



BOUNCINGS



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13 Aug 11

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BLUE

Byki 4 : 1 Gremio

NSL 1st Division - Oak Brook Sorts Core - 7 August 2011

Byki bounce back vs. Gremio

After letting Gremio hang around and look competitive for about an hour, the Blue Team revved their jets and scored two goals in the late stages to secure a comprehensive 4:1 victory last Sunday in Oak Brook. Chris Koenig scored twice, Anthony Del Priore had a goal and an assist, and Ohad Garnon contributed two assists in a balanced attacking performance. The Byki are now 3-0-5 for the season.

"It was an important victory for our team," said coach George Gorecki. "After two difficult losses, we needed to step things up against Gremio. They were six points behind us and now it's nine. We have six points to make up to take a place among the contenders."

Gremio came into the match pointless and the Byki did a nice job of keeping them on zero. Although a couple of Gremio's midfielders looked useful, their slow back line could not handle the ambitions of Koenig, Pedro Simas and Jeremy Slate. Once the Byki got rolling in the middle of the second half, there was no stopping them.

Gremio nearly shot themselves in the foot after seven minutes when a defender's errant clearance of a Simas cross barely went over the crossbar. The Byki took a deserved lead in the 24th minute. Alan Stevens gave the ball to Koenig, who embarked on a weaving run through the middle of the field. He shrugged off two tacklers and handily slotted past the advancing goalkeeper.

The Byki gave the lead away just six minutes later, thanks to an inattentive spell in defense. Gremio sent a free kick at midfield to the far side, where an unmarked striker shot and found the opposite post to make it 1:1. It was the only hiccup in a stellar defensive performance marshaled by Paul Mansur, playing his first match at sweeper.

The score went to 2:1 in the 33rd minute when Garnon's

through pass found a sprinting del Priore motoring past the fullback on the right side. With the keeper at his mercy, del Priore made no mistake. Del Priore made a strong bid for his second strike of the day ten minutes later when he sent an open header from Josh Pirahmadi's free kick wide of the target.

Gremio regrouped at halftime and carried the momentum for the first 12 minutes of the second half. The Byki absorbed the pressure in organized fashion and Martin Bertels had only one tough chance to handle, a looping shot that he deflected off of the crossbar.

The Byki scored the game's pivotal goal in the 65th minute. Del Priore applied high pressure to a Gremio fullback, who coughed up possession. Del Priore knocked the ball back to Pirahmadi, who saw his opening from 25 yards away. With the goalkeeper frozen in his tracks, Pirahmadi made his classy finish look easy.

As Gremio pushed players forward to get back into the game, the gaps in their team became wider and the Byki ran rampant in the final 15 minutes. Some desperation defending by Gremio prevented the Byki from blowing the game wide open.

Koenig did his part to seal the deal in the 79th minute. The Byki patiently swung the ball around from side to side in the back. Just when they had lulled Gremio to sleep with safe passes, Garnon astutely found Koenig making a run along the right wing. Koenig sprinted down the flank, cut to the inside and blasted a rocket shot from short range to give the Byki a 4:1 lead.

The Byki could have added three more goals in the waning moments. Slate had two breakaway opportunities thwarted and a frantic save and clearance denied Koenig in the 84th minute.



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OVER 30

Byki 5 : 1 Celtic

PSLC Over 30 Division - Olympic Park - 9 August 2011

Late spree leads to Byki win

The Over 30s saved their best for last, pounding home four goals in the final 11 minutes and earning a convincing 5:1 victory over Chicago Celtic last Tuesday at Olympic Park. Maciek Kekus had two goals and an assist to lead the rout. The Byki improve to 4-1-6 for the season.

It was definitely a game of two very different halves. In the first half, the Byki played an unimaginative attacking style of pumping the ball long, leading to aimless passes that Celtic's defense easily cleared. The Byki created just one decent chance in the first 45 minutes. Kekus sent a pass to Greg Zaskowski at the top of the box. Zaskowski accelerated past his man and drilled a shot that barely missed the post.

Luckily for the Byki, the Celtic offense was totally lifeless. It was an easy task for the Byki back line to maintain control of their area.

Somebody must have flipped a switch at halftime, because the Byki came out and moved the ball with speed and intelligence. Although the goals didn't start piling up until the end, the Byki were in the dominant position after the break.

