



BOUNCINGS



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ORTHOPEDICS

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BLUE

Byki 1 : 0 Winged Bull B

NSL 1st Division - Oak Brook Sorts Core - 14 August 2011

Tough defending pays off for Byki

When young Lukasz Karam gave the Byki the lead over Winged Bull B last Sunday after just 13 minutes, it appeared that it was a sign of better things to come. As it turned out, that early strike was just what the Byki needed, because defense was the key element of their 1:0 victory. The Blue Team improve to 4-0-5 for the season and now examine their prospects for a climb up the table and a run at the postseason.

The Byki have played some pretty good defense lately, thanks to a revamping of the back four. Paul Mansur has eagerly accepted the role of sweeper and has been a big contributor. Mike Kosinski is a newcomer at fullback and has held down the attacks coming down his side. Captain Alan Stevens moved inside to stopper and has helped Mansur shut down the middle. Ohad Garnon, finding new joy as a fullback this season, is playing his best soccer since joining the club in 2009. On the rare occasion when this quartet have not been able to hold things together, goalkeeper Martin Bertels has been on his game to keep things tidy.

The first salvo from the Byki came in the 11th minute, when Karam sent a dandy through ball for Jeremy Slate inside the penalty area. Slate dribbled into the clear and forced the Winged Bull goalie into a difficult save.

Two minutes later, Byki pressure paid dividends. Roman Kramarz won an aerial duel on a ball served in by Chris Koenig from a corner kick. When the ball hit the ground, mayhem in the box ensued. Slate got a foot to the ball, which eventually found its way back to Karam. The winger blasted from short range, nutmegging two Winged Bull players, as the ball found its way home past the unsighted keeper.

The Byki had a good chance to double the lead just before halftime. Another corner kick from Koenig made its way into the danger zone, finding Pedro Simas unmarked at the back post. Simas agonizingly sent his header just over the bar.

Getting the next goal would be crucial and the Byki

expected Winged Bull to come out roaring to make sure that they would be the ones to get that goal. The Byki defense held firm, however, and they came close to a second goal in the 58th minute. Kramarz sent a pass into the box for Koenig, who drilled a hard shot right at the keeper.

In the 65th minute, Winged Bull looked dangerous for the first time in the contest, coming fast on the counter. With the Byki a bit slow to react, an open shot from 15 yards looked promising for the Assyrians, but they could not beat Bertels, who dove to push the ball wide.

The Byki went down to 10 men midway through the second half, when Koenig was booked for a second time. The Byki changed tactics, crowding the midfield with an extra player, hoping to clog the Winged Bull offense. The tactic worked like a charm because Winged Bull did not know how to utilize their width properly and tried to barge through the center, where the Byki built a numerical advantage, despite being short one player. Winged Bull had their best chance to equalize in the 84th minute. Bertels made a great save on a tough shot and a Winged Bull player sent the rebound well wide of the target.

Coach George Gorecki was happy to see the way his team fought through the demanding conditions. "Games like this are an excellent learning experience for a team like ours," he said afterwards. "When we were unable to get to 2:0, we had to make sure that 1:0 stood up. There's no way to teach that at training; the players have to experience it first-hand and our guys passed the test with flying colors."

BYKI LINEUP (4-4-2): Bertels – Mansur, Garnon, Stevens (c), Kosinski – Kramarz, L Karam, J Karam, Simas – Slate, Koenig. **Bench:** Gambino.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

1:0 – L Karam 2; 13th.

Byki Man of the Match: Paul Mansur



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OVER 40

Byki 0 : 9 Champions FC

PSLC Over 40 Division - Oak Brook Sorts Core - 14 August 2011

Champions FC make Byki look like chumps

When does a soccer match stop being a competitive game? That's the question that the Over 40s faced last Sunday, as Champions FC put on a display of surgical precision from the early moments, eviscerating the Byki 9:0. Champions FC scored three goals in three minutes to take a 3:0 lead after a quarter of an hour. It was 6:0 at the break in a match in which the Byki were unable to keep up nearly from the word go. At 1-4-8, the ninth-place Byki trail St Charles Celtics Blue by four points, but have played three more games. Climbing out of this hole will require a massive Houdini act with just five games left in the regular season.

Player-coach Eric Tower arranged his squad in a 4-5-1 formation and emphasized the need to establish a defensive presence and then try to build from there. The players, however, took an extremely passive stance and allowed Champions all of the time and space that they wanted. Champions FC simply destroyed the Byki tactics, picking apart the Byki defense with the greatest of ease. "I wanted our guys to play defensively and disrupt their offense," lamented Tower. Instead, the game resembled a Champions FC practice session.

The marking was a mess and the inability to maintain ball possession sunk the Byki early. Champions scored goals in the 12th, 13th and 14th minutes. If that didn't demoralize the Byki, the three further goals before halftime did a good job to seal the deal.

With nothing to lose, the Byki made a commitment in the second half to play with more pressure and did so higher up the field. To a limited extent, the Byki succeeded, forcing Champions to work harder to find openings. The Byki played on level terms with Champions for most of the second half. Whether that was the result of improvements by the Byki or by Champions taking their foot off the gas is open to debate, but it is clear that the Byki worked harder and marked more tightly in the second half.

