



BOUNCINGS

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4 Aug 19

Byki 0-30	3	Premier Soccer League Over 30 White Division
Shogun	0	Oak Brook Sports Core 21 July 2019

Efficient Byki blank Shogun

The Over 30 Team may not have had all of their powerhouses on hand when they faced Shogun two weeks ago, but the 14-man squad displayed smarts and teamwork en route to a tidy 3:0 victory at Oak Brook. Jose Garcia scored twice, leading the Byki to their third win in four matches. The Byki remain in a tight clump of teams near the top of the table, with 16 points from eight games.

The Byki dominated possession right from the get-go to put their stamp on the match. Goalkeeper Amit Khankari probably earned the easiest shutout in his Byki career.

Despite their controlling position in the contest, the Byki failed to dent the back of the net in the first half. Striker Greg Jehs's header was grabbed by the Shogun keeper, while David Lara's headed attempt at the half hour was the best scoring chance for the Byki. The crossbar intervened on Lara's header and the goalkeeper gathered the ball to safety.

The Byki eventually broke through in the 62nd minute in elegant style. Lara played a long ball over the top that appeared to be destined for Jehs, who was in an obvious offside position. Jehs walked back and took himself out of the play, which had the effect of slowing the response of the Shogun defense. They failed to see Garcia making a run behind the defensive line from a clearly onside position. He strolled home all alone on the left side and fired a nice shot to the upper right corner of the net.

The Byki were just warming to the task. In the 70th minute, Garcia played an insightful ball over the top to Joe Sauerman, who trapped it at the top of the box with a defender all over him, shoulder to shoulder. They both went down in the box, creating a bit of chaos, as Sauerman tried to regain control of the ball. A charging Alex Guzman called for Sauerman to leave it and Guzman popped it straight in the middle of the goal for a 2:0 lead.

The Byki finished things off in style four minutes later. With the ball loose in the Shogun penalty area, Sauerman

wound up with the ball at his feet. He probably could have taken the shot himself, but Garcia was waiting patiently on the right side of the box. Sauerman unselfishly slid the ball to Garcia, who tapped home for his third goal of the campaign.

Robby McClure contributed to this story.

BYKI LINEUP (4-2-3-1): Khankari – Topcuoglu, Champagne, Lara, R. McClure – Garcia, Sauerman, Sodeinde, C. Kirk, Guzman (c) – Jehs.
Bench: Akbas, Talukdar, Zachariah.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

1:0 – Garcia 2 (Lara); 62nd.
2:0 – Guzman 1; 70th.
3:0 – Garcia 3 (Sauerman); 74th.

Byki Man of the Match: Jose Garcia.

SC Polonez	5	Premier Soccer League First Division
Stare Byki	2	Prairie Lakes Park 21 July 2019

Finishing falls short

The Byki lost their second match in the last three on July 21, when they fell 5:2 to SC Polonez at soggy Prairie Lakes Park. Polonez did not mess around, using a direct approach to great effect, roaring out to a 4:0 lead early in the second half. The Byki mounted something of a comeback to get to within 4:2, but their poor marksmanship proved costly. The Byki have 12 points from seven matches and have quite a climb ahead of them to make contact with the league leaders.

The defeat was also their second consecutive setback for

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the Byki at Prairie Lakes, whose miniscule field dimensions suited Polonez's tactics quite effectively. "The field was the same for both teams," said coach George Gorecki. "This is amateur soccer, and not every field will meet FIFA standards. We should be smart enough to adjust our game to whatever conditions we have to face."

The Byki were looking at a dream start to the match in just the fourth minute. After clearing a corner kick, the Byki played the ball long to Enrique Voltaire, who tore into the open space. The Polonez keeper made a late decision to come out and challenge and Voltaire got past him, but his attempt from a tough angle went wide.

Three minutes later, the Byki used the field's narrow width to their advantage. Alan Stevens, the team's long throw-in specialist, tossed one into the mixer. The ball was headed along to the back post for Anton Papou, whose shot was blocked by the goalie.

Two great chances were left wanting and Polonez capitalized midway through the first half. The Byki cleared a ball played into their box and a Polonez player fired a delicious volley into the upper corner for a 1:0 lead.

Voltaire won a header in the 30th minute and sprang Dmytro Korinenko for a run on the left wing. Korinenko carried into the area and his delightful square pass was desperately knocked away for a corner. Polonez cleared the corner right to Stevens, who launched a big bomb from distance. The goalkeeper read it well and was in the right spot.

In the 34th minute, Papou laid off for Voltaire, who barged past his marker on the right flank. He spied an opening at the near post, the keeper had the shot covered.