They got on the board in the 52nd minute with a bit of luck. Robert Dec sent a long clearance from midfield towards the Celtic penalty area. A hustling Kekus wanted to win the bouncing ball and shoved the defender out of his way. The referee saw no foul and Kekus slid the ball underneath the onrushing goalie.

The Byki managed to nurse that 1:0 lead before Celtic could mount any serious threat to equalize. Then, the dam burst in the 79th minute and the flood of goals placed the Byki in firm control of the contest. Ari Pirillis worked hard to win a loose ball in the Celtic end. He sent it over to Kekus, who calmly knocked the ball into an open net.

Three minutes later, Paul Gibbs stripped the ball away from the last Celtic defender and sent Roman Kramarz in on a breakaway. The keeper had no chance and the Byki were cruising at 3:0.

Four minutes from the end, Enda McGrath fought for possession at midfield and shrugged off a tackler trying to drag him down. McGrath passed the ball to Zaskowski, who picked his spot and swerved a magnificent shot into the upper corner.

In the 88th minute, Kekus was dragged down at the top of the area and complained to the referee about not getting a call. Kekus managed to get the ball over to Jeff Samp on the right wing. Samp made Kekus' complaints moot, sprinting towards goal and sneaking a shot just inside the near post for

a commanding 5:0 advantage. Celtic saved themselves from complete embarrassment when they executed a successful counterattack in the 89th minute, ruining Martin Bertels' clean sheet.

OVER 40

DePaul 3 : 1 Byki

PSLC Over 40 Division - Oak Brook Sorts Core - 7 August 2011

Byki create chances, can't convert

Steven Pedlow estimated that the Over 40 Team had 20 scoring chances last Sunday versus FC DePaul, but the Byki were able to convert just one and tasted defeat yet again, going down 3:1. At 1-4-7, time is running short for a Byki side that seeks to climb the table.

The match was delayed for about 40 minutes when a thunderstorm rolled through the area. The field conditions afterwards, however, were immaculate, as both teams sought to play at a high tempo.

The Byki broke the ice after 11 minutes and it was their perseverance that paid off. Sven Dahlquist played a through pass for Brian Huck, who dribbled into the DePaul penalty area. His shot was blocked and Jim Jacobs hustled to win the ball, sending it to Mike Cruickshank, who was near the goal line. After juking two players, Cruickshank's shot caused a hysterical DePaul defense to clear the ball to Dahlquist, who was stationed just outside the box. Dahlquist used the time and space and calmly drilled the ball into back of the net.

DePaul replied ten minutes later on the counter. They made multiple passes inside the Byki penalty area, catching defenders on the wrong foot almost every time. They polished off the play with a floating shot out of the reach of goalkeeper James Vlahakis.

DePaul made it 2:1 just after the half hour when they beat the Byki on the break again. This time, they came hard on a 3 v 2, as the Byki were slow to recover. With plenty of space available, DePaul finished the play with deadly accuracy.

For all their efforts at the attacking end in the second half, the Byki had nothing to show for it in the end. DePaul tacked on an insurance goal to secure the three points.

With just victory on the season, the Byki look like a shadow of the team that stormed to the Over 40 Division's Cup title in 2009. With many of the players from the championship side still in the squad, the Byki need only to look in the mirror to find the reason behind their current state in the league.

RED

Byki 3 : 4 Gazelle SC

NSL Major Division - Oak Brook Sports Core - 7 August 2011

Byki drop a double to Gazelle

The Red Team played two difficult, back-to-back matches versus Gazelle SC and came away empty both times. On August 3, Gazelle were the winners on the strength of two first-half goals, and then won in dramatic fashion in the rematch last Sunday, scoring the decisive goal in second-half stoppage time to claim a 4:3 victory. The pair of defeats put a jolt into the Byki, who had been flying high in second place in the Major Division's Blue Section. The Byki remain in second, just a mere point ahead of Gazelle, who have played three fewer matches.

The teams were forced into a home-and-away series because an earlier match scheduled in May was postponed. It was by coincidence that the NSL scheduled the make-up game four days prior to the regularly scheduled return match.

