



BOUNCINGS



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24 May 15

**2014 PSLC
Over 40
CHAMPIONS**

FC Kosova	2	National Soccer League 1st Division
Stare Byki	0	Hawthorne 17 May 2015

Things break down late

The Byki appeared to be headed for a share of the spoils last Sunday as they battled FC Kosova at Hawthorne. The match was goalless, with both sides failing to capitalize on the few breakthroughs created in the contest. A Byki turnover in their end of the field with three minutes to go proved decisive and Kosova converted it into an easy score. A second strike just before the final whistle sealed the fate of the Byki, pointless after two matches in the new season.

"I don't have a lot of complaints about the way we played," said coach George Gorecki afterwards. "We moved the ball pretty nicely and put together some good plays in the second half. We were undone by a late error in the back, but we can build off of this performance."

The starting lineup saw the return of Miles Marmo and Joe Sauerman, and both made significant contributions. Sauerman started the match as a holding midfielder and then moved up to a more attacking position after the break and had a very positive influence on the Byki offense.

Another returnee from 2014 was centerback Gil Calleros. The back four of KC Gronke, Juan Rodriguez, Victor Salazar and Calleros that saw so much success last season were finally reunited and did quite well in keeping the Kosova attack in check.

The Byki nearly nicked an early goal in the sixth minute. Calleros played a long ball from midfield up the left wing and Mclain Roth gave chase. The Kosova defender managed to get there first and sent a pass back to his keeper. The hustling Roth intercepted and centered for Marmo, whose flick inside the goal area surprised the goalie. He made a nifty reflex save to deny Marmo.

Kosova replied seven minutes later, and a passing sequence in the Byki area seemed to have everyone beaten. Winger Mike Stamatinos saved the day when he cleared a shot off the line.

Moments later, Kosova beat the Byki offside trap and goalkeeper Ben Beard came out quickly and blocked the shot with a foot save.

In order to give Marmo more help up front, the Byki

switched their formation to 4-4-2 at halftime, moving Roth to a more advanced position. The change paid immediate dividends. In the 50th minute, Sauerman's through pass released Marmo into the clear and his powerful shot whizzed just over the bar.

Just after the hour mark, Stamatinos launched a free kick from the left wing and his cross found Sauerman alone at the far post. The midfielder drove a sweet volley on target and the keeper was in good position to block Sauerman's attempt.

Kosova dodged those bullets and began to turn the tide in the final 20 minutes of the match. A shot from the left side of the Byki penalty area ticked off the far post in the 72nd minute. Five minutes later, a clever through pass unglued the Byki defense, leaving Beard 1 v 1 with a Kosova striker. Beard came fast to force the issue and the striker shot poorly.

Disaster struck for the Byki when they gained possession deep in their end of the field. Roth and Alexander Keto got in each other's way a little bit and a Kosova player swooped in to steal. He centered to an open teammate, who first-timed his shot past Beard. Kosova put the result to bed in the final minute when they caught the Byki shorthanded on the break, as the Byki fought hard to craft an equalizer.

BYKI LINEUP (4-2-3-1): Beard –Gronke, J. Rodriguez, Calleros, Salazar – Champagne, Sauerman – Stamatinos (c), Keto, Roth – Marmo. **Bench:** Kone, C. Rodriguez, Mehagic, Pineda.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY
None.

Byki Men of the Match: Ben Beard and Joe Sauerman

Chicago Fire Outing
SATURDAY, JUNE 6
Fire v Orlando City at 7.30 PM
Tickets: \$30
<http://starebykifc.org/outing.html>



WE ARE THE BYKI - Friends - Passion - Soccer



MOFG	1	Premier Soccer League Over 40 B1 Division
Byki O-40	0	Countryside Park 17 May 2015

Old nemesis stings Byki

The Over 40 Team have amassed some nice hardware since the team's outdoor debut in 2009. They have consistently been one of the Over 40 Division's contending teams. But don't tell that to MOFG, who beat the Byki yet again last Sunday. They scored the game's only goal in garbage fashion in the fifth minute and held on in the face of a Byki offensive onslaught that did everything right but score.

Despite the long-term success of the Over 40s, MOFG have constantly been a thorn in their side. Sunday's win ended the Byki 15-game unbeaten streak. Guess who was the last team to beat the Byki? Yes, it was MOFG, winning 1:0 last June 22. In fact, the last time the Byki beat MOFG was on June 27, 2010. The Byki have earned just one point in the subsequent six matches versus MOFG.

The hex continued last Sunday on the bumpy, soaked pitch at Countryside Park. MOFG scored the only goal they would need following a fifth-minute corner kick. The poorly taken corner came in along the ground at the near post. Charlie Cohen flailed away trying to clear the ball and then mayhem ensued. With the ball lost in a tangle of legs, it somehow squeezed over the goal line for a 1:0 MOFG lead.

