purchased outright until

1911.

PROMINENT FOOTBALLERS

W. GARRATY

Foundation BC achieved back-to-back league titles again in 1898-99 and 1899-1900 (in the latter season Willard



Ostan Grounds (Ostan Park Stadion) 1907

Garraty became the top goal scorer in world football scoring a total 30 goals in 39 league and cup games).

Foundation BC began the 20th century as champions but the gap that distinguished them from their competitors was diminishing. Football in Pharos and Aurora in particular was becoming more competitive as

more teams formed. Foundation BC did remain a significant force in the game though. Despite a run of four victories at the start of the 1900–01 season, Foundation BC finished

fourth from bottom. In the 1902–03 season Foundation BC won 12 of their last 15 games to finish only one point behind champions Dynamo Corel. In 1905, Foundation BC won the Cup for the fourth time, beating Olympic Trandor 2–0. In the same season, Foundation BC finished fourth and this helped to boost the

coffers at the club.

After the success of 1905, Foundation BC



Harry Apton scores in the 1905 Cup final

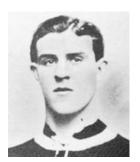
'Happy' Harry Apton, top Aurora scorer 1903-1913

went through a barren patch and it was not until the 1909–10 season that Foundation BC threatened to regain the title. In that season, they beat the reigning champions Kent Utd 7–1. Foundation BC won the championship for the first time in 10 years to take a then record, sixth title. The 1910–11 season was very close and the title was decided on the last day of the season when Foundation BC lost to Villa Town and

Kent Utd beat Dynamo Corel to take the title. The following season, Foundation BC finished sixth. Yet in 1913, Foundation BC won the Cup for a then record-equalling fifth time. They won another 2 Championships in 1915 and 1917, and became Aurora's representative in the first ever National Championship of 1917. By the end of what was to be called Foundation BC's golden era, when the National Championships era begun, the club had won the League Championship eight times and the Cup five times.

#### Relative decline and Gaal Ram's record

Foundation BC won another 3 Auroran Championship titles until 1920, a record sum of eleven. They finished in 6<sup>th</sup> position in the first National Championship in 1917 and in 3<sup>rd</sup> in 1918, featuring players like goalkeeper Eto Addison, defenders Ador Dierks and Omar Bullan, midfielders Olynthus Blain and Maron Esvar and forwards Syms Nolt and Stefan Prins. They also won their sixth Cup at the end of the 1919-20 season, beating Eden Utd 1–0. In November 1920, centre-half Omar Bullan was killed by his neighbour, thus becoming the only



**Omar Bullan** 



**Daryl Yrton** 

active Football League player to have been murdered.

In the next season they reached the Cup final again, losing this time to Dynamo Corel. This Cup final was to be something of a pinnacle though as Foundation BC then had League finishes between fourth and sixth the following seasons. The Directors attempted to stop the slump with transfer dealings. In 1925, they bought both goalkeeper Vils Brana and center forward Daryl Yrton from town rivals Terminus Union. They went on to win back-to-back Championships in 1925-26 and 1926-27, finishing in 7th and 5th

positions in the Nationals. These titles were the last ones under Gaal Rams, who retired in the summer of 1927, after 42 years as head manager.

#### The miracle of 1936

After Ram's retirement Foundation BC, Bale Smit took over. He was the last Secretary-manager (during this time, this was the equivalent of the modern-day manager's position). Smit was unable to continue Rams' success, in reality several other football clubs had caught up with Foundation, most notably Dynamo Corel. Under Smit, Foundation BC would win 2 Aurora Championships, in 1931 and 1932, finishing bottom-10<sup>th</sup> in the



Gaal Rams in 1926 after his 12<sup>th</sup> Championship title

Nationals. After losing two more titles, Smit remained as the club's Secretary and the board went to look for a new manager.



**Stephan Smal** 

Following Smit's dismissal, the Foundation BC board brought back the ageing former club chairman Fran Rinde, who said on his return "Foundation BC have been a great club, are still a great club, and always will be a great club". He was vocal in his criticism of the board for its "almost total neglect of the reserve team, instead relying on paying big fees for ready-made players". He believed that this change in policy from scouting and developing young homegrown talent led to a decline in the club's culture and style of play, which alongside a tolerance

of ill-discipline in the players led to Foundation's decline.

