



# BOUNCINGS



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17 Dec 17

Unia Chicago	<b>4</b>	Premier Soccer League 1st Division
Stare Byki	<b>2</b>	Soccer City 10 December 2017

## Byki a step behind

The Byki suffered their first loss of the season last Sunday, as Unia Chicago proved to be quicker on the break and took home a 4:2 victory. For the second straight match, the Byki could not find their attacking game in the first half. Unlike their turnabout versus Jagiellonia the week before, the Byki simply could not make up for defensive errors that left Unia players unmarked at crucial moments. The Byki have six points from their three matches and sit in the middle of the First Division table.

The score might have gotten out of hand by halftime, but the heroics of goalkeeper Pete Chronowski kept the Byki in the hunt. It was Chronowski's first action since suffering an ACL injury more than a year ago.

"Our problems are annoying, but are easily correctable," said coach George Gorecki. "I keep reminding guys to get the ball off their foot and to keep it moving. It's really the easiest way to play. And too many players are unnecessarily extending their shifts. Fatigue is killing us at the worst times."

The sides played on level terms for much of the first half. Unia certainly had more of the ball, but the Byki held together defensively. The constant giveaways, however, prevented the Byki from building any attacking momentum.

Chronowski came up huge with 8:33 left in the first half. Unia came 3 v 2 on the counterattack and smartly squared the ball to an unmarked teammate running into open space on the left flank. Alan Bickel deflected the shot slightly and Chronowski reacted brilliantly to stab the ball away before it could find the far post.

Unia got their breakthrough just 0:29 later. The Byki thought that they could execute a five-man substitution, but all of the scrambling allowed Unia to advance the ball with ease. A simple give-and-go play left a man open in the box and he converted from close range.

Unia had two more excellent opportunities in the last six minutes, but Chronowski was equal to the task.

The Byki came out firing after the break and the momentum of the contest changed to their favor. They knotted the score at 1:1 after just 3:01. As Unia struggled to get the ball out of their zone, Alan Stevens stepped in front of a pass at midfield and went directly to Kuba Banbor. The play left Unia unbalanced and Banbor made them pay, sending a pass to Stevens that split two flat-footed Unia defenders. Stevens wasted no touches and fired a low shot past the diving keeper.

Although the Byki carved out a territorial advantage in the opening moments of the second half, they were unable to translate it into more goals. Unia reversed things and reeled off three strikes in the span of 5:26 to regain control of the match.

Midway through the second half, Unia ran the ball through the middle, with Byki players losing their marks all over the place in a 3 v 3 situation that broke down rapidly. The Byki were a step slow on every pass in the sequence and a simple finish from the right side of the box beat Chronowski to make it 2:1.

Unia went 3:1 up with 5:45 left following a period of sustained possession. The Byki thwarted two attempts, but the ball fell to an unmarked Unia player on the left flank. His shot went wide of the far post, but a teammate slid at Banbor's feet to drive the ball past Chronowski. Banbor complained to the referee that the sliding attempt for the ball was a violation. The arbiter conceded that the decision could have gone either way. "Another example of this idiotic no-slide rule," snorted Gorecki. "The Unia guy made a normal soccer play, but this league's rules supposedly prohibit that. We, along with the referees, remain confused about this rule."

Unia made it 4:1 just 1:17 later. The Byki looked fatigued as they weakly tried to clear the ball out of danger. It landed with an Unia player, who drilled a bouncing, knuckling shot from distance that deflected off of Chronowski's arm.

The Byki responded with an increase of pressure in the final minutes. With 3:30 to go, the Unia keeper did well to repel Mike Stamatinos' effort from the top of the arc.

# 2017

**NSL FIRST DIVISION  
PSLC OVER 30 B DIVISION**

# CHAMPIONS

Moments later, Banbor set up Joe Sauerman to shoot from the right wing. The keeper saved that blast to maintain Unia's advantage.

A late goal came too late to matter, but the Byki were certainly playing hard to final whistle. Robby McClure led the counterattack and slid the ball to Sauerman on the right wing. Sauerman's carefully measured pass found Andy Sokolowski alone in the box, with only the goalie to beat. His first attempt bounced off the back boards, but a fortunate rebound allowed the young striker to knock the ball home with 0:20 to go.

The Byki need to let simplicity be their guide in order to be successful in this league. They have the capability to score bags of goals, but they have to let the ball do more of the work.

**BYKI LINEUP (2-2-1):** Chronowski – Stamatinos (c), Sauerman – McClure, Korinenko – Sokolowski. **Bench:** Banbor, Bickel, Boeckeler, Mehagic, Stevens.

**BYKI SCORING SUMMARY**

1:1 – Stevens 2 (Banbor); 23:00.  
4:2 – Sokolowski 2 (Sauerman); 39:40.

**Byki Man of the Match:** Pete Chronowski.

*Video highlights, courtesy Mark Sokolowski:*

<http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLtK7JmLYJaGvASvcvfJ9bJRErU4liCSiD>

# Byki Stats

## FIRST TEAM, PSLC 1st DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Korinenko	4	1	5
Sokolowski	2	3	5
Akbas	2	0	2
Stevens	2	0	2
Sauerman	1	1	2
Stamatinos	0	2	2
Banbor	0	1	1
Crist	0	1	1
Perez	0	1	1

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Perez	80	6	3.00
Chronowski	40	4	4.00

Current record: 2-0-1

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# PREMIER SOCCER LEAGUE of CHICAGOLAND STANDINGS

## December 10, 2017

### MAJOR DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
SAC Lightning	3	3	0	0	16	2	9
SAC Wisla	3	3	0	0	14	9	9
Czarni Jaslo	3	2	0	1	12	7	6
Wisloka Chicago	3	2	0	1	12	8	6
Sockers FC Blue	3	1	0	2	15	10	3
Sockers FC White	3	1	0	2	14	9	3
SAC Lightning U-23	3	1	0	2	5	11	3
FC Bodrost	3	1	0	2	5	17	3
Torino FC	2	0	0	2	2	12	0
Chicago Fire Jr Gold	2	0	0	2	1	11	0

### FIRST DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
FC Moldova	3	3	0	0	27	5	9
Jake's Stars Punishers	3	3	0	0	24	5	9
SAC Lightning Over 30	3	3	0	0	12	5	9
Tarnovia Over 40	3	2	0	1	8	6	6
<b>Stare Byki FC</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>
Sockers FC Black	3	1	1	1	11	1	4
Unia Chicago	3	1	0	2	5	7	3
Levski Chicago	3	1	0	2	10	17	3
Sting FC	3	1	0	2	6	17	3
Jagiellonia	3	0	1	2	8	10	1
Thunder FC	3	0	0	3	4	15	0
Sporting MD	3	0	0	3	6	24	0