



# BOUNCINGS



www.starebykifc.org

12 July 15

**2014 PSLC  
Over 40  
CHAMPIONS**

Stare Byki	<b>3</b>	National Soccer League 1st Division
Lancer SC	<b>3</b>	Oak Brook 28 June 2015

## Fatigued Byki can't hang on

The Byki were well on their way to their fourth straight victory of the season on June 28 when striker Nanmin Kone bagged a pair of goals three minutes apart to give his side a 3:1 lead over Lancer SC. That should have been enough, and the Byki should have found a way to close things out. But the Lancers responded quickly to pull within 3:2, and then scored a dramatic equalizer in the 89th minute. Both teams left Oak Brook with a point in hand, and likely with very different feelings about the outcome of the match.

The Byki fielded just 12 players on Sunday, a situation made worse when their lone substitute, KC Gronke, had to withdraw at halftime. The match was Gronke's first action since May 17, when he pulled a quadriceps muscle. Gronke aggravated the injury in the first half and was unable to continue.

"Our team was a genuine group of warriors today," proclaimed coach George Gorecki. "We faced off against a very tough opponent, endured injuries and players no-showing, and yet we scored three terrific goals, and should have had three more. We were running out of gas at the end and I could not expect the players to do more. We played well enough to win, but we can be happy to take a point away from this match."

With several players arriving just moments before kickoff, the Byki scrambled to get themselves organized. The Lancers nearly took advantage of the confusion when an open header in the second minute glanced off of Alan Stevens' right post.

The Byki created a great opportunity four minutes later. Fullback Alen Mehagic cleared the ball to midfield and Kone sprinted into the open space. He fought off a shirt-tug by the last defender as he ran into the box, sending a far-post attempt barely wide.

The Byki unlocked the Lancer defense in the 14th minute. Cristian Rodriguez released Jordan Stopka on the right flank with a super pass. Stopka took the ball deep and launched a cross towards the far post. Kone crushed a powerful header, sending the keeper sprawling, and Rodriguez got his foot to the loose ball to poke it home for a 1:0 lead.

The Byki went on an attacking barrage for the next several minutes. Stopka found space behind the Lancer defense in the 21st minute and Brendan Flynn supplied an exquisite through pass that found Stopka in full stride. Stopka's blast went directly at the goalie.

Moments later, Kone beat the offside trap near midfield, chasing down a long ball. He beat every defender and the goalkeeper, but was unable to beat the goalpost.

In the 24th minute, Gronke received a throw-in inside the Lancer area, finding a shot from 15 yards. The keeper dove to make the block and then recovered to snuff Kone's rebound attempt.

The Lancers came close to squaring things in the 33rd minute. The Byki marked poorly on a corner kick, leaving a Lancer player with another open header. Stevens came up with a game-changing save to keep the Byki in the lead.

At halftime, the Byki switched to a 4-2-3-1 formation to help combat the marauding Lancer midfielders, who were controlling too much space in the middle third of the field. Gorecki also wanted his players to be more economical with their physical effort, given the warm conditions and lack of substitutes.

The Lancers came out of halftime ready to play and needed only five minutes to level the affair. Stevens made two incredible stops on shots from inside the six-yard box in the 48th minute. He was powerless to stop the Lancers two minutes later, as they stretched the Byki defense on a counterattack, eventually punching the ball home from close range.

Momentum came back to the Byki in decisive fashion in the 57th minute. Centerback Juan Rodriguez threaded a pass from the Byki half of the field for Kone, who raced past the helpless Lancer defenders. The keeper came out to intervene, but Kone was cool as a cucumber and slid the ball home for his fourth goal of the season.

Kone was in the right spot just three minutes later. Stopka cleared the ball downfield towards the Lancer penalty area. The keeper came out for the ball, but arrived too late to catch it on the fly. The ball bounced high and the hustling Kone read the play perfectly, launching a soft header over the stranded goalie for a 3:1 lead.

The Lancers stayed in the game with a crucial strike in the 62nd minute. A Lancer player in the box dropped the ball back for a teammate, who fired a bullet past Stevens.