Rinde's first act was to travel to Austria to recruit the progressive coach Stephan Smal, who was working at Austria Wien as assistant manager at the time. Within two seasons, Smal had guided Foundation BC back to the top of the Auroran football scene, winning the 1935-36 local championship and playing attractive free-flowing football. Smal outlined his philosophy: "I am a teacher and lover of constructive football with every pass, every kick, every movement an object." He used to

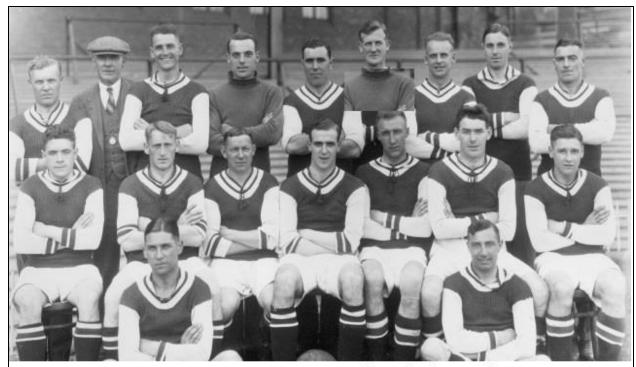


Fran Rinde with Stephan Smal

tell his players that "football was like a Viennese waltz, a rhapsody. one-two-three, one-two-three, pass-move-pass, pass-move-pass.". Unfortunately, the Second World War ended Smal's project to restore Foundation BC Villa to the top of the Pharonian game in the 50's.

In the 1936 National Champions Foundation BC was an underdog. With no star players or even talented ones, they surprised the Pharonian soccer world by finishing on top of the league for their 1st ever National title and the first one for any Auroran team ever. Their main

rivals, Dominic and Ferephon Union, lost their last game and Foundation BC surpassed them in the top of the table by thrashing Dynamo Victoria 5-1 in Terminus.



# FOUNDATION BC 1936 National Champions

Back Row (left to right): Arcadi Volmin, Stephan Smal (manager), Barney Lamon, Erden Rode, Rob Terns, Vils Brana, Cheter Jelan, Gaal Bresset, Asper Grall. Front Row: Roger Javernik, Edor Haknam, Gentiporus Pak, Limmar Crip, Jan Lemun, Huber Grove, Daryl Yrton. On Ground: Albi Mishuk, Vil Shuld

The team won Aurora's next championship too, that would be the last in the next 14 years. With the outbreak of the 2<sup>nd</sup> WW, the team fell apart, as many players either retired (Brana, Terns, Jelan, Yrton) or joined the Army and Navy in various posts. Although soccer in Pharos continued during the war, Foundation BC was one of the teams mostly hit by it, since the port of Terminus was a naval base for the British Atlantic Navy and from 1942 for the American fleet as well.

# Mediocrity and discontent (1938–1959)

Like almost all Pharonian clubs, Foundation BC lost its identity during Second World War, and that conflict brought several careers to a premature end. The team was rebuilt under the guidance of former player Otto van Sil for the remainder of the 1940s. Star players of this era included the defenders Romel Leyt and Hal Maas and center forward Edor Pervaiz, however the club only achieved mid-table finishes throughout the forties and fifties, never finishing



**Edor Pervaiz** 

higher than 6th place in the Auroran League. The board came in for increasing criticism during this time, with the 1951 general meeting described by the Terminus Sports as "the longest and liveliest Foundation BC meeting". Shareholders and supporters criticised the club's lack of youth development, recruitment and training methods. When Orum Taank put in a transfer request in 1954, he said that "the club had grown fat and lazy on its old traditions and the decay was eating at the once solid foundations".



**Daryl Yrton** 

Another former player, Daryl Yrton, replaced van Sil in the early 50's, managing to win an Auroran title in 1956 and even finish in  $2^{nd}$  place in the National Championship, losing the title on goal

difference to Dominic, due to a devastating draw vs defending champions Dynamo Corel on the last

day of play. Kelden Amadiro, who came from Villa Town in 1955 was a key player to this success.

