



# BOUNCINGS



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20 Sept 15

**2014 PSLC  
Over 40  
CHAMPIONS**

|            |          |  |
|------------|----------|--|
| Stare Byki | <b>2</b> | National Soccer League<br>1st Division     |
| Kosova     | <b>2</b> | Oak Brook Sports Core<br>13 September 2015 |

## Self-inflicted wounds doom Byki

The Byki arrived at Oak Brook last Sunday feeling confident that they could shake off the disappointment of watching their long winning streak go off the rails versus Das Magic. Facing FC Kosova in a de facto title showdown in the 1st Division's Red Section should have been motivation enough for the Byki to bring their best. Instead, they got far too involved in petty squabbles with the referee, and the subsequent lack of discipline led to two send-offs. The Byki were still clinging to a 2:1 lead at that point, but the obstacles were too much to overcome. Kosova nabbed an equalizer with five minutes to go.

The result hands the Red Section title and the promotion spot that goes with it to Kosova, even though the teams are level on 26 points. The NSL tiebreaker uses results from head-to-head meetings first, and Kosova earned four points from the two matches between the sides. Thus, even if Kosova were to lose their final match of the season (the Byki have completed their schedule), they would retain the tiebreaker edge. The Byki clinched second place in the Section and now await the NSL playoffs for a second chance to win some hardware.

"It was a tough, hard, gritty soccer match today," commented coach George Gorecki. "I asked the players to give everything in this match and they did that. Had we kept our heads more level, we may well have found a way to win the game."

Kosova looked to be the more promising of the teams in the early going. The Byki held the ball too long in too many instances, creating easy turnovers. Kosova relied on the counterattack and this kept the Byki on the defensive.

Kosova got the breakthrough in the 18th minute on a counterattack, despite being outnumbered 2 v 4. Poor communication left the Byki scrambling. The Kosova winger centered to an unmarked teammate in the middle, who immediately took the ball to goal. Keeper Pete Chronowski came fast off his line, but was powerless to stop the flick into the unguarded net.

The Byki eventually came into the game and controlled the tempo for the last 20 minutes of the first half. They turned the screws on Kosova and were rewarded with a pair of well taken goals.

In the 35th minute, Joe Sauerman led a strong run up the middle and sent a through ball into space for Nanmin Kone. With only the keeper to beat, Kone was thwarted by a decisive challenge from the netminder, who swooped in low to block the shot. Some Byki felt that the keeper's challenge was a foul and clamored for a penalty.

Moments later, Mclain Roth drove a corner kick to the near post, where Victor Salazar forced a save as he tumbled to the ground following a shot from close range.

The Byki leveled the affair in the 38th minute. Roth won possession in Byki territory on the flank and played the ball quickly to Brendan Flynn at the halfway line. Flynn threaded an inch-perfect pass for the streaking Kone. The striker easily rounded the sprawling goalie and slid the ball into the empty net for his 14th tally of the season.

Kosova were clearly shaken by the turnabout. Mike Stamatinos nearly put the Byki ahead in the 44th minute, when his free kick from 30 yards whistled over the crossbar, leaving the goalkeeper rooted, and ultimately, relieved.

The Byki kept pushing and went into the lead in the dying moments of the first half. Kone laid off a pass for Devin Freitag, who confidently cranked a shot from 40 yards that rocketed into the upper corner of the goal.

Halftime could not have come at a better time for Kosova. By the time the first half ended, it was clear to both teams which one was in the dominant position.

The Byki needed to win to stay in the race for promotion, so their job was partially complete. A win by at least three goals would clinch the title, as the Byki would then control any tiebreaker situation between the teams.

Just three minutes into the second half, the Byki were knocking at the door. Kone controlled the ball in a crowd at the top of the box and sent the ball inside to Miles Marmo, who fired from 15 yards. The keeper read it well and dove to his left to make the grab.

In the 55th minute, Freitag dribbled free in the left corner and sent a high, long cross to Roth on the right side of the box. Roth drove a shot from a tough angle and the keeper went low to block it.

The match took a turn moments later when Marmo was booked for a second time in the match after a hard foul.

Despite being a man down, the Byki continued to search



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for goals. They should have converted a counterattack in the 71st minute on the counter. Flynn raced into the box, attracted defenders, and laid off for an unmarked Kone on the doorstep of the goal. Kone's shot was too close to the keeper, who steered it out for a corner.