Polonez doubled their lead in the 40th minute. They lofted a free kick from 45 yards into the box, where a Polonez player's flick header found the back of the net.

The Byki knew that they had to score the next goal to get back into the match and came out swinging in the second half. Three minutes in, Daniel Hernandez latched onto a Polonez clearance and danced through a crowd to create an opening. A goal appeared imminent, but the Polonez goalie made the play of the game to deny Hernandez.

Moments later, Andy Sokolowski sprinted past the Polonez fullback and sought the far post, the ball whizzing just wide.

Unfazed by Byki pressure, Polonez scored twice in the span of four minutes to assume total control of the match.

The Byki, however, didn't know that they were beaten and kept pressing forward. In the 57th minute, a combination of quick passes between Korinenko and Nanmin Kone released Sokolowski into the clear. The young striker could not find the target.

The third time proved to be the charm for Sokolowski, who got his reward in the 62nd minute. Kone controlled the ball in traffic 30 yards from goal and slipped the ball to Sokolowski, who had the goalie all to himself. He calmly slotted into the far post for his first tally of the season.

The energized Byki made it 4:2 ten minutes later. Stevens heaved a throw-in into the area, causing significant mayhem. The resourceful Dominik Jerzak pounced on the loose ball

and drilled it home.

If that goal made Polonez unsteady, they weren't showing it. They made it 5:2 in the 75th minute, when they sent in a long cross from the right wing, finding an open teammate to head home. It was the final action that put the result beyond any doubt.

BYKI LINEUP (4-2-3-1): Marfo – Stewart, Stevens, Davies, Samatinos (c) – Smith, Koinenko – Papou, Jerzak, Voltaire – Kone. **Bench:** Hernandez, Sokolowski.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

4:1 – Sokolowski 1 (Kone); 62nd.

4:2 – Jerzak 1; 72nd.

Byki Man of the Match: Enrique Voltaire

Byki 0-40	2	Premier Soccer League Over 40 B Division
Gato Verde	6	Oak Brook Sports Core 21 July 2019

Byki limp across finish line

The Over 40 Team lost their fourth straight match when they dropped a 6:2 decision to longtime rivals Gato Verde on July 21. The Byki dressed 13 players to start the game, but were down to 11 when the injury bug hit them hard. The lone bright spot for the Byki was midfielder Ruben Bullon, who scored both goals.

Lukas Chudyba had the shortest day of his Byki career when he had to leave the field before anyone had a chance to break a sweat. Chudyba hit the ground hard after a Gato Verde player had come in with a rough challenge. He was not able to continue and eventually learned that he had broken his collarbone, ending his 2019 campaign.

Gato Verde broke through after 15 minutes, breaking down the Byki defense with three quick touches in a tight space. The Byki had chances to clear the ball to safety, but failed.

The score went to 2:0 in the 32nd minute, when Gato Verde's attack overpowered the Byki by plowing straight down the middle.

Gato Verde increased their advantage to 3:0 early in the second half, aided by a questionable decision from the referee. Byki netminder Ray Najera made an excellent play when he blocked an attempt at goal with his chest. The referee must have mistaken Najera's chest for his arm because he gave Gato Verde a free kick just outside the area. A Gato Verde player struck the free kick cleanly to find the back of the net.

Gato Verde kept rolling, bagging their fourth goal of the contest in the 53rd minute. A player danced with the ball in the middle of the field and fired a shot home from 32 yards.

The Byki responded two minutes later. Bullon got the Byki on the board when he found an extra gear and dribbled right down the middle. He opened his Byki account when he popped the ball over the goalie's head.

Bullon wasn't finished. Just eight minutes later, Gabriel Rodriguez started the play on the flank and dribbled in alone

on the goalie. He dished off to Bullon, making a perfect pass to avoid being offside. The easy tap-in made it 4:2.

Gato Verde shook off that Byki flurry moments later. A player headed home a cross that hit the crossbar and bounced over the line. They completed the rout just before the final whistle, carrying the ball past a weary Byki defense.

The thinned-out bench hurt the Byki significantly. As the game wore on, the 16-strong Gato Verde roster simply pounded the Byki into submission.

Robby McClure contributed to this story.

BYKI LINEUP (4-2-3-1): Najera – Fukar, Lane, King, Brough – Bullon, Penafiel – Melendez, G. Rodriguez, Ekundayo (c) – Chudyba. **Bench:** Fink, Meuhlbauer.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

1:4 – Bullon 1; 55th.
2:4 – Bullon 2 (G. Rodriguez); 63rd.

Byki Man of the Match: Ruben Bullon.