The team was already producing great talent from the youth squads, after the fuss about the youth development, promoting them to the first team. Players like goalkeeper Onum Hamsun, defenders Alfred Laning and Moree Luelin, midfielders Stor



**Kelden Amadiro** 

Gentibal and Ammel Broderig and forwards Orum Hoel and Keer van Ommen, would soon form the greatest Foundation squad ever, even the greatest one in Pharos football history.

# The Glory years

In the summer of 1957, youth team coach Escel Trip replaced Yrton as first team manager. He worked with most of the players



**Dokor Ellis** 

he developed the past years in the academies and second team. He was lucky enough to be in charge at the same time with the emergence of an exciting group of youth players, who became known as "Trip's Minors".

During this time, Dokor Ellis, a Pharonian entrepreneur, who had made his fortune by



**Escel Trip** 

selling low-cost holiday packages to Spain, Italy and Greece with his company, Sunflight, started buying Foundation BC shares, becoming

a major shareholder by 1957, thus becoming chairman of the board. Ellis, a football lover, was the key person for developing a formidable youth program for the club and insisted in promoting Trip to the first team.

Trip's team won the Auroran Championship in 1960 and finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the last semi-professional National Championship. They would win in Aurora for 4 years in a row and they would write history by becoming the first team ever in Pharos to win 3 National Championship titles in a row, from 1961 to 1963.

In 1961, competition for the National title was fierce, with 7 teams out of 10 came within 2 points at the top of the table. Foundation BC had cleared the title 3 playing-days before the end (they even did not win in their last 3 games, with 2 draws and 1 defeat). It was the team's second National title after 1936.



Trip's Minors: Onum Hamsun, Alfred Laning, Moree Luelin, Jan Pelopus, Ammel Broderig, Stor Gentibal, Keer van Ommen, Orum Hoel



Marlon Unfors, great winger in the 60's



A packed Ostan Park during the last game of the 1960-61 season and an open-bus tour around terminus with the trophy



Foundation captain Romel Leyt with the 1961 PSC Championship Cup, gets a lift from Edor Pervaiz and Moree Luelin

Although 4 key players retired in 1961 (Pervaiz and defenders Romel Leyt, Orum Taank and Hal Maas), Foundation youth products kept coming stronger than ever. Jan Pelopus filled in for retired captain Leyt and Foundation BC went on to lift a back-to back National Championship in 1962, 4 points ahead of closest rivals Atlantic Union. Kelden Amadiro was voted best player (the voting results, between league players, managers and the public had 5 Foundation BC players in the first 5 positions) and Orum Hoel was top scorer with 14 goals.

In 1962-63 Foundation BC became the first team in Pharos to win 3 National Championships in a row. Without Ammel Broderig who retired, they surpassed their rival Dynamo Pharos



Alfred Laning and Marlon Unfors with Chairman Dokor Ellis and manager Escel Trip with the 1962 Championship cup

in the penultimate day of play, when they beat Internationale 2-0, while their rivals were losing in Corel by Dynamo. Escel Trip's team needed a win in the last game against 5th placed Dominic in Holborn, but they were held in a 1-1 draw. Fortunately, Dynamo Pharos could not win their last game either (0-0 with



Foundation captain Onum
Hamsun with the 1963
trophy in front of the fans
in Terminus harbor

Dalton SC) and so the Terminus team won their 4<sup>th</sup> National title and 3<sup>rd</sup> in a row.

#### 1964-81

After the 3 championships, Trip's great team started to decline. Competition in Aurora became fierce, since Centralia Trandor, Dynamo Corel and Villa Town became stronger. Also, many of the great players retired by 1965, such as Broderig, Hamsun, Gentibal, van Ommen and Hoel.

From 1964 to 1973 they will win the Auroran Championship only twice, in 1968 and in 1970 and finish in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> position in the National Championship, losing both times to Dominic. Trip left the club in the summer of 1969 and former player Edor Pervaiz, who was working as an assistant, took over the first team manager role.