Gazelle came out flying on the synthetic turf field at Hawthorne Sports Complex in the first match and it was all the Byki could do to contain their opponents. Gazelle played an aggressive defensive style and pounced on every loose ball that resulted from a poor first touch by a Byki player. With the Byki on the back foot, Gazelle scored the only goals they would need in a five-minute span midway through the first half.

In the 20th minute, the Byki defense anticipated that the offside flag was going to go up after a Gazelle cross from the right wing. The flag stayed down and the flat-footed Byki were powerless to stop a first-time shot by a player making a run to the back post. The Byki were passive on a give-and-go sequence a few minutes later and Gazelle were happy to take a 2:0 lead into the break.

"We got more physical with Gazelle in the second half," said coach Joe Gambino. "That helped to slow them down, but we really were unable to mount any kind of offense."

Last Sunday's match at Oak Brook Sports Core began very differently, as the Byki started with 10 players and Gazelle only showed up with eight. Gazelle had a full squad and two substitutes by the 20-minute mark, while the Byki played with just the 10 who started the contest.

The Byki parlayed that early numerical superiority into a quick two-goal lead. They broke into the scoring column after just eight minutes. Ammin Mehreioskouei laid a pass off for Martin Herholdt, who dribbled straight at the goal and tucked the ball just inside the post.

In the 15th minute, the Byki put the Gazelle defenders under extreme pressure. An insightful combination of passes between Gabi Dziekiewicz, Todd Trowbridge and

Herholdt set up Mehreioskouei for a shot inside the area. A Gazelle defender desperately headed the ball away. Ivan Torossian latched onto the rebound and looked set to score, but a miraculous leg save by the keeper denied him.

A minute later, the Byki made it 2:0 when Trowbridge sent the ball to Marek Ciszewski on the left wing. Seeing the goalie wandering off his line, Ciszewski lofted the ball towards the far post, out of the goalie's reach, for his third tally of the season. In the 18th minute, Ciszewski chased down a loose ball near the Gazelle goal line and shot immediately, skimming his attempt off of the top of the bar.

Gazelle came back into the match in the latter stages of the first half, once they had a full complement of players. They kept up the momentum into the second half, and had pulled level just after the hour mark, notching two goals within five minutes of one another.

Despite the heat and their shorthanded lineup, the Byki kept pushing. In the 64th minute, Torossian slipped a pass to Ciszewski on the left side. Ciszewski accelerated into the penalty area and sent a shot diagonally through the goal area, narrowly missing the far post.

Six minutes later, the Byki regained the lead. Mehreioskouei received a throw-in and quickly swung the ball to the right side of the area. Herholdt had made the run and finished the play with deadly accuracy.

Gazelle came back to tie in the 79th minute, outpacing the tired Byki on the counterattack. A header from a sharp angle gave Gambino, filling in as emergency goalkeeper, no chance.

The visitors snatched the win in the first minute of stoppage time. A long throw-in from the deep corner on the right side wound up in the mixer. After two headers and a mad scramble, a Gazelle player poked the ball home to make it 4:3.

It was a heartbreaking defeat for a group of players who left everything on the field in very difficult conditions. The Byki remain in a strong position in their Section, but will have to address their roster troubles rapidly if they want to maintain a march to the NSL postseason.

Joe Gambino contributed to this story.

BYKI SCOREBOARD

RED

Byki 3 : 4 Gazelle SC

NSL Major Division - Oak Brook Sorts Core - 7 August 2011

BYKI LINEUP 03 Aug 2011 (4-4-2): Bertels – Taylor, Gibbs, Herholdt, Mansur – Buur, Dziekiewicz, Stamatinos, Trowbridge – Mehreioskouei, Torossian. **Bench:** Ciszewski, Worek.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

None.

Byki Man of the Match: None given

BYKI LINEUP 07 Aug 2011 (4-4-2): Bertels – Black (c), Gibbs, Suhayda, Mansur – Buur, Dziekiewicz, Stamatinos, Trowbridge – Taylor, Ciszewski. **Bench:** Herholdt, Torossian.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

1:0 – Herholdt 1 (Mehreioskouei); 8th.

2:0 – Ciszewski 3 (Trowbridge); 16th.

3:2 – Herholdt 2 (Mehreioskouei); 70th.

