

# 2017 New England Symposium on Statistics in Sports

## Tentative Schedule (as of July 25, 2017)

### Breakfast and Registration: Foyer area

---

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

### Welcome Address

---

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

### Morning Session: Lecture Hall C - Featured talks

---

- 9:30am – 10:00am: David Firth, University of Warwick and the Alan Turing Institute  
*“Fair standings in soccer and other round-robin leagues”*
- 10:00am – 10:30am: Stephanie Kovalchik, Tennis Australia  
*“A shot taxonomy in the era of tracking data in professional tennis”*
- 10:30am – 11:00am: Michael Lopez, Skidmore College; Benjamin Baumer, Smith College  
*“How often does the best team win?”*  
*A unified approach to understanding randomness in North American sport”*

### 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 - Topics in basketball analytics

- 11:30am – 12:00pm: Konstantinos Pelechrinis, University of Pittsburgh  
*“LinNet: Probabilistic lineup evaluation through network embedding”*
- 12:00pm – 12:30pm: Grace Dickman, Macalester College  
*“No ‘I’ in Team: A network analysis of Division I men’s basketball offenses”*
- 12:30pm – 1:00pm: Suraj Keshri, Columbia University  
*“Automatic event detection in basketball games”*

#### Lecture Hall D - Topics in football analytics

- 11:30am – 12:00pm: Harold Sackrowitz, Rutgers University  
*“Strategy implications of the NFL’s PAT rule”*
- 12:00pm – 12:30pm: Ronen Yakubov, Craig Fernandez, Amrit Prasad, Yu Li, University of Toronto  
*“Utilizing analytics to reduce NFL offensive play type predictions to a mental checklist”*
- 12:30pm – 1:00pm: Ronald Yurko, Carnegie Mellon University  
*“NFLWAR: A reproducible method for offensive player evaluation in football”*

## **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 - Advances in player tracking/location analysis**

2:00pm – 2:30pm: Nathan Sandholtz, Simon Fraser University

*“Replaying the NBA: Using Markov Decision Processes to test decision-making from the 2015-2016 regular season”*

2:30pm – 3:00pm: Devin Pleuler, Toronto Football Club

*“Opposition analysis: Methods for forecasting style of play in soccer”*

3:00pm – 3:30pm: Karl Pazdernik, North Carolina State University

*“Player tracking in American football: Spatio-temporal modeling of defensive players’ intent”*

### **Lecture Hall D - Novel applications in sports analytics**

2:00pm – 2:30pm: Brian Macdonald, Florida Panthers

*“Using data analysis to predict attendance for NHL regular season games”*

2:30pm – 3:00pm: Kyle Burris, Duke University

*“Out of gas: Quantifying fatigue in MLB relievers”*

3:00pm – 3:30pm: Martin Ingram, Silverpond

*“A point-based Bayesian hierarchical model to predict the outcome of tennis matches”*

## **Poster Session: Foyer area**

---

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

## **Panel Discussion: Lecture Hall C**

---

5:00pm – 6:30pm: *“Past, present and future of analytics in the NFL”*

Moderator: Aaron Schatz – Football Outsiders

Panelist: Dennis Lock – Miami Dolphins

Panelist: Karim Kassam – Pittsburgh Steelers

Panelist: Sandy Weil – Los Angeles Rams

## **Post-NESSIS Get-Together**

---

7:00pm – 9:00pm: TBA