



BOUNCINGS



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16 Dec 13



NSL

Byki **3 : 8** Jagiellonia

12-13-13

Byki defense torn to shreds

There was no good luck in evidence for the Byki on Friday the 13th. Newcomers Jagiellonia Chicago torched the Byki 8:3 last Friday, leaving the Byki staring at an 0-0-2 record to start the new NSL season.

Jagiellonia, who play their outdoor soccer in the all-Polish Okocim Soccer League, have come to the NSL for indoor competition because the OSL do not play indoors. They came aggressively at the Byki right at the outset and the Byki had few answers en route to a 5:2 halftime deficit.

“Our defending was scandalous,” said coach George Gorecki. “The marking was loose and Jagiellonia did not hesitate to shoot from anywhere in the final third of the field.” The Byki attack hardly impressed either. The hopeful long passes into the corners produced little and seldom was seen the quick-touch passing game that Gorecki envisions for his team.

Jagiellonia capitalized on an early error to snatch the lead after just 2:10. Goalie Amit Khankari came out to grab a high shot and bobbled the ball. A Jagiellonia player knocked home the loose ball.

The Byki leveled things midway through the first half. Tony Sabo won the ball at midfield and sent a pass along the right flank for Jordan Stopka. The lanky forward saw his opening and launched a rocket past the stunned keeper.

Jagiellonia scored twice within 1:11 to take a 3:1 advantage. In both cases, the Byki allowed their opponents far too much space to operate and Khankari was a busy man all night long.

The Byki pulled one back with 6:42 left in the half. Chris Hurley fought through a challenge along the right-wing boards and dribbled into the corner. He banged the ball off the back boards, presenting Geo Jimenez with a terrific scoring chance in the middle of the box. The unmarked striker made no mistake in nabbing his third goal of the season.

Two late goals for Jagiellonia put them in the driver’s seat at the break.

“One significant problem in the first half was the almost complete lack of ball possession,” commented Gorecki. “Jagiellonia came at us hard and we responded in a flustered manner, giving the ball away cheaply all too often.”

The Byki got better with their ball movement and the game evened out for most of the second half. The Byki created a flurry of chances in the first five minutes, all of it due to quick, simple passes. Jimenez found Stopka in the corner and he centered for Mike Stamatinos making the run into the area. Stamatinos drove the ball first-time, but the goalie made an awesome foot save.

Moments later, it was the Jimenez-Stopka combination again. Stopka’s shot caromed off of the inside of the far post.

After more poor marking allowed Jagiellonia to increase their lead to 6:2 with 10:30 left, Stopka forced a turnover and fed Jimenez at the top of the box. The keeper came up big again, denying Jimenez with a nifty kick save.

Maciek Kekus completed the scoring for the Byki, heading home a ball that had ricocheted off the glass above the goal, served up by Jimenez from the right wing.

BYKI LINEUP (2-1-2): Khankari – Stamatinos, Sabo – Hurley – Jimenez, Stopka. **Bench:** Ciszewski, Kekus, Rodriguez.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

1:1 – Stopka 1 (Sabo); 7:57.
2:3 – Jimenez 3 (Hurley); 12: 18.
3:7 – Kekus 2 (Jimenez); 36:52.

Byki Man of the Match: Jordan Stopka

Byki Stats

FIRST TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION				O-40 TEAM, ODEUM O-40 LEAGUE			
Player	G	A	Pts	Player	G	A	Pts
Jimenez	3	1	4	Pedlow	4	0	4
Kekus	2	0	2	Ciszewski	1	1	2
Sabo	0	2	2	Fleming	1	1	2
Stopka	1	0	1	Gibbs	1	1	2
Hurley	0	1	1	Lane	0	2	2
Stamatinos	0	1	1	Gorecki	0	1	1
Zielinski	0	1	1	Muehlbauer	0	1	1
Goalie	Min	GA	GAA	Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Banbor	1	0	0.00	Bolesta	52	13	10.00
Khankari	75	12	6.08	St Clair	14	4	11.43
Current record: 0-0-2				Muehlbauer	16	5	12.50
				Current record: 0-0-2			

