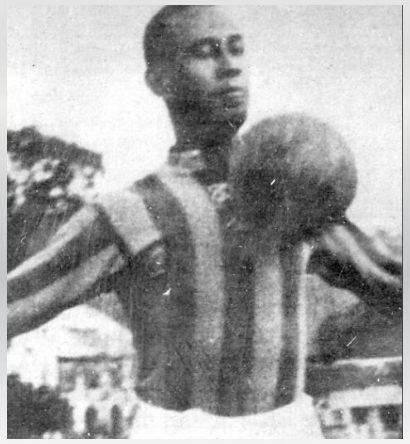
First Citizens Sports Foundation

HALL OF FAME



Allan Joseph

Football

Inducted in 1985

Hailing from the famous Joseph football family that produced six children who all possessed ball skill, Allan Joseph took his place in the national team's midfield. As the eldest, Allan paved the way with solid performances at first-class level in Trinidad and Tobago's domestic competitions before cementing his place in one of the most beloved incarnations of the national squad, 'the Family XI' of the late 1940s and early 50s.

As a St. Mary's College pupil, Joseph's natural trajectory into senior football would be the Woodbrook club Maple, formed in 1917 by ex-St. Mary's players as well as Queen's Royal College (QRC) players. By 1943 he was a fixture in the starting team and began to assert himself with his attacking abilities, scoring 8 goals for the season and displaying ample leadership qualities. The following year saw the resumption of inter-colonial football with supporting matches between clubs and islands.

When Maple lined up against Barbados in October of that year, Joseph scored in their 3-2 win.

By 1948 the Trinidad and Tobago team were molded into an in-synch squad, packed with talented players that fed off each other, and it showed in their results. Winning the inter-colonial tournament the previous year, they welcomed Haiti and won 4-0, with Joseph's center half role providing the engine room for the forward plays and his penchant for heading the ball, helping his defenders. This was the 'Family XI' in full flight, touring the Caribbean and winning in Jamaica, Curaçao and Aruba.

Domestically, Maple was also now a finished product, with the experienced Joseph installed as captain. In 1950 they won the First Division title, then won it for the next three seasons, equaling the four-in-a-row title run of Shamrock in 1922-1925 and stretching Maple's overall titles to six. Allan's brother, Sedley, would equal the feat in 1960-63.

In that final title winning year Joseph boarded the SS Golfito in June 1953 as part of the first Trinidad and Tobago team to tour the United Kingdom. It was an unprecedented outing – the national team's first exposure of international football outside of the Caribbean region. It was the first step towards the highs such as the team's bronze medal at the 1967 Pan Am Games, and qualification for the 2006 World Cup.

Joseph performed well in midfield as the team secured 5 wins and 3 draws in their 14 games. Joseph returned to his local club for a couple more seasons before taking the role of Secretary for the Trinidad Football Association in 1959. The center-half heartbeat of Trinidad and

Tobago and Maple teams for many years, Allan Joseph was inducted into the Trinidad and Tobago Sports Hall of Fame in 1985.