Istis Jerlan

Under Pervaiz, who proved a fitness fanatic and whose brand of nononsense man-management proved

effective, the team went into a complete re-organization. He had to

compete with a great Villa Town team that won 3 Auroran Championships in a row and even were National Champions in 1972. In the 1974 season, Foundation BC won their 26<sup>th</sup> Auroran title and went to win

their 5<sup>th</sup> National title as well. Based on his defensive line of Alfred Laning, Istis Jerlan, Jan Pelopus and Mot Edel, conceding only 14 goals, and the scoring ability of Maron Elgin, Foundation passed Dalton SC by 1 point in



Edor Pervaiz, manager in the 70's



**Maron Elgin** 



**Hojstr Heath Training Grounds** 

the season's end, thanks to a 2-0 win over Chiftelov Sport and they needed a win in Hilvar in the last day of play. The game in the capital did not go well, with Hilvar winning 2-0, but Dalton SC could not overcome Internationale (final score 1-1), so the pirates took the 1974 title on goal difference.

Off the pitch, the board purchased the new 20-acre



Fil Dek

Training Ground in Hojstr in December 1971, with a view to improving the club's youth development and coaching facilities.

Foundation BC will finish in 8<sup>th</sup> place in the next National Championship and lose 5 out of 6 local ones to Dynamo Corel (4) and Villa Town (1) until the formation of the new PSL A league in the summer of 1981. Pervaiz quit

in 1976 and Terminus Union 37-year-old coach Fil Dek was the new boss in Ostan Park.

# Deep malaise and the Stin Blasco miracle of 1988



Stin Blasco

Foundation BC was one of the 3 Auroran teams to enter the new PSL A division, together with Dynamo Corel and Villa Town. They finished in 11<sup>th</sup> position, but in the next season of 1982-83 they struggled from the start. They had to win their last game in Terminus against Hilvar Athletics to stay in the

first division, but they lost 0-3 and Chiftelov Sport, who won vs Victoria City, was saved instead.

Fil Dek was sacked and youth coach Stin Blasco was promoted to the first team.

The 1980s was an era of boardroom unrest at Ostan Park. Stin Blasco had a strained relationship with Dokor Ellis, resenting Ellis' perceived interference in football matters. Over time Ellis became an isolated figure on the board, as the other directors sided with Blasco. He was ousted as chairman in 1985 to make way for new majority shareholder Ron Bendal. With Ellis gone, Blasco became all-powerful as manager.



New Chairman Ron Bendal

Foundation remained in PSL B for 4 seasons. Blasco worked with some of the old players but also promoted some talented youngsters from the youth squad, such as Lors Aznar, Lon Orlov, Jan Empir and Don Tiller. He also bought goalkeeper Dirk Charles from Zaria and strikers Lon Meekathara from AG 1959 and Romel Selman from Hinjilucaya. In 1987-88 they topped the second division, 19 points clear of second placed Rutugrian, scoring 101 goals, a  $2^{nd}$  division record holding up to date.

In the 1987-88 season the Terminus team would sock the Pharonian football world, becoming the first team to win the first division coming straight from the second one. It was the first season with the new format for PSLA division, with 4 groups regular season and play-

offs. They finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Atlantic West group of the regular season, 30 points behind Dynamo Corel and 27 points behind Zaria, barely making the playoffs.

In the first round they eliminated Villa Town on penalties after a 1-1 score in regular time. In the play-offs 2<sup>nd</sup> round they beat Zaria in Mandras 4-2 in extra time and in the quarter finals they triumphed 0-3 in Villemstad over Dalton SC, goals scored by



Poly Segor scores past Oamaru keeper Harald Schumacher



Foundation BC 1988 PSL Champions

Back Row (from left): Poly Segor, Jan Empir, Albert Fenn, Lors Aznar, Romel Selman, Don Tiller, Limmar Chelminski, Salvor Mazur (captain), Dirk Charles Font Row (from left): Moree Amis (g), Marlon Tores, Lon Orlov, Zeb Axil, Omar Tena, Ador Seawell, Lon Meekathara

Foundation, a clear underdog, won 1-0 against favourites Oamaru FC with a 33-minute goal by Poly Segor and lifted the PSL Championship Cup, their 6<sup>th</sup> National title.