Byki Men of the Match: Marek Ciszewski and Martin Herholdt

OVER 30

Byki 5 : 1 Celtic

PSLC Over 30 Division - Olympic Park - 9 August 2011

BYKI LINEUP (4-4-2): Bertels – Lane (c), Dziekiewicz, McGrath, Dec – Gibbs, Worek Fleming, Zaskowski – Kramarz, Kekus. **Bench:** Banbor, Brough, Jedrzejowski, Pirillis, Samp.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

1:0 – Kekus 7 (Dec); 52nd.

2:0 – Kekus 8 (Pirillis); 79th.

3:0 – Kramarz 2 (Gibbs); 82nd.

4:0 – Zaskowski 1 (McGrath); 86th.

5:0 – Samp 1 (Kekus); 88th.

Byki Men of the Match: Martin Bertels, Robert Dec, Gabi Dziekiewicz, Maciek Kekus, Andy Lane, Enda McGrath.

BLUE

Byki 4 : 1 Gremio

NSL 1st Division - Oak Brook Sorts Core - 7 August 2011

BYKI LINEUP (4-4-2): Bertels – Mansur, Kosinski, Stevens (c), Garnon – Koenig, Pirahmadi, Del Priore, Simas – Zaskowski, Slate.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

1:0 – Koenig 2 (Stevens); 24th.

2:1 – Del Priore 2 (Garnon); 33rd.

3:1 – Pirahmadi 1 (Del Priore); 65th.

4:1 – Koenig 3 (Garnon); 79th.

Byki Men of the Match: Anthony del Priore, Chris Koeing, Paul Mansur

OVER 40

DePaul 3 : 1 Byki

PSLC Over 40 Division - Oak Brook Sorts Core - 7 August 2011

BYKI LINEUP (4-4-2): Vlahakis – Towsey, Geng, Tower, Fukar – Dahlquist, Cruickshank, Jacobs, Posada – Pedlow, Huck. **Bench:** Cooper, Gorecki (c), Muehlbauer, Zygmunt.

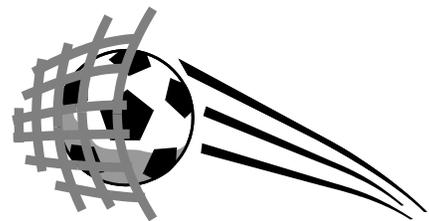
BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

1:0 – Dahlquist 2; 11th.

Byki Man of the Match: Steven Pedlow.



BYKI bits & pieces



The Byki have been backing the Chicago Fire ever since the club entered MLS in 1998. Several Byki have been season-ticket holders, have traveled to away matches, and have been ardent supporters of the Fire's charity efforts, attending the annual season kickoff luncheon for the past 11 years.

Every once in a while, the Fire throw out a perk to their most loyal followers and the Byki were beneficiaries when the Fire recently hosted the Philadelphia Union at Toyota Park. **Matt Treter**, a Byki veteran who served on the club's Board from 1999 to 2010, was selected as the Season Ticket Holder of the Game and got the honor of executing the coin toss prior to kickoff. Be-



cause the Fire staff are aware of the Byki who sit together for every match, they encouraged Matt to invite **Stef Wiecek** and **George Gorecki** to participate in the festivities.

The Byki trio were granted an all-access field pass for the pre-game warm-up, which allowed them a field's edge view of the Fire and Union going through their preparations prior to kickoff. "I have done the Sideline Watchers thing twice before," said George. "It is truly an awesome close-up look at professional players doing their thing before the game. Seeing their athletic ability on display up close is a genuine thrill."

Of course, no Byki player worth his salt goes very far without a Byki scarf, and our three heroes did not disappoint on this night. Not only did they get a nice photo op during warm-ups, the Byki scarf also made its way onto the field at the center spot for the coin toss.



"At first, it was not clear whether all three of us would be allowed to be on the field for the actual coin toss," said George. "But the Fire staffers ushered us on with the national anthem singer, so Stef and I did not hesitate." Matt was the one to do the honors, but there was a slight delay until a coin could be found. "One of the assistant referees asked whether any of us had a coin in our pockets," joked George. The coin was actually a disk, coated black on one side and white on the other, dubbed an Othello chip by Stef.

The second photo was a brilliant catch by the Fire's photographer, as all eyes were intensely focused on the coin after Matt sent it airborne. At the end, everyone involved got caught in one last picture, with the Byki scarf flying in full prominence.