The Byki went down to nine men in the 73rd minute, when Juan Rodriguez's challenge on a Kosova player running free was adjudged to have been too aggressive. It was the second booking for Rodriguez and now the Byki were simply trying to hang on.

The extra space on the field merely played into Kosova's strength, pushing forward on the counterattack. They found their payoff in the 85th minute, when a long cross from the right wing landed at the far post. Chronowski appeared to have the resulting shot covered, but the ball remained loose and was poked home to make it 2:2.

The deflated Byki found defeat, and their ouster from the race for promotion, difficult to accept. Gorecki, however, preferred to take the longer view. "I've always believed that, when you win the championship, you win a little bit of it every week," he said. "That's why getting points every week is so important. We didn't miss out on first place because of today's result. We dropped six points to Das Magic, a team that will finish behind us in the standings. It was in those two matches where we fell short."

**BYKI LINEUP (4-2-3-1):** Chronowski – Zachariah, J. Rodriguez, Salazar, Stamatinos (c) – Selva, Sauerman – Roth, Kone, Flynn – Marmo. **Bench:** Calleros, Champagne, Freitag, Perez, C. Rodriguez.

**BYKI SCORING SUMMARY**

1:1 – Kone 14 (Flynn); 38th.  
2:1 – Freitag 4 (Kone); 45th.

**Byki Man of the Match:** Joe Sauerman.

|           |   |   |
|-----------|---|---|
| Byki O-30 | 7 | Premier Soccer League<br>Over 30 White Division |
| Real FC   | 4 | Oak Brook Sports Core<br>13 September 2015      |

## Two in a row for the Byki

The Over 30s brought their scoring shoes to Oak Brook last Sunday, inflicting a 7:4 pounding on Real FC. It was a reprise of the first meeting between the sides back in June, when the Byki prevailed by a gaudy 8:1 scoreline. Maciek Kekus registered three goals and two assists in a highly productive day. Kuba Banbor added a goal and two assists. The Byki improve to 7-1-4 on the season.

The score might have indicated a closer match than what occurred on the field. Player-coach Chris Hurley sensed a certain lack of intensity and motivation in his teammates, who might have let their foot off the gas at certain points in the contest. Also, the goalkeeping position was manned by the volunteer tandem of Paul King and Sean Marquez, who

acquitted themselves admirably in Alan Stevens' absence. But a veteran netminder might have been more capable of covering for the lethargic mistakes in front of him.

The Byki snatched the early advantage when they transformed a short corner into a nifty score. Banbor played the ball quickly to Kekus, who was looking at an opening at the far post. When the Real defender backed off, Kekus went near post, firing past the befuddled goalkeeper.

Real got a shock equalizer when unmarked striker easily headed home a corner kick, giving no chance for King to save.

The Byki regained the lead shortly thereafter when a diagonal pass from Matt Fleming found striker Sergio Benavides running into the clear. He touched the ball past the onrushing keeper and slid an angled shot expertly into empty net.

The game went 3:1 to the Byki when Kekus latched onto a pass from Martin Herholdt. His blast from 20 yards screamed into the upper corner.

The Byki kept rolling in the second half. Brian Boeckeler controlled the ball in the box and laid it back for Reggie Champagne. After taking a calm touch to beat his defender, Champagne tucked his shot from 18 yards into the bottom left corner to make it 4:1.

Real showed that they weren't going anywhere, when a shot from 25 yards dropped in just under the bar, getting the visitors back to within two goals.

But the Kekus/Banbor Show was just heating up. The pair engineered two goals within a matter of minutes, sandwiched around a score from Real. Kekus dribbled into the Real area between two defenders and threaded a pass back to Banbor. With the goalie grossly out of position, Banbor easily netted from 11 yards.

Banbor repaid the favor a few minutes later in what was nearly a carbon copy of the previous goal. Banbor got past his man, saw the keeper come off his line again, and dished off to Kekus, who finished it off, to make it 6:3.

Herholdt upped the score to 7:3 late in the contest when he nodded home a corner kick from Kekus.

Hurley inadvertently contributed to Real's final goal when a free kick from about 25 yards deflected off of Hurley's head in the wall, giving the stranded Marquez no chance.

