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RED

Byki 3 : 3 Shlama

NSL 1st Division - The Odeum - 2 December 2011

Byki fight to earn point

A lack of discipline and sloppy decisions in the defensive third of the field by the Red Team last Friday helped put them in a 3:1 hole early in the second half of their match versus Shlama FC. The Byki found a way to turn things around and eventually walked away with a share of the spoils after a 3:3 draw. With a bit more luck, the Byki might have parlayed the territorial advantage that they had built in the second half into a game-winning goal. The Byki stand at 1-1-0 for the season.

Aggressive defending has its time and place, but the excessive eagerness displayed by the Byki came back to bite them. The speedy Shlama forwards darted past Byki who tried to steal the ball, leading to dangerous counterattacking situations. The gaps in the back were too numerous and Shlama made the Byki pay the hefty price.

They needed a mere 26 seconds to grab the lead. A turnover at midfield left the Byki outnumbered as Shlama rapidly pushed the ball the other way, leaving goalkeeper Ray Najera helpless to stop the open shot.

Shlama was not far off from doubling their lead in the middle of the first half. Najera made a terrific save on a close-range shot and was helped by Alex Guzman, who alertly cleared the deflected ball off of the goal line. A couple of minutes later, Najera cleaned up a messy situation in the Byki penalty area after the defense had failed to clear the ball.

The Byki evened the score with 7:18 left in the half. Marek Ciszewski dribbled along the right wing after a Byki steal, pushing a 3 v 2 counterattack. He banked a pass off of the back boards into the middle, freezing the goalie, as an unmarked Kuba Banbor smashed the ball into the empty net.

Shlama went ahead 2:58 later on the power play. Najera made a tough save with only seconds remaining, but the rebound went to an open Shlama player, who drilled a shot off of the underside of the crossbar.

Maciek Kekus and Alan Stevens double-teamed a Shlama player in his own end late in the half, springing Kekus into the clear. He fired a hard shot that was tipped to safety by the goalie. The Byki came on the counter in the dying moments. Jordan Stopka slipped a pass to Ciszewski, making the run on the right. Ciszewski blasted a first-time shot that the keeper did well to save to preserve the lead.

The Byki defense placed themselves too far forward to start the second half, and when they couldn't win the ball, Shlama knifed past them to spring a 3 v 1 situation. They converted with ease to boldly go 3:1 into the lead.

It took the Byki just 2:09 to offer a reply. Paul Mansur won a battle for possession near the boards and played a square pass to Minos Bouzoukis. With no Shlama players in the vicinity, Bouzoukis calmly measured his shot and fired past the sprawling keeper to bring the Byki to within 3:2.

The score went level only 1:37 later. Stopka sent a pass along the boards to Ciszewski in the left corner. He slipped past his man and lured the goalie off of his line. He neatly knocked a pass off the boards for the waiting Banbor, who made a carbon copy of his first goal with a simple one-time shot.

The hard-working Byki looked the better side in the latter part of the match. Mike Stamatinos showed his range with a shot from distance during a Byki power play with 7:45 to go. The shot hit the boards and the back of the goalkeeper before he finally located the ball and grabbed it before anyone could pounce on the rebound. Three minutes later, Ohad Garnon was bidding for his first goal



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Byki Stats

SENIOR TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Banbor	2	0	2
Ciszewski	0	2	2
Bouzoukis	1	0	1
Mehreioskouei	1	0	1
Mansur	0	1	1

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Najera	76	3	1.50

Current record: 1-1-0

O-40 TEAM, CHAMPIONS O-40 LEAGUE

Player	G	A	Pts
Gorski	1	0	1
Huck	1	0	1
Passi	1	0	1
Dec	0	1	1

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Muehlbauer	34	8	11.76
Dec	16	5	15.63
Elmkinssi	41	16	19.51
Zadlo	9	5	27.78

Current record: 0-0-2

as he sprinted forward on the counter during a Byki penalty kill. He struck the ball with full force and the keeper had to dive to make the grab.

Understanding how to defend your territory was the lesson to take away from this match. The Byki must guard the space in front of their goal in tighter fashion in order to compete against teams with speed.

BYKI LINEUP (3-2): Najera – Uriza, Stamatinos, Mansur – Kekus, Buur.
Bench: Banbor, Bouzoukis, Ciszewski, Garnon, Guzman, Stevens, Stopka.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

1:1 – Banbor 1 (Ciszewski); 11:42.
2:3 – Bouzoukis 1 (Mansur); 22:54.
3:3 – Banbor 2 (Ciszewski); 24:31.

Byki Men of the Match: Kuba Banbor, Marek Ciszewski.

