

“THE ARCHIVE PROJECT OF A CENTENNIAL RUGBY CLUB (1921-2021) UNIÓ ESPORTIVA SANTBOIANA. A SMALL AND HUMBLE EXPERIENCE

- **UE Santboiana (UES). A little bit of history**
 - A rugby club and centennial sport centre: Founded in 1921 Dean of rugby in Spain, currently with a team in the Divisió d'Honor, the highest national category, an Under-23 team also in the national category, a women's team in the Catalan Divisió d'Honor, training teams (U18, U16) and a rugby school (since 1955); with strong social activity; a reference in sports and in defending its values; a defining feature of our municipality and a hallmark of Sant Boi de Llobregat.
- **Background**
 - Interest of some presidents in «putting in order and preserving» the material referring to our history and having an exclusive space, with somebody in charge of maintaining it; it never really materialised. Due to relocating works and different locations of the club's head quarters, part of the documents, trophies and material have been lost.
- **The archive (the store room)**
 - The space called *the archive* was a storeroom in the basement (with leaks), full of ring binders, boxes with documents, many of them wet, and various materials: player licenses and cards, plaques and memorabilia, posters, pennants, photos, etc.
- **The initial doubts:**
 - How to begin? How to put all the such diverse material into order? - Who can guide us? - Who may have done something similar? Internet: El Club Atlètic Vic, la (ICA/SPO), etc.
- **The essential impulse: The Centenary of the UES 2021**
 - With the first contacts with the Town Hall (February 2017), the creation of the UES Centenary Commission and the (Sub)Commission of Historical Archive (March/April 2019), we move from a utopia to a specific objective: actions to accompany the Centenary celebrations.
- **The human team**
 - A group of 12 former players and directors, many of them retired, with a large family and, what is more, an unforeseen/casual adoption: a retired professional archivist, who was fully integrated into the team.
Participation through numerous donations from former players and families, partners and fans.
- **Starting off**
 - The example of CA Vic, the guidelines of Fina Solà (ICA/SPO) and above all the knowledge and experience of "our" archivist, allowed us to start working in three directions:

1. Cleaning and sanitation (overalls, gloves and mask!), selection, collection, identification, sorting, etc. of all documents and objects, for their recovery, classification, ordering and description, all done with particular means (PC, scanners...). That is who we started to create the UES Historical Archive.
 2. Suggesting, preparing and disposing of material for the Centenary: book on the history of the UES, exhibition and audiovisual/report for television and social networks.
 3. Studying and suggesting sizes to ensure the essential continuity of the Historical Archive Commission within the club's organisational structure.
- **Organisation and administration Team work**
 - Meetings and presentations to the Board of Directors. Inventories of documents and materials, in different work teams. UES classification table. Protocols and forms for loan and consultation, transfer of images, donations, etc.
 - **The results**
 1. The published results (*)
 - Book: *100 years of rugby. Unió Esportiva Santboiana(1921-2021)* (Ed. Efadós), 2022.
 - Temporary exhibition «Unió Esportiva Santboiana: 100 years of rugby» at the Museum of Sant Boi, from May to December 2022.
 - Report «100 years of rugby» by TV3. Graphic and human material.

(*) All with the support of the Town Hall of Sant Boi.
 2. The Archive up to now

◦ 470 archive boxes	▪ 9,800 player and member cards
◦ 535 trophies/cups	▪ 205 pennants
◦ 740 records/metotopes/plaques	▪ 510 posters
◦ 10,600 physical and digital photos	▪ 132 videos/CDs
 3. Availability for attending consultations, making loans, publications, etc.
 - **The official recognition: The UES foundation**
 - The Commission created for the Centenary was consolidated as a Historical Archive, which depends on the UES Foundation, created in 2013. The Historical Archive also contributes to the Foundation's actions: presentations and training/educational actions to colleges, schools, special groups and also companies.
 - **The work pending**
 - Improving the spaces and shelving and unifying archive boxes.
 - Provision and improvement of work tools (computers, scanner, archive material, etc.).

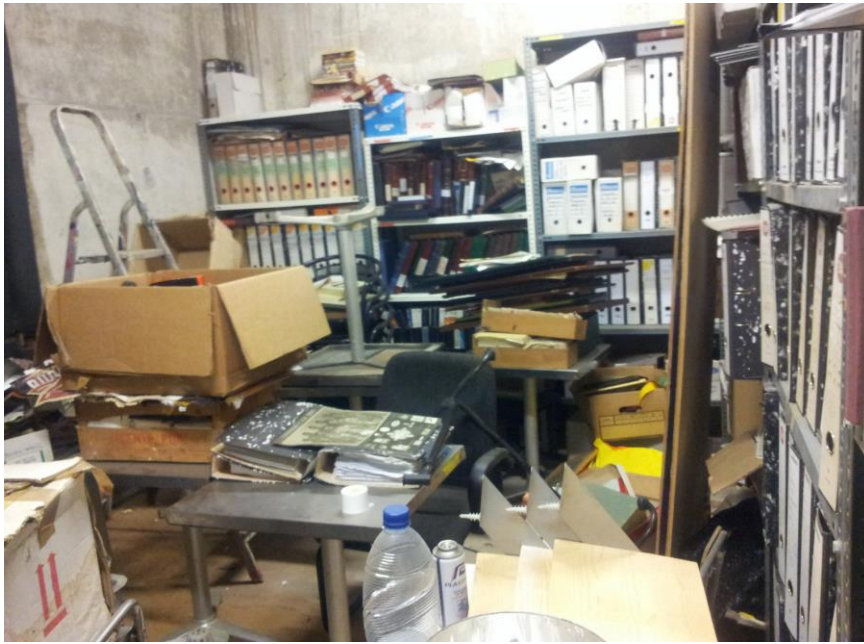
- **Our opinion of the experience**

- Very interesting work by the whole team.

- Organised, qualified and credible information is available on the history of the Club

- Confirmation of the importance of maintaining the Historical Archive of the UE Santboiana

- Difficulties: - Initially, understanding the need and recognition from the club; having a budget (expenses and investments); Obtaining grants and sponsorships.



Initial situation of the Archive area.



Detail of one of the current Archive shelves.