*Kuba Banbor, Reggie Champagne, Chris Hurley and Maciek Kekus contributed to this report.*

**BYKI LINEUP (4-5-1):** King – Marquez, Hurley, Champagne, Fleming – Herholdt, Buur, Banbor (c), Chudyba, Kekus – Benavides. **Bench:** Boeckeler.

**BYKI SCORING SUMMARY**

1:0 – Kekus 8 (Banbor);  
2:1 – Benavides 3 (Fleming);  
3:1 – Kekus 9 (Herholdt);  
4:1 – Champagne 1 (Boeckeler); 65th.  
5:2 – Banbor 4 (Kekus); 75th.  
6:3 – Kekus 10 (Banbor); 78th.  
7:3 – Herholdt 3 (Kekus); 85th.

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

|           |          |  |
|-----------|----------|--|
| Pampas    | <b>4</b> | Premier Soccer League<br>Over 40 B1 Division |
| Byki O-40 | <b>1</b> | Windemere Park<br>13 September 2015          |

|           |          |   |
|-----------|----------|---|
| Concordia | <b>3</b> | Premier Soccer League<br>Over 48 Division |
| Byki O-48 | <b>2</b> | Hawthorne<br>16 September 2015            |

## Pampas dominate shorthanded Byki

The champagne will have to remain on ice for another week, as Chicago Pampas delayed the Over 40 Team's bid for a second consecutive title last Sunday with a comprehensive 4:1 victory at Windemere Park. The Byki have a two-point lead on Windy City United and lead Pampas by five. Windy City have just one game left in the season, while the Byki and Pampas each have two.

It was clear that Pampas came locked and loaded. They created two clear chances in the first seven minutes of the contest. Goalkeeper James Vlahakis was in the right spot on both occasions, but the ease with which Pampas carved out those opportunities was an omen.

The Byki nearly broke into the lead moments later. Brian Huck fought for ball on the right and slid a quick pass to Jim Jacobs, whose shot ticked off of the top of the goal.

Pampas went out in front in the 20th minute, when a well-placed through pass unhinged the Byki defense. The striker beat Vlahakis to the ball and deposited it into the back of the net.

Pampas kept up the pressure. In the 33rd minute, a Pampas striker curled a shot from the top of the box on the right side and was only beaten by the left-side goal post. Two minutes later, Pampas doubled the lead on the counterattack that came along the right flank. The ball was centered to a striker, whose shot was blocked by Doug Towsey. The rebound came right back to the striker, who made no mistake the second time.

Pampas ended the first half in dream fashion, when a simple chip found a striker in the box, and he headed over Vlahakis for an incredible 3:0 lead.

The home team put a stranglehold on the contest just after the hour mark, as Pampas took advantage of a Byki turnover at midfield, converting the play into a commanding 4:0 lead.

Things got edgy in the 70th minute, when the Pampas sweeper took a swing at Steven Pedlow. After the ensuing scuffle settled down, the referee sent off Pedlow and the Pampas player.

The Byki avoided the shutout when Diego Penafiel converted a penalty kick in the closing minutes. His pass freed Ade Ekundayo in the box, and when Ekundayo was shoved to the ground, the referee pointed to the spot. Penafiel leads the Over 40s with 13 goals this season.

*Eric Muehlbauer contributed to this report.*

**BYKI LINEUP (4-2-3-1):** Vlahakis – Towsey, Cohen, Fink, Safford – Zarate, Pedlow (c) – Fukar, Jacobs, Ekundayo – Huck. **Bench:** Elmkinssi, Muehlbauer, Penafiel, Thompson.

### BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

4:1 – Penafiel 13 (pk);

## Tough-nosed Byki bow out in semis

The stuttering first season of the PSLC's Over 48 Division finally reached the playoff stage last Wednesday, as the fourth-place Byki faced off against first-place HNK Concordia at Hawthorne Sports Complex in a semifinal match. Concordia prevailed 3:2, but had to work hard to get their victory. The Byki displayed their best teamwork all season.

The League had waited as long as it could for two postponed matches involving Sofia BG to be played and eventually declared the season over, scheduling two semifinal matches. As a result, the Byki sat idle for an astounding six weeks, having played their last regular-season match back on August 5.

