



# BOUNCINGS



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23 Dec 16



Primorac	<b>8</b>	National Soccer League 1st Division
Stare Byki	<b>7</b>	The Odeum 16 December 2016

## Byki roller coaster crashes

The Byki fell to 0-0-3 for the season last Friday in an 8:7 defeat to HNK Primorac, but they certainly went down fighting. They clawed their way back from a 5:2 halftime deficit to take a 7:6 lead with five minutes left in the contest. Primorac scored twice in the final 2:46, netting the game-winner right at the death. Joe Sauerman made a loud and forceful return to the Byki lineup, notching two goals and three assists. Kyler Mowry bagged a pair, while Marek Ciszewski and Mike Stamatinos each registered a goal and an assist.

The Byki had to deal with roster issues, thanks to two players who were no-shows, and were able to dress just eight players. Fatigue was a factor as the match wore on and a few extra substitutes would have been welcome.

Coach George Gorecki stressed the need to play smart soccer. On the heels of an embarrassing 4:1 defeat to the Vikings in Week 2, a turnaround was necessary. And it was all the more important when the bench was so thin.

So, the Byki ignored all of that and started out at a breakneck pace. It didn't take long for them to get stretched defensively, and Primorac forwards had acres of space to exploit in the Byki end of the field. On offense, the Byki continued to fail to make the ball do the work on a night when such an approach was absolutely crucial. "After what I saw in that first half, I didn't have much hope that we could pull things together," said Gorecki. "The second half was a different story and it was 19 minutes of soccer that everyone could be proud of."

The Byki actually had their share of scoring opportunities in the first half, but were thwarted by some remarkable saves

by the emergency goalie standing in the Primorac net. He parried Ciszewski's blast from the left wing in the opening minutes and Primorac quickly sent the ball towards the Byki goal. A Primorac player, seemingly trapped in the corner, squibbed a pass off of the boards that took a quirky hop and was redirected through a crowd in the Byki goal area for a 1:0 lead.

Primorac made it 2:0 midway through the first half. They parlayed a Byki turnover into a quick scoring chance and the low shot gave Najera no chance.

The Byki got on the board with 6:31 to go. Sauerman and Ciszewski plucked the ball out of a scrum at midfield and Sauerman carried the ball straight at goal. He laid off a well-timed pass to Mowry on the left side of the box, who made no mistake, registering his second strike of the season.

Things fell apart for the Byki in the last five minutes of the half. Their risky and adventurous moves upfield left them consistently exposed, and they left it to Najera to cover for them. He repelled several gilt-edged scoring opportunities, but a goalkeeper can only do so much in a solo situation.

A Primorac player slalomed past Mowry and Stamatinos en route to an empty-net goal after he lured Najera out of his box. At 3:1, the game seemed to be getting away from the Byki, but they had to endure another four minutes before halftime.

Primorac scored a bizarre goal with 2:09 left. After a

**STARE BYKI FC**  
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Primorac player had sent the ball out of play, the Byki expected to move forward on the restart. Instead, a Primorac player grabbed the ball and restarted things on his own. As the Byki protested to the referee, Primorac players zoomed in on the Byki goal. Najera was stranded in a two-on-none situation and Primorac went up 4:1.

The referee claimed that a Byki player had tipped the ball before it had gone out, thus giving the free kick to Primorac. The Byki reacted badly to this explanation and Mowry was given a blue card for dissent. Primorac rubbed salt in the wound by converting the power-play opportunity to swell their advantage to a gaudy 5:1.

The situation became even more bizarre later on, when the referee admitted to Stamatinos that he had blown the call on the restart. "Little good that did," snorted Gorecki afterwards. "His stupid mistake gave a goal to Primorac and then the ensuing penalty for dissent would have never happened. That's two goals. It doesn't excuse our lack of composure, however. We have to react better, no matter how badly the referee has botched things."

Amit Khankari collected a ball played over the top from Sauerman with 0:29 left and knocked home his second goal of the campaign to bring the Byki to within 5:2.

If there was a switch to flip to get the heads of the Byki on straight, someone must have found it at halftime. The Byki scored three of the next four goals in the match and they were definitely back in business. The passing got better, the marking got better, the overall level of teamwork got better, and suddenly, the outcome hung in the balance.

The comeback needed just 0:16 to get going. Stamatinos controlled the ball inside the Primorac penalty area and fed an unmarked Sauerman lurking at the back door to make it 5:3.

The Byki pulled to within one seven minutes later. Alan Stevens beat his man along the right wing and carried to the corner. He centered for Alen Mehagic in the box, whose shot dinged off the crossbar. A Primorac player cleared the ball to Ciszewski, who poked it home from close range.

Primorac beat the slow-reacting Byki on the counterattack with 9:53 to go, regaining a level of comfort at 6:4. The Byki, however, ripped Primorac out of their comfort zone with a three-goal outburst in the span of 4:10.

Ciszewski began the barrage when he sent a free kick from the corner to Sauerman at the top of the box. He shielded the ball long enough to wait for Stamatinos to arrive and dropped a pass into his wheelhouse. Stamatinos drilled the ball home to make it 6:5.