Byki O-48	2	Premier Soccer League Over 48 Division
Silverbacks	3	Olympic Park 31 July 2019

Byki in giveaway mode

The Over 48 Team could not have found more creative ways to help their opponents than what was on display last Wednesday versus the St Charles Celtics Silverbacks. Two key errors gifted goals in crucial fashion to the Silverbacks, who went home 3:2 winners. The defeat keeps the Byki firmly in the Over 48 cellar, trailing St Charles by four points.

The match started off well enough for the Byki, who swarmed the Silverbacks goal right from the jump. Their aggressive approach netted two goals in the first 16 minutes and led everyone to believe that this was the start of something big. Unfortunately for the Byki, the goals dried up after that ambitious spurt.

Winger Jim Jacobs, pumped up and ready before kickoff, followed through in style. In the sixth minute, he stole the ball just outside the St Charles penalty area and quickly found Mike Drenth. He played a quick return pass to Jacobs, who suddenly had only the goalkeeper to beat. He slotted into the low corner for his first goal of the season.

The Byki made it 2:0 ten minutes later. Charlie Cohen launched a long throw-in from the deep right wing. Brian Huck's flick header hit a stunned Silverbacks goalkeeper in the chest. Huck was first to the rebound and he dinked it home, seemingly placing the Byki in the driver's seat.

The match seesawed between the boxes for most of the remainder of the first half. The Silverbacks then halved the deficit in the 32nd minute. A late-running midfielder sprinted onto a well placed ball behind the Byki defense. No one picked up the runner at midfield and he raced past the defensive line

to pop the ball over Ray Najera.

A couple of minutes later, George Gorecki tried to move the ball away from pressure on the left side. His target was Najera, but the ball never got there. A St Charles player out of Gorecki's view stepped in for the steal and handily converted the fundamental error into the equalizing goal.

The Byki figured that the game was there to be won, because they were still controlling the tempo and fluke mistakes were not a great cause for concern. They nearly regained the lead in the 48th minute, when Cohen drove another throw-in deep into the Silverbacks penalty area. Huck weaved into open space along the byline and dropped a pass for Attila Kotsy on the right flank. Kotsy's swerving cross found the unmarked Eric Tower, whose side-foot volley went over the crossbar.

It turned out that the Byki had one more flukey mistake in them. The St Charles goalie sent a long punt deep into Byki territory, where Dean Fukar tried to send a back header to Najera. Fukar was unaware of Najera's position and Najera was unprepared for such a pass. The end result was a farcical empty-net goal that gave St Charles a 3:2 lead.

The Byki still had plenty of time to make up for their shenanigans, but their marksmanship lacked the necessary quality. They chased the game for the final 39 minutes, creating little more than a handful of half-chances.

BYKI LINEUP (4-2-3-1): Najera – Safford, Towsey, Fukar, King – Tower, Cohen – Kotsy, Jacobs, Drenth – Huck. **Bench:** Carrillo, Dahlquist, Dec, Gorecki.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

1:0 – Jacobs 1 (Drenth); 6th.
2:0 – Huck 3 (Cohen); 16th.

Byki Man of the Match: Doug Towsey.

Byki O-48	2	Premier Soccer League Over 48 Division
Sofia BG	3	Olympic Park 25 July 2019

Shorthanded Sofia trip up Byki

In a season where little has gone right for the Over 48 Team, things only got worse on July 25, when they fell 3:2 to nine-man Sofia BG at Olympic Park. The Byki failed to use the extra space to their advantage and the opportunistic Sofia side took their chances very well. They might have even won the game more easily if not for the heroics from Dan Spaulding in the Byki goal.

Sofia only had eight players in uniform at kickoff time and their ninth player arrived five minutes into the match. The Byki would have done themselves a favor had they pressed Sofia higher up the field. Instead, the Byki played a conservative, almost timid game at the start.

Sofia sensed Byki passivity and sent a ball in behind the defense in the ninth minute. Spaulding was well positioned

to grab the ball before the Sofia player could arrive.

The Byki thought that they had dented the back of the net in the 14th minute. Juan-Carlos Carrillo hooked a free kick into the six-yard box and the ball found the far post for what appeared to be a brilliant strike. The referee, however, waved it off after having detected a foul somewhere.

Sofia continued to pump balls over the Byki defense and they were off here and there by inches. Interventions by Spaulding, a timely goal-are clearance by Paul King, and a botched sitter by a Sofia player could have resulted in a quick 3:0 deficit.