The Byki came into the semifinal determined to play smart soccer at both ends and not worry about the score. Concordia had beaten up on the Byki by 5:0 and 8:1 during the regular season.

That strategy looked shot after only four minutes. The Byki sloppily gave the ball away at midfield, sending a group of Concordia players surging towards the Byki goal. Byki defenders were flat-footed the entire time and a through pass split things open for an easy score.

The Byki, however, recovered from that poor start and righted the ship by the middle of the first half. They played short, quick passes, and frequently sent the ball from wing to wing. All of a sudden, the Byki had a competitive soccer match on their hands. Concordia stayed quiet for the remainder of the half, thanks to solid team defense by the Byki.

Brian Huck came close to leveling the affair in the 44th minute. He brought a long clearance under control, turned his defender the wrong way, and drilled a shot from the top of the box. The keeper read the play all the way and kept his side in front at the break.

The Byki built on their hard work of the first half by grabbing an equalizer four minutes into the second frame. Striker Serhat Calbay pressured a Concordia player who received a throw-in deep in his own half. Calbay won the ball, squared a pass for Dominic Demarets, who slotted the ball past the goalie to knot things at 1:1.

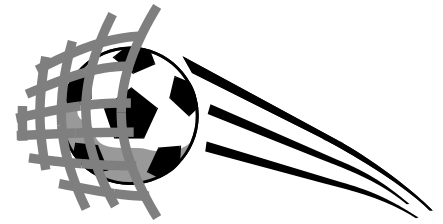
Concordia duly received the wake-up call and went back into the lead just two minutes later. A booming free kick from

**STARE BYKI FC**  
**High-Low Game Fundraiser**  
**Ticket donation \$25**  
**Two winners every week**  
**Buy tickets online**  
[www.starebykifc.org/highlowgame.html](http://www.starebykifc.org/highlowgame.html)





# BYKI bits & pieces



## **Football High-Low Game Fundraiser**

**(Only 496 tickets will be sold.)**

Buy tickets online at [www.starebykifc.org/highlowgame.html](http://www.starebykifc.org/highlowgame.html)

### **How much does it cost to play?**

Ticket donation is \$25 and the ticket is valid for all 17 weeks of the NFL season and playoffs up until the Super Bowl.

### **How do you win?**

There are two ways to win. You win if the two teams listed for a given week combine to score the highest number of points that weekend in the NFL. You also win if the two teams listed for a given week combine to score the lowest number of points that weekend in the NFL.

### **How much do you win?**

For the regular season, you win \$50 if your teams combine to score the highest number of points that week, and \$25 if they combine to score the lowest number of points. For the three weeks of the playoffs, the payouts rise to \$150 and \$75, respectively. A drawing for four cash prizes will be held during the lead-up to the Super Bowl. All tickets are eligible for this drawing.

### **What happens if a team is on a bye week?**

Both teams listed on a ticket for a given week must play that week for the ticket to be valid. The same situation applies for the playoffs; if one or both teams listed for the playoff weeks are not in the playoffs, then the ticket is not valid for that week.

### **Will I be playing the same two teams every week?**

No. The pairs of teams are selected at random. You have to check your ticket every week to see which teams are involved for that week.

### **Do the teams listed in a given week have to play one another in order to win?**

No. In fact, it is highly unlikely that the teams listed will be playing one another. The only thing that counts is how many points are scored by the teams listed in their respective games.

### **What if someone else has the same teams that I do? Do we both win?**

Every ticket is unique, so no other player has your two teams for a given week. There are a total of 496 tickets in play and the approximate odds of winning some kind of prize are 1 in 9.

### **What if there is more than one winning ticket?**

If there is more than one winning ticket in a given week, the prize money will be split equally among the winners.

### **How do I know if I won?**

All winners will be notified via email or phone, so it is important to ensure that you correctly fill out the details on the ticket stub. Details of prize winners will also be posted on this website.