If a silver lining could be found in this disaster, it lies in the fact that the Champions Over 40 League has a distinct separation of talent between the top and bottom teams. Wisla, Eagles and Champions FC are clearly the teams set to compete for the title, while the Byki are joined by Torino FC and Tamayo. Wisla beat up on Tamayo 16:3 last week, while Champions drubbed Torino 12:0. The most basic goal for the Byki is to at least finish ahead of Torino and Tamayo.

The Eagles blitzed the Byki for five goals in the first nine minutes of play. If assists could be given to the opposing defense, the Byki would have piled up a boatload in helping out the Eagles. If they weren't sending defensive clearances right back to the Eagles, the Byki were doing their best traffic cone imitations as the Eagles waltzed into the Byki penalty area with the greatest of ease. Kris Zadlo, who started the match as the sacrificial goalkeeper, gave way to Nick Elmkinssi after those first disastrous nine minutes. The defensive help for Elmkinssi was hardly any better and the Eagles just kept pounding shots on target. The previous record for goals conceded in an indoor match was 20, given up by the Over 30 Team in March 2001 versus Classic Auto in NSL competition.

The Byki stemmed the tide of Eagles goals briefly when Mariusz Gorski fired home from long distance to make the score 7:1. The Eagles scored twice more to take a 9:1 lead into the break. Tony Passi tallied the only Byki goal of the second half. He was in the right place to slam home a rebound from the top of the area, giving the keeper no chance.

Steven Pedlow contributed to this story.

BYKI LINEUP (3-2-1): Zadlo – Passi, Gorski, Farhan – Dec, Pedlow – Per. **Bench:** Dahlquist, Elmkinssi.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

1:7 – Gorski 1; 17th.
2:13 – Passi 1; 35th.

OVER 40

Byki 2 : 21 Eagles

Champions O-40 League - Champions Soccer Arena - 2 Dec 2011

Defense-less Byki slaughtered

The defensive woes for the Over 40 Team continued last Friday, as AAC Eagles applied a record-breaking pasting on the Byki, winning 21:2. Despite a glaring hole at the goalkeeper position, the Byki oftentimes looked utterly clueless in their own end, allowing Eagles players to walk into shooting position unimpeded. The Eagles made the most of their opportunities and the goal total quickly piled up.

CHAMPIONS OVER 40 LEAGUE

December 2, 2011

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
SAC Wisla	2	2	0	0	30	4	6
AAC Eagles	1	1	0	0	21	2	3
Champions FC	1	1	0	0	12	0	3
Tamayo	1	0	0	1	0	12	0
Torino FC	1	0	0	1	3	16	0
Stare Byki FC	2	0	0	2	3	35	0

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

December 2, 2011

www.nslchicago.org

MAJOR DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
FK Kozarac	2	2	0	0	14	3	6	RWB Adria A	2	2	0	0	21	3	6
B-H Lilies Royal	2	2	0	0	8	4	6	Albanian Stars	2	2	0	0	18	2	6
Tricycles SC A	2	1	0	1	5	5	3	CKS Warta A	2	1	0	1	9	8	3
SAC Wisla	2	0	1	1	9	10	1	Hellenic United Blue	2	1	0	1	8	11	3
KF Tirana	2	0	1	1	8	11	1	FK Republika Srpska A	2	0	0	2	4	18	0
B-H Lilies	2	0	0	2	4	15	0	Chicago Pride	2	0	0	2	1	19	0

FIRST DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Assyrian FC	2	2	0	0	7	5	6	Hellenic United White	2	2	0	0	8	1	6
Stare Byki FC	2	1	1	0	4	3	4	Zaglebie SC	2	1	0	1	6	1	3
Stal Mielec	2	1	0	1	13	4	3	RWB Adria B	2	1	0	1	6	3	3
Gremio FC B	2	1	0	1	8	5	3	Winged Bull A	2	1	0	1	5	5	3
CKS Warta B	2	1	0	1	6	9	3	FK Republika Srpska B	2	0	0	2	1	7	0
Shlama FC	2	0	1	1	3	8	1	West Bosnia SC	2	0	0	2	0	16	0

SECOND DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Naperville Strikers	2	2	0	0	15	1	6	NK Prijedor	2	2	0	0	15	3	6
Chicago Inter Yellow	2	2	0	0	13	8	6	FC Kosova	2	1	1	0	18	6	4
Gremio FC A	2	1	0	1	3	1	3	Chicago Dynasty FC	2	1	1	0	5	4	4
HNK Primorac	2	1	0	1	5	5	3	Pitbulls SC	2	1	0	1	6	8	3
Chicago Inter Blue	2	0	0	2	7	17	0	Tricycles SC B	2	0	0	2	5	9	0
Winged Bull B	2	0	0	2	3	22	0	Chicago Inter White	2	0	0	2	2	13	0