The Byki took control the rest of the way, dominating possession, as well as the number and quality of scoring chances. They simply could not find a path to lead to the back of the net.

Midway through the first half, Mitch Posada sent a long pass into the right-wing channel for Diego Penafiel. The midfielder took the ball to the byline and delivered an inch-perfect cross to Miguel Zarate at the far post. Zarate's attempt hit the side netting.

In the 30th minute, Andy Lane fed Nick Elmkinssi, who fired an off-balance shot from 25 yards. The looping ball nearly beat the keeper, who made a nifty leap at the last moment to tip the ball to safety.

A great opportunity went begging just after the break. Zarate played a splendid through ball for Posada. A defender tried to shield the ball away from Posada, hoping it would roll harmlessly over the line for a goal kick. Posada had other ideas, hustled to keep the ball in play, and dropped it back for Penafiel at the top the arc. The MOFG goalie dove full stretch to deny Penafiel.

The keeper was busy in the 62nd minute when he punched a Byki corner kick high in the air. The ball ricocheted lightly off the crossbar and into his waiting hands. Four minutes later, he slapped away a shot from Ade Ekundayo.

The Byki got no favors from the referee, who ignored two potential penalty kick situations late in the game. Posada was knocked down as he weaved his way through the box

and the referee waved play to go on. A few minutes later, a MOFG player appeared to handle the ball inside his area and the referee claimed he didn't see what happened.

The Byki will surely recover from this hiccup, given the quality of their play so far this season. Time to build a new winning streak.

BYKI LINEUP (4-2-3-1): Calbay – Towsey, Cohen, Fink, Safford – Lane, Penafiel – G. Rodriguez, Zarate, Ekundayo (c) – Posada. **Bench:** Elmkinssi, Fukar, Jacobs, Karafili, Muehlbauer.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

None.

Byki Man of the Match: Diego Penafiel

Concordia	5	Premier Soccer League Over 48 Division
Byki O-48	0	Hawthorne 19 May 2015

Oldest Byki have some work ahead

The Byki ushered in a new era last Tuesday when the Over 48 Team made their debut at Hawthorne Sports Complex in Cicero versus HNK Concordia. The powerful Concordia side won handily 5:0, but the real story was the formation of a new Byki team for the most veteran of Byki players.

The PSLC had tried to launch the Over 48 Division last

Byki Stats

FIRST TEAM, NSL 1ST DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Kone	1	0	1
Keto	0	1	1

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Beard	90	4	4.00

Current record: 0-0-1

O-30 TEAM, PSLC O-30 DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Boeckeler	1	0	1
Kekus	2	1	3
Benavides	1	1	2
Gibbs	0	1	1

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Najera	65	1	1.38
Marquez	115	2	1.57

Current record: 1-1-0

O-40 TEAM, PSLC O-40 DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Penafiel	2	0	2
Karafili	1	0	1
Pedlow	1	0	1
Posada	1	0	1
Tower	1	0	1
Huck	0	1	1
Rodriguez, G	0	1	1
Safford	0	1	1

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Vlahakis	180	1	0.50

Current record: 1-0-0

O-48 TEAM, PSLC O-48 DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
No goals yet!	0	0	0

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Bolesta	90	5	5.00

Current record: 0-0-1

season, but could not gather enough teams. The Byki were on board even then, having begun the process of forming a potential player pool in late 2013. A five-team league isn't the ideal set-up, but every league has to start somewhere. And as younger soccer players age, the Over 48 Division will obviously be their future.

Club President George Gorecki had been contemplating a new team for the oldest generation of players for some time. "I anticipated that the Over 40 Team would not fulfill the needs of our older guys," he noted. "Some players had dropped out of the Over 40 Team as younger and talented players came on board. Everybody obviously wants to play and I could see that the potential existed to make a new team. The Over 30s and 40s grew organically in this way; the formation of the Over 48 Team was inevitable."

The Byki got a strong response from current players eligible for Over 48, as well as inquiries from players playing with other clubs at the Over 40 level. Those clubs weren't able to take the next step in the oldboy circuit, so the Byki realized an influx of new talent. Add in the players coming back from dormancy and a PSLC rule allowing a limited number of players in the 45-48 age range, and the Byki roster stands at a healthy 20-plus players. A few current Over 40 players will be turning 48 later this year, so the talent pipeline is in place.

On Tuesday, the Byki dressed 16 players and were raring to go. Their enthusiasm, however, hit a brick wall shortly after the opening whistle. Concordia boast a wealth of soccer talent; several of their players played professionally in their younger days. Their level of class was evident from the get-go. The Byki introduced eight new players into their lineup. Trying to learn the names of new teammates while facing the Concordia tidal wave is no way to start the season.

