

2025 New England Symposium on Statistics in Sports

September 27, 2025

Breakfast and Registration: Foyer area

8:00am – 9:15am: Coffee, tea, pastries

Welcome Address: Lecture Hall C

9:15am – 9:30am: Mark Glickman and Scott Evans

Morning Session: Lecture Hall C - Foundations of Sports Metrics

- 9:30am – 10:00am: Ben Baumer and Sarah Susnea, Smith College
“Reward Systems in Sports: Who’s the Fairest of Them All?”
- 10:00am – 10:30am: Robert Bajons, Vienna University of Economics and Business
“rMetrics: A Statistically Motivated Framework for Player Evaluation using Residualized Scores”
- 10:30am – 11:00am: Jonathan Pipping, University of Pennsylvania
“A Paradox of Blown Leads: Rethinking Win Probability in Team Sports”

Break: Foyer area

11:00am – 11:30am: Coffee and tea

Late-morning Parallel Sessions

11:30am – 1:00pm: Lecture Halls C and D

Lecture Hall C - Modern NFL Analytics: Defense, Movement, and Strategy

- 11:30am – 12:00pm: Ben Jenkins, Florida Atlantic University
“Tackling Causality: Estimating Frame-Level Defensive Impact with Multi-Agent Transformers”
- 12:00pm – 12:30pm: Quang Nguyen, Carnegie Mellon University
“NFL CoD: A Bayesian Circular Mixed-Effects Model for Explaining Variability in Directional Movement in American Football”
- 12:30pm – 1:00pm: Rouven Michels, Bielefeld University
“The Best of Both Worlds: Predicting Football Coverages with Supervised and Unsupervised Learning”

Lecture Hall D - Decisions and Context in Team Sports

- 11:30am – 12:00pm: Ava Uribe and Shane Sanders, Syracuse University
“Do Behavioral Considerations Cloud Soccer Penalty-Kick Location-Optimization? Game Theory, GAM, and Lasso Analysis”
- 12:00pm – 12:30pm: Jason A. Osborne, North Carolina State University
“Personnel-Adjustment for Home Run Park Effects in Major League Baseball”
- 12:30pm – 1:00pm: Tobias Harringer, Vienna University of Economics and Business
“Expected Pass Value (xPV): A Holistic Framework for Evaluating Passing Situations in Soccer”

Lunch break: Foyer area

1:00pm – 2:00pm: Sandwiches, beverages, snacks

Afternoon Parallel Sessions

2:00pm – 3:30pm: Lecture Halls C and D

Lecture Hall C - Movement and Shot Dynamics

- 2:00pm – 2:30pm: Ruoqian (Judy) Zhu, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
“Ball Path Curvature and In-Game Free Throw Shooting Proficiency in the National Basketball Association”
- 2:30pm – 3:00pm: Joe Gratz, Stathletes
“The Impact of Skating Speed and Style with Tracking Data”
- 3:00pm – 3:30pm: Guanyu Hu, The University of Texas
“What Influences the Field Goal Attempts of Professional Players?”

Lecture Hall D - Methodological Advances in Sports Analytics

- 2:00pm – 2:30pm: Ronald Yurko, Carnegie Mellon University
“College Football Volatility: A Bayesian State-Space Model of the Transfer Portal and NIL Impact”
- 2:30pm – 3:00pm: Guoqing Diao, George Washington University
“Fast Algorithm for Calculating Probability of Chess Winning Streaks”
- 3:00pm – 3:30pm: Marcos Matabuena, Harvard University
“Digital Health in Sport Science”

Poster Session: Foyer area

3:30pm – 5:00pm: With snacks and beverages

Panel Discussion: Lecture Hall C

5:00pm – 6:30pm: *“Inside the Game: How Sports Analytics Companies Are Changing the Playbook”*

Moderator: Keith Willoughby – Edwards School of Business, University of Saskatchewan

Panelist: Meghan Chayka – Stathletes

Panelist: Rob Sawyer – Big League Advantage

Panelist: Doug Fearing – Teamworks

Post-NESSIS Get-Together

6:30pm – 9:30pm: Tasty Burger, Harvard Square
40 JFK Street, Cambridge, MA 02138
(on the corner of JFK St. and Mt. Auburn St.)
<https://www.tastyburger.com/>

Please head downstairs after entering the restaurant.
Food provided; Cash bar only.