The Byki now face the very real prospect of relegation to the newly created Over 40 Blue Division. Although the promotion-relegation details have not been announced by the PSLC, the Byki are in real trouble if the bottom two teams

of their Green Division are slated to drop. At this point, the only thing left for the Byki is to amass as many points as possible in the remaining five matches and see where that takes them.

Brian Wager contributed to this report.

BYKI LINEUP (4-5-1): Vlahakis – Fukar, Geng, Cooper, Safford – Tower, Dahlquist, Dec, Pedlow, Weslar – Posada. **Bench:** Chial, Gorecki (c), Huck, Jacobs, Muehlbauer, Sambou.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

None.

Byki Man of the Match: None given.

RED

**Byki 3 : 0 FC Steaua
(FORFEIT)**

NSL Major Division - Oak Brook Sorts Core - 14 August 2011

Byki snag 3 points the easy way

The Red Team remained in second place in the Major Division's Blue Section last Sunday following their forfeit victory over FC Steaua, who left the Byki and the officials waiting at Oak Brook Sports Core. According to information from the NSL office later in the week, most of the Steaua players were vacationing in Florida at the time. "I guess that they don't have phones or Internet access in Florida," snorted Byki President George Gorecki. "All it takes is simple courtesy to contact us to say that they are not playing."

With 16 points from 10 matches, the Byki maintain a slim one-point edge over third-place Gazelle SC, who have played two fewer matches. The Byki are still in good position to finish in the top three of the Blue Section and qualify for the Major Division playoffs for the second year running. Fourth-place CKS Warta have nine points from nine games and face an uphill struggle to finish in the top three.

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

August 18, 2011

www.nslchicago.org

MAJOR DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
RWB Adria	6	6	0	0	25	5	18
SAC Wisla	8	5	2	1	33	15	17
FC Steaua	9	3	2	4	18	27	11
Jahbat FC	9	2	3	4	20	22	9
Albanian Stars	5	2	2	1	12	8	8
Khaboor FC	10	0	2	8	9	38	2

Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Hellenic United Blue	8	7	0	1	32	13	21
Stare Byki FC Red	10	5	1	4	21	15	16
Gazelle SC	8	5	0	3	20	16	15
CKS Warta A	9	2	3	4	11	23	9
Hellenic United White	8	2	1	5	9	16	7
FK Republika Srpska	8	1	2	5	9	21	5

FIRST DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Brusfa FC	11	7	2	2	39	16	23
Assyrian FC	9	7	0	2	44	23	21
NK Prijedor	11	5	2	4	27	19	17
Independiente FC	11	5	1	5	31	25	16
Stare Byki FC Blue	9	4	0	5	12	20	12
Gremio FC	11	0	0	11	11	58	0

Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Deportivo Colomex	10	8	1	1	34	13	25
Das Magic	11	6	1	4	36	22	19
CKS Warta B	10	4	1	5	11	22	13
Chicago Thunder	10	3	3	4	27	32	12
Winged Bull B	11	3	2	6	16	29	11
West Indies Jets SC	10	2	3	5	20	29	9

SECOND DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Bosphorus FC	8	6	1	1	20	5	19
Chicago Dynasty FC	8	4	1	3	11	9	13
Lamaso FC	6	4	0	2	20	13	12
FC Moldova	9	4	0	5	17	16	12
FK Podrinje	8	0	1	7	5	28	1

Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
FC Kosova	10	9	1	0	51	18	28
Lemont FC	8	7	0	1	34	12	21
DePaul FC	6	3	0	3	22	14	9
Chicago Thunder B	10	3	0	7	26	56	9
Turkish FC	7	2	0	5	21	27	6
West Bosnia SC	8	0	0	8	5	34	0

OVER 30 DIVISION

	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

PREMIER SOCCER LEAGUE of CHICAGOLAND

August 14, 2011

www.pslchicagoland.com

OVER 30 RED DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Bulgaria FC	11	10	0	1	38	11	30
St Charles Celtics Red	10	8	0	2	46	15	24
Torino FC	9	7	0	2	29	9	21
Balkan	11	6	0	5	23	26	18
Stare Byki FC	12	4	1	7	22	36	13
FC Tarnovia	12	3	0	9	15	37	9
Hellenic United AC	12	2	2	8	14	32	8
Chicago Celtic	11	2	1	8	13	34	7

OVER 40 GREEN DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Champions FC	12	9	0	3	67	19	27
International SC	10	9	0	1	29	10	27
FC DePaul	11	7	0	4	26	40	21
Real Wilmette	12	5	4	3	24	17	19
Botev Chicago	11	6	1	4	25	19	19
Park Ridge Rogues	13	5	2	6	31	40	17
Hellenic United AC	10	3	4	3	25	21	13
St Charles Celtics Blue	10	3	2	5	17	22	11
Stare Byki FC	13	1	4	8	16	37	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	11	10	0	1	50	8	30
Real FC 40+	13	8	3	2	30	22	27
Pampas OT	12	7	1	4	26	24	22
MOFG	11	5	2	4	23	19	17
Windy City United	11	5	1	5	21	19	16
Villains SC	11	4	2	5	27	22	14
Naperville Strikers FC 40+	11	4	0	7	22	28	12
Torino FC 40+	9	2	0	7	16	35	6
St Charles Celtics Orange 40+	11	0	1	10	9	47	1