



BOUNCINGS

11 Aug 07



Royal FC

2 : 1

Byki

B Team - NSL 1st Division
Doerhoefer Park - 5 August 2007

Byki still in hunt for top six

The B Team dropped a tight 2:1 decision to Royal FC last Sunday at Doerhoefer Park, but still have a slim window of opportunity to finish the first phase of the season in the 1st Division's top six. The Byki do not control their own fate, but things look a little bit better today than they did before the games kicked off for Week 10 of the competition.

The Byki trail sixth-place Chicago Thunder by four points in the standings, but have played one fewer game. They have a make-up game versus 11th-place West Bosnia this week and then finish up against leaders Lemont FC. Thunder's final match will be a tough test against Royal FC. By losing to Khaboor 3:2 and only managing a 2:2 draw versus the WI Jets, Thunder placed themselves in their current perilous position.

The NSL competition in the Major and 1st Divisions is operating under a new structure for 2007. All teams play one another once in the first phase and then the teams are split into groups. The top six play in the Championship Section and the bottom six move into the Classification Section. The season concludes with five weeks of round-robin lay within

the two Sections.

On Sunday, the Byki gave Royal all they could handle. The technical ability of Royal's players was evident, but coach Joe Gambino counteracted that advantage by judicious use of his four-man bench. His constant substitutions kept the players fresh, while Royal's players began to wilt in the heat. The Byki controlled the tempo for the final 25 minutes of the match, but were unable to find the tying score.

Royal wasted no time pressuring the Byki goal. In the second minute, Royal led a counterattack down the right side, leading to an opening on the wing. They sent a square pass into the middle, where an open forward missed a sitter at the far post.

Six minutes later, keeper Jorge de la Cruz made an amazing foot save as a Royal player cut to the inside of the box from the left wing. On the subsequent throw-in, the Byki defense allowed the ball to bounce in the box and a Royal player completed the easy tap-in for a 1:0 lead.

The Byki roared back with a brilliant equalizer in the 13th minute. Luis Arredondo stole the ball in the Royal half of the field and immediately passed off to Russ Haynes on the right flank. Haynes dribbled the ball to the corner and fired a pinpoint cross into the center for Ivan Torossian, who headed the ball just under the bar.

The Byki had a good chance to grab the lead in the 31st minute when the Royal defense messed up a cross from the right side. Haynes sneaked in to take a quick shot, but the keeper was in position to make the save.

A minute later, Royal were on the board again. They came hard on the counter, as their winger made a long run down the right flank. The Byki had little cover in the middle, and a simple square ball left Royal's striker with an opening from short range. He slotted past de la Cruz for a 2:1 lead.

Royal might have put the game away early in the second half, but poor finishing was their curse. In the 49th minute, they patiently worked the ball in the Byki end of the field,

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resulting in a man open right in front. De la Cruz made a magnificent diving save to deny the dangerous scoring chance. Eight minutes later, the Byki defenders were sloppy with the ball and Royal's striker stole it away. He botched the open shot from 15 yards, allowing the Byki to breathe easier.

Eamon Colwell surprised the Royal goalie in the 67th minute when he launched a cross into the box. The wind played tricks with the ball and the keeper did well to punch the ball to safety.

The Byki were slow to react to the counter three minutes later, as Royal came quickly on a 3 v 2. A shot from the top of the box sailed wide of the target.

The momentum was with the Byki in the latter stages, as the game teetered on edge. The Byki controlled possession, but Royal always looked menacing with their counterattacks. In the 82nd minute, Ahmad Harake drilled a free kick hard and low from the right-side touchline. The ball zinged through a maze of legs and missed the far post by inches.

Royal returned that salvo a minute later. They got behind the Byki defense and only a heroic save from de la Cruz kept the Byki in the game. Just before the final whistle, Royal engineered a breakaway. De la Cruz came out to make the save, but the rebound spilled outside the penalty area. Royal's striker had an open net at which to shoot, and as he lined up his shot attempt, de la Cruz blocked it with his hand while outside his area. The referee had no choice but to send off de la Cruz for the deliberate handball.

The Byki now must maximize their points in the next two matches and see whether that will be enough to place them with the 1st Division's top sides.

B TEAM SCORING SUMMARY

Torossian 4 (Haynes); 13th; 1:1.

B TEAM LINEUP (4-4-2): de la Cruz – Towsey, Smart, Gallo, Casey (c) – Lane, Colwell, Torossian, Arredondo – Haynes, Zoeller. **Bench:** Butler, Frischmann, Freeman, Harake.

Byki

1 : 4

Wisla

Over 30 Team - NSL Over 30 Division
Winnebago - 4 August 2007

Bad luck burns Byki oldboys

The Byki old-timers finally played in an organized fashion and although the result was a 4:1 defeat to Wisla, they didn't have to go home angry about the way they played. Wisla were clearly the better side on the day, but a couple of lucky bounces made the final margin look worse for the Byki than it really was.