Moments later, Sauerman converted a nifty play following the Primorac goalkeeper's weka pass. With the ball high in the air, Sauerman floated a header over the goalie, who was stuck in an impossible position after his bad pass. With the score 6:6, anything was possible.

The Byki made three points look very possible with 5:01 to go. Najera heaved a throw to midfield, where Ciszewski won the battle for possession and dished to the streaking Mowry. He accelerated past the last defender, faked the goalkeeper to the turf, and deposited the ball into an empty net for an improbable 7:6 Byki lead.

Primorac, however, had one last say. The Byki turned the ball over at midfield and reacted too slowly to get back on defense. A centering pass from the corner found a Primorac player in the goal area and he deftly redirected the ball home to make it 7:7.

A draw would have been a just result, given the back and forth nature of the match. The Byki did not get justice, only a cruel ending to the match. Primorac played the ball long out of their end in the final seconds, sending it into the corner. The Byki could not contain the Primorac player, who laid the ball back for an open teammate on the right flank. He fired through a crowd and the ball somehow found its way home prior to the final whistle. It was a last gasp for Primorac and it was enough to ensure a victory.

Afterwards, Najera felt responsible for the defeat for not having reacted quickly enough on the final shot of the match. He could hardly be blamed for the loss of a point; his heroics earlier prevented Primorac from making the game a runaway. "This match was decided by the mistakes we made in the first half," said Gorecki. "In an 8:7 game, there's lots of blame to go around. One play at the end did not decide the outcome."

**BYKI LINEUP (2-2-1):** Najera – Stamatinos (c), Mowry – Mehagic, Sauerman – Ciszewski. **Bench:** Khankari, Stevens.

**BYKI SCORING SUMMARY**

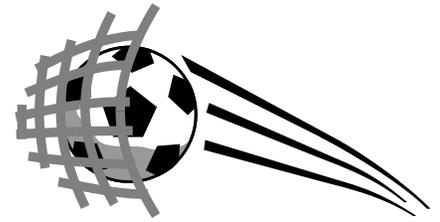
- 2:1 – Mowry 2 (Sauerman); 12:19.
- 5:2 – Khankari 2 (Sauerman); 18:31.
- 5:3 – Sauerman 1 (Stamatinos); 19:16.
- 5:4 – Ciszewski 1; 26:17.
- 6:5 – Stamatinos 1 (Sauerman); 28:49.
- 6:6 – Sauerman 2; 30:01.
- 6:7 – Mowry 3 (Ciszewski); 32:59.

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

<h1>Byki Stats</h1>			
<b>FIRST TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION</b>			
<b>Player</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Pts</b>
Sauerman	2	3	5
Mowry	3	1	4
Khankari	2	0	2
Ciszewski	1	1	2
Stamatinos	1	1	2
De Rama	1	0	1
Kramarz	0	1	1
<b>Goalie</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>GAA</b>
Stevens	2	0	0.00
Khankari	14	1	2.71
Najera	98	14	5.43
Current record: 0-0-3			



# 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

# NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

December 16, 2016

[www.nslchicago.org](http://www.nslchicago.org)

## CHAMPIONS DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Albanian Stars	3	3	0	0	13	5	9
CKS Warta	3	3	0	0	13	6	9
Vikings AA	3	2	0	1	12	7	6
Deportivo Guerrero	3	2	0	1	11	9	6
SAC Wisla A	3	1	0	2	9	10	3
Bosnia-Herzegovina A	3	1	0	2	10	15	3
Real Michoacan	3	0	0	3	2	8	0
Czarny Dunajec	3	0	0	3	6	16	0

## MAJOR DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
SAC Wisla B	3	3	0	0	23	7	9
FC Tryzub	3	2	0	1	16	12	6
Jagiellonia	3	2	0	1	13	10	6
Berber Stars	3	2	0	1	14	7	6
SC Unia Chicago	3	2	0	1	11	10	6
Albania FC	3	1	0	2	10	14	3
AAC Winged Bull	3	1	0	2	11	11	3
Urahan FC	3	1	0	2	15	21	3
HDS Eagles	3	1	0	2	9	19	3
Stal Mielec	3	0	0	3	11	22	0

## FIRST DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Chicago Inter Blue	3	2	1	0	11	9	7	Chicago Dynasty FC	3	2	0	1	21	6	6
FC United	2	2	0	0	13	5	6	Chicago Blast	3	2	0	1	20	11	6
FC Kosova	3	2	0	1	27	11	6	HNK Primorac	2	2	0	0	15	9	6
Vikings AA Over 30	2	2	0	0	8	1	6	Matehuala FC	2	1	0	1	7	6	3
Bosnia-Herzegovina B	3	0	1	2	7	23	1	SAC Wisla C	3	0	0	3	5	20	0
Stare Byki FC	3	0	0	3	10	15	0	Chicago Inter Yellow	3	0	0	3	7	35	0