It was now up to the Byki to see things out. They did a good job of holding the defense together and sent the



**WE ARE THE BYKI - Friends - Passion - Soccer**



occasional raid on the Lancer goal. In the 86th minute, they had a golden opportunity to put the game to bed. Stopka sent a long pass for Kone at midfield, sparking another breakaway. The goalkeeper thwarted Kone's bid for a hat trick with a magnificent reflex save.

The Lancers had one trick left up their sleeve. The Byki left a man open at the top of the box, and the Lancer player fired a strong shot on goal. Stevens got a hand to the ball, but it found its way to the back of the net to make it 3:3.

Stevens took responsibility for the mishap, but his teammates were having none of it. "Alan kept us in the game with several excellent saves," said Gorecki afterwards "There was enough blame to go around to everyone for not putting that game away."

**BYKI LINEUP (4-4-2):** Stevens – Mehagic, J. Rodriguez (c), Salazar, Zachariah – Selva, Stopka, De Rama, Flynn – Kone, C. Rodriguez.  
**Bench:** Gronke.

**BYKI SCORING SUMMARY**

1:0 – C. Rodriguez 1; 14th.  
2:1 – Kone 4 (J. Rodriguez); 57th.  
3:1 – Kone 5 (Stopka); 60th.

**Byki Man of the Match:** Nanmin Kone and Jorge Selva

AEK Chicago	4	Premier Soccer League Over 30 White Division
Byki O-30	1	Lawler Park 28 June 2015

## Byki can't keep pace with AEK

The Over 30 Team dropped their second decision of the season on June 28, a 4:1 defeat to AEK Chicago in the tall grass at Lawler Park. The roster was light on players, with only 12 available, thanks to people taking vacations and the 12.00 noon kickoff time. Paul King had the unenviable task of filling in as the emergency goalkeeper.

The Byki played well in the first half hour, controlling the ball, pressuring AEK into mistakes, and having the lion's share of the chances. The Byki won several corners and had a few close calls on headers or balls bouncing around in the box, but were just unable to put anything home.

Early on, Ryan Russ swooped in from the right side of the penalty area and fired a shot off the cross bar. Chris Hurley was on the end of another early chance, sprinting into the middle to drill a first-time volley from an inswinging cross from the right wing. His attempt was off the mark and slowed to a trickle in the think grass.

The home team broke out on top in the 30th minute. AEK won a free kick from just outside the box to the right of center. A well-placed shot with pace was headed to the top right corner and King made a valiant effort, getting his hand on the ball and knocking it off the post. The ball managed to trickle just over the line. "Paul did a fantastic job the whole game," said Hurley afterwards. "He made several big saves,

a few punches on clearances, etc. He was unlucky on their first goal; it was an unbelievable effort for a non-keeper."

AEK doubled their lead just before halftime. An AEK striker settled a cross from the right and shot point-blank from 12 yards. King made a great save, but the Byki were late getting back and another AEK player put home the rebound easily.

The Byki fumbled their way to a 3:0 deficit in the 55th minute when sloppiness in the midfield sprang an AEK player on a breakaway chance. He maneuvered past King to knock the ball home.

Ten minutes later, the Byki finally got on the board. Hurley received the ball on the left flank and beat his man down the line, dribbling into the box. He cut back near the end line and was taken down, prompting the referee to point to the spot. Maciek Kekus stepped up and confidently delivered the penalty kick into the lower left corner.

AEK put the result to bed in the 75th minute, catching the Byki slow in retreat on the counterattack once again. King made the initial stop on a shot from 15 yards, but nobody was home to clear the rebound and AEK converted another easy one.

"The second half was tough with only one sub on a relatively warm and humid day," said Hurley, assessing the difficult conditions. "Each time someone went off for a break, the next player was asking for a sub, leaving the Byki tired, especially in the midfield. Had a few of the early chances been converted, it likely would have been a very different game."

