

## THE FOOTBALL JIG

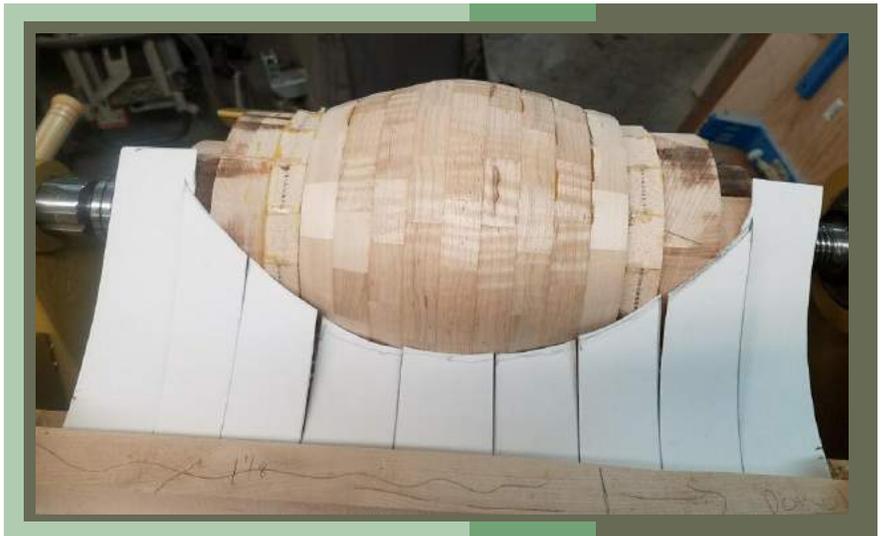
A football jig is not a victory dance in the end zone after a touchdown. It is a jig designed to help turn a football shape on a lathe. In this story, the lathe was a 3250B Powermatic lathe with a holder for spindle copying. The holder allows a completed piece to be held between auxiliary centers, just behind the lathe bed, to allow the turner to see an example of the spindle they are trying to duplicate. The idea for the football jig was to create a way to visually check that the football being turned on the lathe was the correct shape and size of an actual football.

First, an outline was made on cardboard that matched the outline of one-half of an actual football.



Second, measurements from the cardboard jig were used to build a glued up football from circles cut from  $\frac{3}{4}$ " maple boards. The maple boards were cut into circles that approximated the diameter of the football at each segment and then stacked together and glued up to approximate the football shape and size.

Third, the cardboard jig was re-cut into approximately one-inch wide slices. Those cardboard slices were mounted by their base to a spindle that could be placed between centers in the Powermatic holder



for spindle copying. The cardboard jig slices were lined up side-to-side on the auxiliary spindle so that the edge of the football jig (the first and last slice of the jig) matched the centerline of the lathe.

Fourth, the rough football piece was then mounted between centers for turning on the lathe and the cardboard cut out pieces from the jig were laid on top of the rough football piece. The jig slices stay in place because the upward spin of the piece on the lathe keeps them from falling down with gravity.



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Fifth, the football was turned to shape until the slices from the jig fell through and no longer rested on the turned piece; thus, indicating the turned piece was the correct size and shape for that segment.

Finally, the football piece was considered complete for shape and size and the process of adding beading and dye was started. The finished beaded football was entered into the Totally Turning Showcase at Saratoga Springs.

The idea of this type of cardboard jig mounted on the lathe to match a design shape and size has many applications beyond footballs as it could help a turner with other complex shapes when working from a specific design.

*The beaded football with the S logo is the combined artistry of Jim and Shelly Kent.*

*Photos & Story Submitted by Jim Kent and Chad Dawson*



**NEW LOGO NEEDED**

**W**e are nearing the end of our organizational change that will result in a new corporation. With that, we need to develop a new logo—we cannot use the old one. We have over 100 talented members who can help! What represents the Woodworkers of Central New York to you? We are not asking you to draw it but if you can, great!

When do we need your ideas? ASAP!

Send to [Barbara Raymond-LaPrease](#) for now via email or hand to her at a meeting.

Thanks!

**IDEAS FOR COLLABORATIVE ENTRY NEEDED**

**L**ast year the club entered a wire tree covered with turned ornaments in the New York State Fair Arts & Crafts Collaborative Competition. We are looking for ideas for our 2019 entry. Got Ideas? Send to [Barbara Raymond-LaPrease](#) for now via email or hand to her at a meeting. We are also looking for someone to coordinate the entry.

Thanks!

**PLEASE HELP!**