Instead, it was the Byki who snatched the lead. After Spaulding thwarted a Sofia breakaway with a kick save in the 25th minute, the Byki worked a slick series of passes the other way. The play started with Dean Fukar passing to Dave Safford, who laid off for Sven Dahlquist in the middle. Dahlquist played the ball to Brian Huck, who spotted Safford making the run on the left flank. Safford shot far post and the keeper was unable to hang on, allowing the ball to trickle underneath.

Sofia equalized five minutes later, when a shot from distance got in under the bar. Spaulding leapt for the ball, but ultimately lost it in the lights.

Sofia took an unlikely lead in the 34th minute, when Eric Tower's pass across the middle in the back third was intercepted and quickly converted into a goal.

One good turnover deserves another and this time it came in the Sofia end of the field in the 36th minute. Huck stepped in the path of a sloppy pass and took the ball straight to goal. He got the keeper to go to ground and tucked the ball inside the near post to make it 2:2.

The Byki continued to search for the go-ahead goal. A nifty passing sequence in the 42nd minute set up Huck from close range. Sofia's goalie made a great save to deny Huck.

The goalie needed extra help moments later. Charlie Cohen drilled a shot from ten yards, only to see it ping off of the near post.

The Byki needed to continue that kind of pressure after the break, but their attack often bogged down. Passes came too slowly, runs were timed poorly, and the Byki failed to stretch the field to create space between Sofia's defenders.

Sofia scored the game-winner at the hour mark. After clearing a Byki corner kick, they came the other way on the counterattack. A Sofia player held the ball deep near the goal line and dropped a pass for a teammate at the top of the area. The Byki were slow to react at every point and the low shot eluded the diving Spaulding.

The match was a missed opportunity for the Byki. An undermanned opponent, however, played a compact defensive style and countered on the right occasions to catch the Byki off balance.

The Byki received a bit of positive news earlier in the week when the PSLC announced the withdrawal of Atletico Torino from further competition this season. The forfeit win gives the Byki their first points of the season.

BYKI LINEUP (4-2-3-1): Spaulding – Safford, Tower, Fukar, King – Cohen, Dahlquist – Dec, Muehlbauer, Carrillo – Huck. **Bench:** Gorecki.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

1:0 – Safford 1 (Huck); 25th.

2:2 – Huck 2; 36th.

Byki Man of the Match: Dan Spaulding.

PSLC FIRST DIVISION**21 July 2019****www.nslchicago.org**

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Red Devils FC	9	7	1	1	29	12	22
Unia Chicago	9	6	1	2	40	18	19
BH Lillies	9	5	3	1	28	14	18
Borrachos FC	9	5	1	3	22	13	16
SC Polonez	9	5	0	4	38	29	15
Thunder Sports Club	9	4	1	4	18	18	13
Stare Byki FC	7	4	0	3	11	14	12
Sting SC	10	2	2	6	24	40	8
Shogun Wind	10	2	1	7	15	29	7
Westchester United	9	0	0	9	10	48	0

PSLC OVER 30 WHITE DIVISION**21 July 2019****www.pslchicagoland.com**

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Levski Chicago 2014	8	7	0	1	41	8	21
Tricolorii FC	9	6	0	3	26	10	18
FC Oasu	9	5	2	2	30	18	17
Stare Byki FC	8	5	1	2	33	13	16
FC Igloopol	9	4	2	3	15	21	14
International SC	10	3	3	4	26	29	12
AEK FC Chicago	6	3	2	1	16	10	11
Chicago Rangers FC	8	2	2	4	11	29	8
Shogun	9	1	0	8	9	40	3
Stimulus Package United	8	0	0	8	6	35	0

PSLC OVER 40 B DIVISION**21 July 2019****www.pslchicagoland.com**

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Deerfield	6	6	0	0	22	5	18
United Dynamo	7	5	2	0	20	8	17
FK Danubia	7	5	0	2	18	11	15
Park Ridge Rogues	7	4	0	3	10	15	12
Lake Zurich Aces	7	3	1	3	23	12	10
MANA United SC	7	2	1	4	18	13	7
Gato Verde	7	2	1	4	18	18	7
Stare Byki FC	7	1	0	6	8	36	3
Real FC Blues	7	0	1	6	11	30	1

PSLC OVER 48 DIVISION**31 July 2019****www.pslchicagoland.com**

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Park Ridge Rogues	10	8	1	1	46	8	25
Jakes Stars Villains	9	8	1	0	43	8	25
HNK Concordia	7	5	1	1	20	8	16
Sofia BG	8	5	0	3	21	18	15
Olympiacos Chicago	10	3	1	6	22	35	10
St Charles Celtics Silverbacks	7	2	1	4	11	24	7
Atletico Torino FC	14	2	1	11	18	46	7
Stare Byki FC	9	1	0	8	14	48	3