*Chris Hurley contributed to this report.*

**BYKI LINEUP (4-5-1):** King – Marquez, Lane, Elshafie, Fleming – Hurley (c), Boeckeler, Pinkham, Ekundayo, Russ – Kekus. **Bench:** Banbor.

**BYKI SCORING SUMMARY**

1:3 – Kekus 3 (pk); 65th.

**Byki Men of the Match:** Mohanad Elshafie and Paul King.

Sofia BG	9	Premier Soccer League Over 48 Division
Byki O-48	0	Burden Field 28 June 2015

## Crash landing for Byki

A depleted Byki squad was doomed from the start and Sofia BG took full advantage, administering a systematic 9:0 pounding of the Over 48 Team on June 28. The Bulgarians got revenge on the Byki, who had beaten them 3:2 in May.

The Sunday schedule proved problematic once again for the Byki. With several players still playing Over 40 with other teams, the player pool thinned out quickly. Even with the Byki Over 40s idle, the Over 48s started the match with just nine players. Mariusz Gorski arrived just before halftime, fresh from his Over 40 match, keen to demonstrate that age is only a number.

The Byki did well to hold their own during the first half and were able to create a number of solid chances. Sofia took advantage of the two extra players by moving the ball from wing to wing then sending the ball into the box after having created open space.

Sofia opened the scoring when defender Charlie Cohen was shouldered into an off-balance position as he was trying to clear the ball out of the Byki penalty area.

Cohen had tried to dart in to clear a pass that had split the defense. A Sofia player bumped Cohen, whose clearance rocketed past goalkeeper Rick Bolesta. It turned out to be the one of the best shots of the game.

As the first half wore on, the two-man advantage provided Sofia with numerous breakaways, and lots of unmarked players in front of the Byki goal. Bolesta saved several of the breakaways and close-in shots. He bravely took care of balls over the top by coming aggressively out of his area.

Sofia made it 2:0 midway through the first half on a rocket shot from their best striker, open in the middle of the box. They added two more to their total before the break on situations where the Byki were simply outnumbered.

Gorski's arrival could not have come at a better time. Within a minute, the Byki came on the break. Winger Jim Jacobs took the ball down the right side, bearing down on the

Sofia keeper. He came out quickly, sliding in to block Jacobs's shot. He spilled the rebound, however, and a trailing Gorski was in the right spot to knock the ball home, but somehow missed the target. "Mariusz had a wide open goal, with the keeper on the ground," noted Bolesta afterwards. "And like a teenager on his first prom night, he overshot the goal."

Fatigue set in during the second half and all that was left was to count up the final tally for Sofia. Three of the goals were 1 v 1 situations with Bolesta the only Byki player in place to defend.

Bolesta's post-game assessment was one of resignation. "Overall, we showed some very good teamwork, but need to do a much better job of controlling the ball. We had too many unforced turnovers. Being two men down and no subs did not give us much chance."