With coach Eric Tower injured, he ran the team from the sidelines and the coach's touch was evident to all of the players. Substitutions were timely and everyone was clear about their role in the team.

The Byki broke out on top, thanks to good ball movement and smart runs into space. Sal Farhan, making his first appearance of the season, took possession of the ball in midfield. He played the ball wide on the left to Jon Silverstein. The winger crossed the ball into the box for Ken Hunter, who was pushed by a Wisla defender. The referee spotted the foul and immediately pointed for a penalty kick. Yahui Peng, making his Over 30 debut in midfield, converted the penalty and the Byki had the lead after eight minutes.

Unfortunately, the Byki were unable to sustain this type of possession for long stretches, forcing them to play a lot of defense. The defenders did well to keep their shape, marshaled by Yang Song, who turned in his best performance of the season. But a team like Wisla isn't a perennial contender for the championship by accident.

Wisla got their equalizer in the 17th minute. They played

the ball into the Byki area from the right wing and their striker made a perfect trap of the ball at the top of the box. He quickly turned and fired past the diving Dan Blanco. Wei Zhang had been assigned the task of being the personal marker for the striker, who has terrorized the Byki in previous games. The difficulty of staying with this striker was underlined by the fact that he still scored a hat trick, despite having special attention from the Byki defense.

The sides went into the break level at 1:1, but Wisla had dominated ball possession. As long as the Byki could hold things together, they would be able to stay in the game. Wisla had other ideas and grabbed the lead eight minutes into the second half. A Byki foul gave Wisla a free kick from 25 yards on the left side. The ball was driven low to the far post and found its way into the back of the net after having been deflected off of a Byki player in the crowd. It was a cruel way for the Byki to go behind.

Two minutes later, Brett Frischmann measured a free kick, looking for Farhan in the box. Farhan got his head to the ball, but his shot went wide.

Wisla upped their advantage to 3:1 in the 61st minute. With the ball bouncing around the Byki penalty area, stopper Bo He ran over to whack the ball out of danger. His clearance, however, hit the Wisla striker in the head, and the ball sailed past a stunned Blanco.

Wisla took a commanding 4:1 lead four minutes later. An

exquisite cross came in from the left wing and Wisla's striker made a terrific run to the far post, heading the ball home.

The Byki need to continue to play smart soccer and the results will eventually come.

Nick Elmkinni contributed to this story.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Peng 1 (pk); 8th; 1:0.

BYKI LINEUP (4-5-1): Blanco – Song, Gorecki, He, Geng – Zhang (c), Peng, Silverstein, Hunter, Bolesta – Farhan. **Bench:** Frischmann, Moore, P, Treter.

Byki Stats

A TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Dance	13	4	17
Stanley	6	2	8
Bouzoukis	1	3	4
Goudeaux	3	0	3
Gwin	1	1	2
Fleming	0	2	2
Lin	0	2	2
Rose	0	2	2
Daniel	1	0	1
Harada	1	0	1
Gambino	0	1	1
Mansur, P Jr	0	1	1
Mayer	0	1	1
Moore, C	0	1	1

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Eliasek	810	31	3.44

Current record: 2-2-6

B TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Haynes	3	2	5
Torossian	4	0	4
Lin	2	1	3
Frsichamann	0	3	3
Colwell	1	1	2
Harake	1	0	1
Lane	1	0	1
McGrath	1	0	1
Gallo	0	1	1
Team goals	3	x	x

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Drake	180	3	1.50
de la Cruz	630	11	1.57

Current record: 4-1-4

O-30 TEAM, NSL O-30 DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Garcia	2	1	3
Elmkinni	1	0	1
Jedrzejowski	1	0	1
Moore, P.	1	0	1
Peng	1	0	1
Regueiro	1	0	1
Arredondo	0	1	1
Frsichmann	0	1	1
He	0	1	1

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Mansur, P Sr	40	0	0.00
Cook	250	10	3.20
Blanco	430	18	3.35
Tsipris	80	7	7.00

Current record: 0-2-8

Kozarac send Byki reeling

After the previous week's impressive win over Deportivo Colomex, the A Team were derailed 7:3 by FK Kozarac last Sunday. Dan Stanley's two-goal performance, combined with a goal and an assist from Zach Dance, were overshadowed by the appalling display of defense by the Byki. The defeat drops the Byki to 2-2-6 for the season.

"I figured we might have rough time out there today," said coach George Gorecki. "We were missing four starters and the hot conditions did not work in our favor. But it was hot out there for Kozarac too. It doesn't explain why we reverted from playing smart soccer one week to doing some really silly things today."

Both teams are out of the hunt for finishing in the 1st Division's top six, so a wide-open affair did not come as a surprise. Once the rain began pelting down in the second half, it only gave a bigger edge to the attacking players, as defenders were slipping all over the place.