Concordia bagged two goals in the first 13 minutes of the match and established firm control. Player-coaches Rick Bolesta and Jim Jacobs arranged their squad in a 4-4-2 to start and the Byki were treading water immediately. The team switched to a 4-2-3-1 to get another player in the midfield, a move that settled Byki nerves.

It was certainly a relief to Bolesta, who stepped in as emergency keeper. Facing a juggernaut like Concordia was not a good way to resume his outdoor career. The last time that Bolesta played goalkeeper outdoors was 2001 when he

was playing Over 30. To his credit, Bolesta did not shy away from his responsibility and made several critical interventions on open shots.

Once the Byki settled things down, they tried to organize things in order to get forward more. Centerback Dean Fukar kept urging his teammates to push forward after winning possession, and not sit back to absorb more Concordia pressure.

The best chance for the Byki in the first half came just after the half hour. Concordia made a sloppy pass in their back third and midfielder Boris Vukovic won control. He took aim from just outside the box and missed narrowly wide.

The Byki regrouped at halftime and sought to play simple passes and build an attack. In the first half, they spent too much time being fancy, or taking too many touches and dribbling into turnovers.

Concordia, however, had other things in mind and came out roaring after the break. A midfielder romped his way past three Byki and looked set to score. His well-placed shot ticked off the post.

Concordia scored two goals a minute apart and raised the lead to a comfortable 4:0. They added a fifth tally midway through the second half.

Cesar Ochoa nearly made his Byki debut quite memorable in the 73rd minute when he brought down a cross from the right flank with his chest and blasted a volley from 15 yards that left the Concordia keeper rooted. Ochoa's attempt missed the post by inches.

The Byki kept plugging away, however, and demonstrated much better ball possession and awareness. They went from being headless chickens in the first half to a team that knew what they were doing in the second half. The passing connections between teammates were not always there, but this will undoubtedly improve once players become familiar with one another.

BYKI LINEUP (4-4-2): Bolesta – Fink, Kerbis, Fukar, Safford (c) – Thompson, Jacobs, Gorski, Huck – Demarets, Muehlbauer. **Bench:** Calbay, Dahlquist, Farhan, Ochoa, Vukovic.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

None.

Byki Man of the Match: Dean Fukar

NSL FIRST DIVISION**May 17, 2015****www.nslchicago.org**

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
FC Kosova	2	2	0	0	6	1	6
Das Magic	2	1	1	0	6	3	4
Chicago Dynasty FC	2	1	1	0	5	2	4
West Indies Jets	2	1	0	1	3	4	3
Stare Byki FC	2	0	0	2	1	6	0
Olympiacos Chicago	2	0	0	2	0	5	0

Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Assyrian FC	1	1	0	0	6	1	3
FC Macedonia	2	1	0	1	6	4	3
Gremio FC	2	1	0	1	4	8	3
Lancer SC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FC Guadalajara	1	0	0	1	1	4	0

PSLC OVER 40 B1/B2 DIVISION**May 17, 2015****www.pslchicagoland.com**

B1 DIVISION	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Stare Byki FC	3	2	0	1	6	2	6
International SC	3	1	2	0	5	2	5
Windy City United	3	1	1	1	5	6	4
MOFG	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Pampas OT	3	1	0	2	4	8	3
Naperville Strikers FC	2	0	1	1	1	3	1

B2 DIVISION	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
St Charles Celtics Green	3	2	1	0	10	2	7
MANA SC	3	2	0	1	10	7	6
Chicago FC	3	1	1	1	7	7	4
Itasca	2	1	0	1	7	5	3
Real FC	2	1	0	1	6	7	3
St Charles Celtics Orange	3	0	0	3	1	13	0

PSLC OVER 30 WHITE DIVISION**May 17, 2015****www.pslchicagoland.com**

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
St Charles Celtics	3	2	1	0	6	4	7
FC DePaul	3	2	0	1	9	5	6
Levski Chicago 2014	3	1	1	1	14	7	4
Stare Byki FC	2	1	1	0	4	3	4
AEK SKOMOR FC	1	1	0	0	4	3	3
Olympiacos Chicago	3	1	0	2	6	5	3
Real FC	2	1	0	1	5	6	3
Chicago Rangers FC	2	0	1	1	2	5	1
Shogun	3	0	0	3	5	17	0

PSLC OVER 48 DIVISION**May 19, 2015****www.pslchicagoland.com**

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
HNK Concordia	1	1	0	0	5	0	3
Sofia BG	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
International SC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
St Charles Celtics	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
Stare Byki FC	1	0	0	1	0	5	0