### **Prize Summary**

\$50 - Regular season week, high score  
\$25 - Regular season week, low score

\$150 - Playoff week, high score  
\$75 - Playoff week, low score

\$500 - Cash drawing #1  
\$250 - Cash drawing #2  
\$125 - Cash drawing #3  
\$125 - Cash drawing #4

**NSL FIRST DIVISION**

September 13, 2015

[www.nslchicago.org](http://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            | 12        | 8        | 2        | 2        | 35        | 18        | 26         |
| <b>Stare Byki FC</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>8</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>45</b> | <b>19</b> | <b>26</b>  |
| Das Magic            | 12        | 6        | 2        | 4        | 35        | 23        | 20         |
| Chicago Dynasty FC   | 12        | 3        | 3        | 6        | 19        | 30        | 12         |
| Olympiacos Chicago   | 9         | 1        | 0        | 8        | 14        | 38        | 3          |
| West Indies Jets     | 0         | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0         | 0         | 0          |

| <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> |
|---------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Assyrian FC         | 9         | 6        | 0        | 3        | 28        | 19        | 18         |
| Gremio FC           | 13        | 6        | 0        | 7        | 32        | 42        | 18         |
| FC Macedonia        | 11        | 5        | 0        | 6        | 24        | 32        | 15         |
| FC Guadalajra       | 11        | 5        | 0        | 6        | 28        | 26        | 15         |
| Lancer SC           | 10        | 3        | 1        | 6        | 23        | 36        | 10         |

**PSLC OVER 40 B1/B2 DIVISION**

September 13, 2015

[www.pslchicagoland.com](http://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> |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>Stare Byki FC</b>   | <b>14</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>39</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>33</b>  |
| Windy City United      | 15        | 10        | 1        | 4        | 35        | 18        | 31         |
| Pampas OT              | 14        | 9         | 1        | 4        | 53        | 28        | 28         |
| Naperville Strikers FC | 15        | 4         | 2        | 9        | 32        | 45        | 14         |
| MOFG                   | 13        | 4         | 1        | 8        | 21        | 34        | 13         |
| International SC       | 13        | 2         | 4        | 7        | 21        | 36        | 10         |

| <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> |
|---------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| MANA Soccer Club          | 14        | 9        | 0        | 5        | 76        | 41        | 27         |
| St Charles Celtics Green  | 14        | 8        | 3        | 3        | 53        | 27        | 27         |
| Itasca                    | 14        | 8        | 2        | 4        | 44        | 30        | 26         |
| Real FC                   | 15        | 6        | 1        | 8        | 35        | 51        | 19         |
| Chicago FC                | 14        | 4        | 3        | 7        | 33        | 44        | 15         |
| St Charles Celtics Orange | 13        | 0        | 0        | 13       | 8         | 78        | 0          |

**PSLC OVER 30 WHITE DIVISION**

September 13, 2015

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|                      | <b>GP</b> | <b>W</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>L</b> | <b>GF</b> | <b>GA</b> | <b>Pts</b> |
|----------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| FC DePaul            | 14        | 10       | 2        | 2        | 44        | 18        | 32         |
| Levski Chicago 2014  | 13        | 9        | 2        | 2        | 51        | 21        | 29         |
| AEK FC Chicago       | 13        | 9        | 1        | 3        | 42        | 18        | 28         |
| St Charles Celtics   | 12        | 9        | 1        | 2        | 42        | 21        | 28         |
| <b>Stare Byki FC</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>39</b> | <b>26</b> | <b>22</b>  |
| Chicago Rangers FC   | 13        | 4        | 3        | 6        | 28        | 24        | 15         |
| Olympiacos Chicago   | 14        | 5        | 0        | 9        | 31        | 38        | 15         |
| Real FC              | 15        | 1        | 1        | 13       | 21        | 79        | 4          |
| Shogun               | 14        | 0        | 1        | 13       | 14        | 67        | 1          |

**PSLC OVER 48 DIVISION****FINAL STANDINGS**[www.pslchicagoland.com](http://www.pslchicagoland.com)

|                      | <b>GP</b> | <b>W</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>L</b> | <b>GF</b> | <b>GA</b> | <b>Pts</b> |
|----------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| HNK Concordia        | 7         | 7        | 0        | 0        | 32        | 5         | 21         |
| Sofia BG             | 6         | 4        | 0        | 2        | 26        | 15        | 12         |
| International SC     | 8         | 3        | 1        | 4        | 21        | 25        | 10         |
| <b>Stare Byki FC</b> | <b>8</b>  | <b>2</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>5</b> | <b>9</b>  | <b>32</b> | <b>7</b>   |
| St Charles Celtics   | 7         | 1        | 0        | 6        | 11        | 22        | 3          |