The Byki had two great chances in the first ten minutes and certainly regretted not capitalizing, given the number of goals Kozarac eventually started pumping home. Chris Rose sent a long ball to the corner of the penalty area, where Dance headed the ball along to Matt Fleming. He danced past the Kozarac keeper, who had come off his line to make a play on the ball. Fleming had dead aim on the empty net, but was denied when a Kozarac defender stepped in and headed the ball away. A few minutes later, Dance streaked in behind the defense with only the goalie to beat. His shot narrowly missed the far post.

Kozarac got on the board in the 15th minute when the Byki turned the ball over in front of their 18. They were slow to recover and a long-range shot beat Ryan Eliasek. The score went to 2:0 in the 29th minute when the Kozarac striker nailed a diving header past a stationary Byki back line.

The Byki pulled one back in the 37th minute when Stanley

stepped into the path of a weak outlet pass from the goalie. Stanley took the ball straight to goal and beat the keeper to make it 2:1.

Kozarac replied by scoring two more late in the first half. In both cases, inattentive defense let the Byki down. The Byki then closed out the half with a well-taken goal. Ari Pirrilis started the play on the left wing with a pass to Dance at the top of the box. Dance dribbled toward goal and dished the ball to Stanley on the left side of the area. Stanley picked his spot and beat the sprawling goalie at the near post.

Gorecki read his team the riot act at halftime. With the defense in a shambles and the Byki forgetting how to pass the ball around, the second half presented an opportunity to improve. But the Byki played the second half in manner similar to the weather after the break: things got worse.

Kozarac went up 5:2 at the hour mark when a shot from the far right wing found the upper corner of the Byki goal. But then the Byki made it 5:3 a minute later. Joe Gambino sent a free kick from midfield into the mixer and Dance outjumped everyone to head the ball home.

As the raindrops developed into a deluge, Kozarac padded the score with a goal in the 70th minute that was clearly offside. Within a few minutes, the referee ended the match once lightning in the area became evident.

The waterlogged Byki could only pack their gear and look forward to their next match.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Stanley 5; 37th; 2:1. Stanley 6 (Dance); 45th; 4:2. Dance 13 (Gambino); 61st; 5:3.

A TEAM LINEUP (4-4-2): Eliasek – Daniel, Moore, Rose, Delaunay – Dos Santos, Stanley, Gambino, Fleming – Dance (c), Lin. **Bench:** Pirrilis.

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

August 5, 2007

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MAJOR DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
CKS Warta	10	6	2	2	32	28	20
RWB Adria	8	6	1	1	20	8	19
HNNK Hrvat	10	6	1	3	25	20	19
SAC Wisla	10	5	2	3	22	13	17
FC Romania	10	5	2	3	33	28	17
B-H Lllies	10	5	1	4	18	18	16
Gazelle SC	10	4	3	3	15	15	15
Honduras SC	10	4	1	5	22	21	13
KF Ulqin	9	4	0	5	20	17	12
Jahbat FC	10	2	1	7	17	27	7
NK Prijedor	8	1	2	5	8	19	5
Albanian Stars	9	0	2	7	10	28	2

FIRST DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Lemont FC	10	7	2	1	33	13	23
Royal FC	9	7	1	1	28	13	22
FC Steaua Chicago	10	6	3	1	29	16	21
Khaboor FC	10	6	1	3	27	21	19
Deportivo Colomex	10	6	0	4	24	22	18
Chicago Thunder	10	5	2	3	27	15	17
Stare Byki B	9	4	1	4	16	14	13
West Indies Jets	10	3	2	5	21	22	11
FK Kozarac	9	3	0	6	19	32	9
Stare Byki A	10	2	2	6	26	32	8
West Bosnia SC	8	1	0	7	10	27	3
Turkish FC	9	0	0	9	8	41	0

SECOND DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Das Magic	9	7	2	0	45	20	23	Real Independiente	10	7	0	3	36	29	21
FK Podrinje	10	5	2	3	25	18	17	CKS Warta B	10	6	2	2	24	14	20
Los Chasquis	10	3	0	7	27	51	9	Juanacatlan	10	4	1	5	16	21	13
GR-04	9	2	1	6	25	27	7	FC Kosova	10	4	0	6	24	29	12
Pitbulls SC	8	1	2	5	18	33	5	FC Transilvania	10	3	2	5	28	26	11

OVER 30 DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Lake Shore A	9	6	1	2	32	21	19	Arabian FC	10	8	1	1	40	16	25
Tanners SC	8	3	4	1	21	23	13	SAC Wisla	8	5	3	0	32	14	18
Gato Verde	9	2	4	3	25	17	10	Hellas SC	9	5	1	3	28	20	16
Jahbat FC	7	1	3	3	20	32	6	Lake Shore B	9	1	1	7	12	29	4
West Indies Jets	7	0	4	3	11	21	4	Stare Byki FC	10	0	2	8	7	35	2