WE ARE THE BYKI - Friends - Passion - Soccer

Odeum

Torino FC **10 : 4** Byki O-40

12-09-13

No subs, no chance

By Steven Pedlow

The Over 40 Team lost to Torino FC 10:4 last Monday in Hat Trick Soccer's Over-40 League at The Odeum, as the Byki struggled again due to a lack of substitutes. For the second time in as many matches, the Byki started with only one sub against Torino, whose meager bench had just had three subs, compared to the seven that the Byki faced in their 12:3 opening night defeat to Olympiacos. Torino controlled the play as the Byki hesitated to chase the ball, but the opening minutes were scoreless. Torino broke through at the 7:05 mark when a Torino player was able to take a dribble past the last defender in a 1 v 1 situation at the top of the box for a breakaway tap-in.

Goalkeeper Rick Bolesta had to leave the match after 12 minutes when he reinjured his Achilles. The consequence of that injury was devastating for the Byki, as they had to finish the final 28 minutes of the match without a substitute. Eric Muehlbauer took over in goal.

Shortly thereafter, a 2 v 1 counterattack led to Torino's second goal. The score went to 3:0 in the 16th minute when a long shot from the defensive line found the corner. Torino did not take many long shots, and most were blocked by Byki defenders. This one, however, found a way through and was perfectly placed.

With 21:15 left, the Byki got on the board when they were able to set up in the Torino defensive zone. Paul Gibbs dribbled along the left-wing boards. With Torino's defense marking Charles St. Clair and Marek Ciszewski, Steven Pedlow ran into the empty center slot, took the centering pass from Gibbs, dribbled twice to control the ball, and placed his shot to the left upper corner to beat the goalie.

Most of Torino's goals were counters when a Byki attempt to attack fizzled and an odd man rush resulted. With no subs, the Byki were already tired and could not defend the quick rushes. Torino regained their three-goal lead when a Byki attack was intercepted and the team was too tired to prevent a 2-on-1 that resulted in a good pass and empty net goal. Torino made it 5:1 on a rare offensive set-up. More than half the game consisted of the Byki defending in their own end as Torino passed it around the perimeter. Generally, the Byki defending was solid, but the fifth Torino goal actually involved a long shot saved by Muehlbauer's hand, and a Torino player was right there to stab in the rebound. Torino made it 6:1 with another quick counterattack.

Without any subs, the only fresh field player for the Byki turned out to be Muehlbauer, who had "rested" with his 16-minute stint in goal. St. Clair swapped places with

Muehlbauer for the remaining 14 minutes of the contest. Torino's lack of subs might have caught up with them and they started to look tired, prompting a mini resurgence by the Byki, who banged in three quick goals in the span of 9:40.

With 13:30 left, Ciszewski looped a long pass to Pedlow, who was sprinting down the right side of the field. Pedlow beat the goalie to the pass and directed it into the net past him to make it 6:2.

Two minutes later, Pedlow tapped an interception out to Andy Lane, who fed Ciszewski in the midfield circle. Ciszewski took on three defenders and his shot went under the keeper for a great individual goal to bring the Byki to within 6:3.

With 10:02 left, Ciszewski tried this move again, but this time his shot was saved. Lane tracked the ball down in the left corner and sent in a centered pass. The ball bounced to Muehlbauer, who passed to Gibbs in the right corner. Gibbs found the net from a difficult angle to make the score 6:4.

The Byki would get no closer, as the whole team seemed completely dead tired for the last ten minutes. Torino was able to counterattack at will and punched in four more goals. The Byki cannot expect success indoors unless there have a healthy number of subs every week because one is obviously not enough.

Charles St Clair contributed to this story.

BYKI LINEUP (2-2-1): Bolesta – Pedlow, Muehlbauer – Lane, Gibbs – St Clair. **Bench:** Ciszewski.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

3:1 – Pedlow 3 (Gibbs); 18:45.

6:2 – Pedlow 4 (Ciszewski); 20:18.

