

Dr. Manfred Weinberg - a man with backbone

Offenbach is considered a red leather town - that is meant politically. Where there is leather, there is soccer - here it is the Kickers Offenbach. Founded in 1901, the Offenbach footballers kicked their way into the hearts of their fans. At the beginning of the 1930s, the club's board of directors includes lawyer Dr. Manfred Weinberg; he is very close to the SPD and, as a Jew, he recognizes the signs of the times: the National Socialists are like an octopus; they also try to infiltrate clubs and turn sporting events into election events. On July 31, 1932, Reichstag elections are to be held again. Hitler has not yet reached his goal.

On June 16, 1932, Dr. Manfred Weinberg can prevent Adolf Hitler from speaking in the Kickers' stadium on the Bieberer Berg at the last minute - the future leader has to move to another soccer field in the city - what an embarrassment! But the revenge of the National Socialists is certain for the lawyer: in the elections of 1932 and 1933, the NSDAP becomes the strongest party, but without a clear majority. Reich Chancellor Franz von Papen resigns and asks Reich President Paul von Hindenburg to appoint him a dictator. Both try to establish a government together with the NSDAP, but without Hitler. This attempt fails. On January 30, 1933, Hindenburg appoints Adolf Hitler as Reich Chancellor.

In July 1932, 200 members leave the soccer club in protest against the Jewish lawyer.



Official matter from 1929 to the lawyer Manfred Weinberg in Offenbach

In a general meeting, Dr. Weinberg is now asked to resign; he does so, the Offenbacher Nachrichten reports: "The Kickers are free of Jewish influence - congratulations!" Weinberg is forced, together with the merchant Oppenheimer, to remove communist slogans in the city with toothbrushes. He is temporarily placed in "protective custody" in the Osthofen concentration camp, and in May 1933 he is banned from working. He emigrates into exile to France and Africa. After the war, Weinberg returned to Germany as early as 1946; he was to set up the Mainz employment office.

In 2006, the Kickers' board of directors laid a stumbling block in front of the Kickers' stadium in Offenbach in his memory.

Further reading: Wikipedia - https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kickers_Offenbach [visited Nov. 19, 2021].