Several Byki and fans who were watching the match on TV saw the Byki three doing their thing. The photo showing Matt, George and Stef holding the Byki scarf appears on the Fire website on the season ticket holder page.



NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

August 7, 2011
www.nslchicago.org

MAJOR DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
SAC Wisla	8	5	2	1	33	15	17
RWB Adria	5	5	0	0	23	4	15
Albanian Stars	5	2	2	1	12	8	8
Jahbat FC	8	2	2	4	17	19	8
FC Steaua	7	2	2	3	15	22	8
Khaboor FC	9	0	2	7	9	37	2

Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Hellenic United Blue	8	7	0	1	32	13	21
Stare Byki FC Red	9	4	1	4	18	15	13
Gazelle SC	6	4	0	2	15	13	12
CKS Warta A	7	2	2	3	7	16	8
FK Republika Srpska	7	1	1	5	8	20	4
Hellenic United White	5	1	0	4	5	12	3

FIRST DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Brusfa FC	9	7	1	1	33	8	22
NK Prijedor	10	5	1	4	24	16	16
Independiente FC	10	5	1	4	31	20	16
Assyrian FC	7	5	0	2	36	23	15
Stare Byki FC Blue	8	3	0	5	11	20	9
Gremio FC	9	0	0	9	10	49	0

Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Deportivo Colomex	9	7	1	1	31	12	22
Das Magic	10	5	1	4	31	22	16
CKS Warta B	9	4	1	4	11	19	13
Winged Bull B	10	3	2	5	16	28	11
West Indies Jets SC	9	2	2	5	17	26	8
Chicago Thunder	8	2	2	4	18	26	8

SECOND DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Bosphorus FC	7	5	1	1	17	5	16
Chicago Dynasty FC	7	4	1	2	11	6	13
Lamaso FC	5	4	0	1	20	6	12
FC Moldova	8	3	0	5	14	15	9
FK Podrinje	8	0	1	7	5	28	1

Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Hellenic United AC	5	5	0	0	17	1	15
SAC Wisla	4	2	0	2	12	9	6
West Indies Jets SC	4	1	0	3	7	12	3
Jahbat FC	5	1	0	4	7	21	3

OVER 30 DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
FC Kosova	9	8	1	0	44	18	25
Lemont FC	7	6	0	1	31	12	18
DePaul FC	6	3	0	3	22	14	9
Chicago Thunder B	9	3	0	6	25	53	9
Turkish FC	7	2	0	5	21	27	6
West Bosnia SC	7	0	0	7	5	31	0

PREMIER SOCCER LEAGUE of CHICAGOLAND

August 7, 2011

www.pslchicagoland.com

OVER 30 RED DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Bulgaria FC	10	9	0	1	32	10	27
St Charles Celtics Red	9	7	0	2	40	13	21
Torino FC	9	7	0	2	29	9	21
Balkan	11	6	0	5	23	26	18
Stare Byki FC	11	4	1	6	22	33	13
Hellenic United AC	11	2	2	7	12	26	8
Chicago Celtic	10	2	1	7	12	28	7
FC Tarnovia	11	2	0	9	12	37	6

OVER 40 GREEN DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Champions FC	11	8	0	3	58	19	24
International SC	9	8	0	1	26	9	24
Real Wilmette	11	5	3	3	20	13	18
Botev Chicago	10	6	0	4	21	15	18
FC DePaul	10	6	0	4	25	40	18
Park Ridge Rogues	12	5	2	5	30	37	17
Hellenic United AC	9	3	4	2	25	20	13
St Charles Celtics Blue	10	3	2	5	17	22	11
Stare Byki FC	12	1	4	7	16	28	7
St Charles Celtics Green	12	0	1	11	6	41	1

OVER 40 BLUE DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Gato Verde	10	9	0	1	46	8	27
Real FC	12	7	3	2	24	20	24
Pampas OT	11	7	1	3	24	18	22
MOFG	10	5	2	3	23	15	17
Windy City United	10	5	1	4	21	15	16
Villains SC	11	4	2	5	27	22	14
Naperville Strikers FC	10	3	0	7	18	27	9
Torino FC	8	1	0	7	12	35	3
St Charles Celtics Orange	10	0	1	9	8	43	1