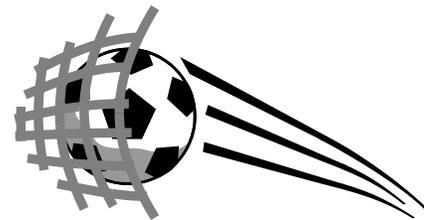
6:3 – Ciszewski 1 (Lane); 28:42.

6:4 – Gibbs 1 (Muehlbauer); 29:58

Byki Man of the Match: None given.



BYKI bits & pieces



The Premier Soccer League of Chicagoland held their annual meeting last week and the Byki Over 40 Team brought home two excellent awards.

The Over 40s won a trophy for finishing in third place in the Over 40 Blue Division. It is the second consecutive third-place trophy and fourth over-

named after a player from the Shogun club who died suddenly a few years ago. His sporting attitude and positive influence on the game prompted the PSLC to create an award honoring his impressive character.

The award is something that should make everyone in the club very proud because the award covers all six Divisions of the League, not just the Over 40 Blue Division, where the Over 40s play. Byki President **George Gorecki** pointed out why such a trophy is significant. "Winning an award like this is special because people outside of our club are paying attention to the way we run our operation and these people recognize the sort of classy organization that we are," Gorecki said. "All of us know that our club is run in a first-class way and it's fantastic when the leaders of one of the leagues of which we are members can see it as well. PSLC President **Claudio Frigo** told me that we earned the award because of the way we conduct ourselves on and off the field and how we treat our opponents and referees."



Let's celebrate! Doug Towsey accepts the third-place trophy won by the Over 40 Team.

all for the Over 40s since joining the PSLC in 2009. The Byki had a rocky start to the season in 2013 and then rebounded in spectacular fashion, reeling off 28 points in their last 12 matches. Kudos to **Eric Tower** and **Doug Towsey** for their leadership. Managing a bunch of know-it-all old-timers isn't always the most rewarding task.

The Over 40s also won the League's 2013 Hiro Ishizuka Sportsmanship Award. The award is



George Gorecki shows off the PSLC Sportsmanship Award, adding another piece of hardware to the Byki trophy case.

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

December 13, 2013

www.nslchicago.org

MAJOR DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
SAC Wisla	2	2	0	0	10	6	6	CKS Warta	2	2	0	0	11	4	6
Chicago Fire U-23	2	2	0	0	10	8	6	RWB Adria A	2	2	0	0	8	2	6
Albanian Stars	2	1	0	1	9	6	3	ANCI Assyrian A	2	1	0	1	10	6	3
Tricycles SC A	2	0	0	2	7	9	0	Chicago Stars	2	1	0	1	6	8	3
KF Tirana	2	0	0	2	6	9	0	Ethnikos Chicago	2	1	0	1	4	8	3
RWB Adria B	2	0	0	2	3	11	0	Zaglebie SC	2	0	0	2	5	12	0

FIRST DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Albania FC	2	2	0	0	10	4	6	Lancer FC	2	2	0	0	16	3	6
Chicago Dynasty FC	2	2	0	0	9	4	6	Stal Mielec	2	2	0	0	11	4	6
FC Kosova	2	1	0	1	9	10	3	Jagiellonia Chicago	2	1	1	0	12	7	4
ANCI Assyrian B	2	0	1	1	6	10	1	Tricycles FC B	2	1	0	1	6	6	3
Chicago Inter	2	0	0	2	3	10	0	Stare Byki FC	2	0	0	2	6	12	0
Gremio FC	2	0	0	2	5	14	0	HNK Primorac	2	0	0	2	3	12	0

ODEUM OVER 40 LEAGUE

December 9, 2013

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Albania FC	2	2	0	0	20	3	6
Asteras	2	2	0	0	15	10	6
Tricycles SC	2	1	0	1	19	9	3
Olympiacos	2	1	0	1	14	10	3
Torino FC	2	1	0	1	13	7	3
Jake's Stars	2	1	0	1	10	10	3
Stare Byki FC	2	0	0	2	7	22	0
FC Pints	2	0	0	2	2	28	0