*Rick Bolesta and Jim Jacobs contributed to this report.*

**BYKI LINEUP:** Bolesta – Carrillo, Cohen, Dahlquist, Fink, Gorski, Jacobs (c), Muehlbauer, Ochoa, Thompson.

**BYKI SCORING SUMMARY**  
None.

**Byki Man of the Match:** None given.

# Byki Stats

FIRST TEAM, NSL 1ST DIVISION				O-30 TEAM, PSLC O-30 DIVISION				O-40 TEAM, PSLC O-40 DIVISION				O-48 TEAM, PSLC O-48 DIVISION			
Player	G	A	Pts	Player	G	A	Pts	Player	G	A	Pts	Player	G	A	Pts
Kone	5	1	6	Kekus	3	2	5	Penafiel	3	1	4	Carrillo	1	2	3
Marmo	2	1	3	Banbor	2	2	4	Posada	2	0	2	Elmkinssi	1	0	1
Flynn	1	1	2	Buur	2	1	3	Karafili	1	0	1	Gorski	1	0	1
Keto	1	1	2	Chudyba	2	1	3	Lane	1	0	1	Jacobs	1	0	1
Rodriguez, C	1	0	1	Pinkham	2	1	3	Pedlow	1	0	1	Ochoa	1	0	1
Stamatinos	1	0	1	Ciszewski	1	2	3	Tower	1	0	1	Demarets	0	1	1
Zachariah	1	0	1	Benavides	1	1	2	Huck	0	1	1	Team goals	1	x	x
Calleros	0	1	1	Boeckeler	1	0	1	Rodriguez, G	0	1	1	<hr/>			
Rodriguez, J	0	1	1	Herholdt	1	0	1	Safford	0	1	1	<b>Goalie</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>GAA</b>
Roth	0	1	1	Gibbs	0	1	1	Team goals	1	x	x	Calbay	45	1	2.00
Sabo	0	1	1	Hurley	0	1	1	<hr/>			Muehlbauer	45	1	2.00	
Stopka	0	1	1	<hr/>			<b>Goalie</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>GAA</b>	Bolesta	360	17	4.25	
Team goals	3	x	x	Stevens	90	1	1.00	Muehlbauer	23	0	0.00	Current record: 2-0-3			
<hr/>			Najera	65	1	1.38	Vlahakis	360	5	1.25					
<b>Goalie</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>GAA</b>	Marquez	115	2	1.57	Calbay	67	1	1.34				
Stevens	270	3	1.00	King	120	5	3.75	Current record: 3-0-2							
Beard	180	6	3.00	Raidt	60	4	6.00								
Current record: 3-1-2			Current record: 2-1-2												

**NSL FIRST DIVISION****June 28, 2015****www.nslchicago.org**

<b>Red Section</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>Pts</b>
FC Kosova	6	4	0	2	12	6	12
Das Magic	6	3	1	2	19	13	10
<b>Stare Byki FC</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
Chicago Dynasty FC	5	1	1	3	8	9	4
West Indies Jets	5	1	1	3	7	12	4
Olympiacos Chicago	5	1	0	4	9	15	3

<b>Blue Section</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>Pts</b>
FC Guadalajara	6	5	0	1	17	11	15
FC Macedonia	7	3	1	3	17	16	10
Assyrian FC	4	3	0	1	13	8	9
Gremio FC	6	2	0	4	13	27	6
Lancer SC	4	1	1	2	11	15	4

**PSLC OVER 40 B1/B2 DIVISION****June 28, 2015****www.pslchicagoland.com**

<b>B1 DIVISION</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>Pts</b>
Windy City United	6	4	1	1	12	6	13
Pampas OT	6	4	0	2	14	12	12
<b>Stare Byki FC</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>
International SC	5	1	2	2	9	12	5
MOFG	5	1	1	3	9	11	4
Naperville Strikers FC	5	1	1	3	9	13	4

<b>B2 DIVISION</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>Pts</b>
Itasca O40	6	4	1	1	20	13	13
MANA Soccer Club	5	4	0	1	29	7	12
St Charles Celtics Green	7	3	2	2	24	14	11
Real FC	6	3	1	2	15	16	10
Chicago FC	7	1	1	5	8	22	4
St Charles Celtics Orange	5	0	0	5	1	28	0

**PSLC OVER 30 WHITE DIVISION****June 28, 2015****www.pslchicagoland.com**

	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>Pts</b>
St Charles Celtics	7	6	1	0	23	7	19
FC DePaul	7	5	1	1	22	9	16
A.E.K Chicago	6	4	0	2	17	12	12
Levski Chicago 2014	6	3	1	2	22	11	10
Olympiacos Chicago	6	3	0	3	15	7	9
<b>Stare Byki FC</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>
Chicago Rangers FC	6	1	2	3	10	12	5
Real FC	7	1	0	6	9	34	3
Shogun	6	0	0	6	7	34	0

**PSLC OVER 48 DIVISION****June 28, 2015****www.pslchicagoland.com**

	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>Pts</b>
Concordia O48	4	4	0	0	16	3	12
Sofia BG	4	3	0	1	20	8	9
<b>Stare Byki FC O48</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>6</b>
International SC O48	4	1	0	3	8	13	3
St Charles Celtics O48	3	0	0	3	3	10	0