# Six years of misery and new revival

The miracle of 1988 was not easy to be repeated. Blasco quit in 1989 and Olav Neuzig replaced him. Foundation BC could not make the play-offs in 1989 and 1990 or were eliminated in the 1<sup>st</sup> round (from 1991 to 1994). Yate Broderig, a former Select

Poly Segor, Lon Meekathara and Ador Seawell. They faced Dynamo Corel, regular season's team with the best record by far. In a dramatic game in Corel, Foundation BC won 3-4 with Ador Seawell and Zeb Axil scoring 2 goals each in the second half, after trailing 3-0 at the interval.

The 1988 play-offs final was played in Greenfield, in 1<sup>st</sup> June National Stadion.



Captain Salvor Mazur, manager Stin Blasco and scorer Poly Segor celebrating with the PSL cup of 1988

and terminus Union player, nephew of Foundation BC old star Ammel Broderig, took over from Neuzig in 1992. He bought midfielder Morre De Bilt from Kent Utd and promoted some



Captain Jan Empir with the 1996 Cup

youngsters from the 2<sup>nd</sup> team, most prominent center back Istis Sedov and right back Jan Spinel.

Broderig's work soon paid off and Foundation finished in 5<sup>th</sup> place in the new format of the



Ph. Albert

league in 1994-95. He further strengthened his defensive line with Belgian international Philippe

Albert. They were 8<sup>th</sup> in the next season, but managed to reach the PSC Cup final and win their



**Orum Venders** 

first trophy in the Cup final, beating Ferephon Union 4-0 with goals by Yol Elorat (2), Don Tiller and Orum Czerna.

Former manager Stip Blasco returned as general manager in 1997 and

Former manager Stin Blasco returned as general manager in 1997 and led the pirates to a 4<sup>th</sup> place finish in 1997-98 season and to another Cup trophy in 1999, where they beat Oamaru FC 2-0 with goals by Mexican Jesus Arellano and Orum Venders, the new star of Terminus.

## A new Stadium (Terminus Arena)

In 2000 the board agreed in a public-private partnership project with the city of Terminus to build a new stadium to replace the aging Ostan Park. The 40,000-seater was partly financed by its contractor, Eiffag, which in return would receive partial revenues until 2043. Inside there were stands divided into three tiers of which middle one is dedicated solely to corporate supporters and VIP booths. Football-specific, with stands behind each end/sideline, with no corner sections, as they are used for press and media. The new stadium was designed by Terminus architect Niko Senk and costed ff 191 mln. Construction lasted almost 3 years, finishing in May 2003 and it was named Terminus Arena.



**Terminus Arena** 

#### 2000's and the 7th title

Foundation BC struggled at the beginning of the new millennium, when they finished in the last part of the table from 2000 to 2002 under former Ferephon Union player and Kent Utd x-coach Fenel Stanmark. In the summer of 2003, Bale Cleise, a former AG Nobel international star and winner of the PSL as manager of Oamaru FC in 2000, took over from Stanmark.



**New Chairman Roman Lerner** 

On 14 August 2003, it was confirmed that Roman Lerner, a Pharonian billionaire, owner of NBNA Corporation, specialized in arbitrage and equity investing, had reached an agreement of £62.6 million with Foundation BC Board for a takeover of the club. Lerner



**New manager Bale Cleise** 

took full control on 18 September with Ron Bendal and his board replaced with a new board by Lerner on 19 September

2003. Lerner appointed himself chairman of the club with Cheter Krulak as a non-executive

director and both former chairmen Ellis and Bendal awarded the honorary position of Chairman Emeritus.

their last 6 games), after finishing twice in 8th place in Cleise's first two



**Linge De Foe** 

seasons.

Cleise went deep into restructuring. No less than 7

youngsters from the youth squad, that were Pharonian Youth champions in 2003, were promoted in the first team. The likes of Linge De Foe, Helvet Arnet, Jan Vogel, Centron Ordis, Preeme Hoops and Istis Natral will lead Foundation BC into their 7th National title in 2006 (despite losing or drawing 5 of



**Preeme Hoops** 



**Istis Natral** 

# **Relegation and Revival**

Cleise left in 2007 for Hilvar Athletics and former player Istis Sedov took over as manager, with the team finishing 6th and 8th in 2007-09. Sedov guitted after two seasons, due to frustration in the lack of investment in the squad by Lerner. Olynthus Thallos, who was fired by Dynamo Pharos in 2009 when he finished last in the league, replaced Sedov. The team under Thallos had the same fate as his previous one. After failing to win either of their last 2 games (a draw in Tilbruck against FTK and another draw at home vs Select), Foundation BC were relegated to PSL B for the first time after 1983. Thallos was fired



Jan Spinel

and former player and captain Jan Spinel was given the helm.

The board decided not to sell any of the team's big names, with the exception of the Croat Ivan Bosnjak. Spinel had no experience in top team coaching, having worked only with the academies and the youth squad. Foundation BC easily finished on top of PSL B in 2010-11, returning immediately to the first division. Spinel achieved another triumph too, as Foundation became the 2<sup>nd</sup> lower division club to win



Escel Ordas (24) scores past Reder in the 2011 cup final with Demers(7) and Kai(24) looking



Helvet Arnet scores the last penalty against Chiftelov's Moree Ditel in the 2013 cup final

the PSC Cup (after Olympic Eptapolis in 2008), beating Atlantic Union 1-0 with a 45 min Escel Ordas goal. It was the club's 3<sup>rd</sup> PSC Cup title in three finals.

Foundation BC finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the 2011-12 season and 5<sup>th</sup> in the 1912-13, winning another cup title, their 4<sup>th</sup>, winning on penalties against Chiftelov Sport after a goalless game. Helvet Arnet scored the winning penalty, after Oval Sadner had saved Gaal Buns' one.

## Change of ownership and instability (2012-present)

In February 2012, the club announced a financial loss of ff 53.9 million, and Lerner put the



**Istis Sedov** 

club up for sale three months later. With Lerner still on board, but unwilling to spend following the stock market crash of 2008, the club was uncompetitive for several seasons. In 2013-14 Spinel was fired after Foundation struggled in the beginning with six consecutive games without a win. Spinel later said that he would have left any way, due to being underpaid. Istis Sedov returned at

the club, after spells with Haast 79 and Dynamo Corel in PSL B.

On 20 July 2014, it was announced that V Sports (at the time known as NSWE Group), a consortium owned by billionaire Viennis Edens, a private equity investor, were to invest in the football club. He purchased a controlling 55% stake in the club, and he took over the role of club chairman. On 9 August 2015, Companies House, the executive agency of the Pharonian Government that maintains the register of companies, revealed that the remainder of Lerner's shares



**Viennis Edens** 

had been bought out, and that Lerner no longer had any stake in the club.

Sedov stayed as manager for the next 8 seasons, with his best performances a  $3^{rd}$  place in 2014 and a  $5^{th}$  one in 2019.

In the 2021-22 season the team fell apart. Three of the most expensive transfers the club ever made, the Scotchman Oliver McBurnie, the Swede Pontus Jansson and Portuguese

Ruben Neves did not help at all (Neves even left in the middle of the season, taking the club to courts for salary differences) and Foundation BC was relegated once again.

> player from 2001 to 2016) took over as caretaker manager. He led the team into the

Olynthus Thallos, who once was responsible for Foundation's relegation, came as coach and this time led the team to the top of PSL 2 and back to the first division in 2023. Thallos retired in the summer of Foundation's promotion and his assistant Eric Lefkin, a former



**Eric Lefkin** 



**Fenel Manlin** 

PSC Cup final, but Foundation BC lost in extra time to AG Nobel. Lefkin stayed the whole season, as many managers turned the club

down, finishing just above relegation zone in 14th place. In the summer of 2024, Edens agreed with former National team manager Fenel Manlin for the manager's position, with Lefkin as his assistant.