



BOUNCINGS

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11 Aug 19

Stimulus Pkg	1	Premier Soccer League Over 30 White Division
Byki O-30	4	St Joseph HS 4 August 2019

Over 30s on a roll

The Over 30 Team climbed to the top of the pack of teams chasing Levski Chicago in the standings following their 4:1 victory over Stimulus Package United last Sunday at St Joseph HS. A three-goal flurry early in the first half put the Byki in control, and they easily held off a rally by the home team after having gifted them a goal. Quavas Kirk bagged a pair of goals, while Greg Jehs contributed a goal and an assist.

With 19 points from nine matches, the Byki see three teams in hot pursuit, trailing by no more than two points. Once-defeated Levski have a five-point lead over the Byki and the two sides have a crucial encounter this Sunday.

SPU are on their maiden voyage in the PSLC and it's been quite a rough ride so far, with zero points from nine matches and a gaudy -32 goal difference. The Byki manhandled them 5:0 in their first meeting of the season.

The Byki swarmed all over SPU in the opening minutes. Martin Herholdt charged in from the right flank and saw his shot tick off of the crossbar in the game's first salvo.

In the ninth minute, Arnab Talukdar sent a long pass up the left wing for Jehs, who sped past the fullback and went immediately to goal. The SPU goalie did well to keep Jehs' attempt out of the net.

Six minutes later, the Byki were on the board. Zia Topcuoglu carried the ball into the right-wing channel and found Kirk in the middle. Kirk cut across to the top of the box and blasted a low shot just inside the post.

The barrage continued and the Byki doubled their lead in the 18th minute. Jehs controlled a long boot from goalkeeper Joel McClure. He dribbled right up the middle, only to have a defender poke the ball away. It went directly to Kirk, who opportunistically drove home his eighth goal of the campaign from 20 yards.

The score swelled to 3:0 just two minutes later, and it

was the McClure-Jehs combination all over again. After bringing McClure's punt out of the air, Jehs simply sprinted past his man to go 1 v 1 with the keeper. Jehs handily converted from close range.

Kirk's bid for a hat trick after an errant SPU pass in their defensive third was denied with a full-stretch save by the goalie.

SPU was given a sliver of hope in the 31st minute. After SPU floated yet another hopeful ball downfield to no one, McClure came off his line and called for the ball. The ball took a bad hop and McClure muffed the catch. A hustling SPU player poked the ball into the empty net to make it 3:1.

The Byki were inches away from getting that one back late in the first half. Richard Sodeinde stole the ball from a defender and shot right away. The keeper blocked it and Kirk controlled the rebound near the byline. He crossed into the middle for Herholdt, whose open header glanced off the bar.

There was little doubt that the Byki were the better team, but they didn't want to see the 3:1 advantage slip away. More goals were needed to preserve a comfortable cushion. Two minutes into the second half, Cyril Zachariah launched a ball over the top for Kirk. Dragging a defender draped all over him for several steps, Kirk drilled a shot from 12 yards that forced a sprawling save.

The plucky SPU side kept pushing to find the goal that would bring them closer and Joel McClure stepped up his game to snuff out any chances. The Byki defense went into bend-but-don't-break mode and McClure mopped up any mess that was created.

The Byki put the result beyond any doubt four minutes

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from the end. Jehs dribbled past his marker on the right flank and went directly to goal. He found the right moment to slide a pass to an unmarked Sodeinde, who made no mistake converting the sitter.

The Over 30s have four wins in their last five. Their best chance to make the title race legitimate comes this Sunday.

Robby McClure contributed to this story.

BYKI LINEUP (4-2-3-1): J. McClure – Talukdar, Champagne, R. McClure, Campa – Gibbs, Herholdt – Sodeinde, Q. Kirk (c), Topcuoglu – Jehs.
Bench: Zachariah.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

0:1 – Q. Kirk 7 (Topcuoglu); 15th.
 0:2 – Q. Kirk 8; 18th.
 0:3 – Jehs 8 (J. McClure); 20th.
 1:4 – Sodeinde 5 (Jehs); 86th.

Byki Man of the Match: Joel McClure.

Stare Byki	2	Premier Soccer League First Division Oak Brook Sports Core 4 August 2019
Sting SC	2	

Fantastic finish preserves point

Striker Enrique Voltaire displayed nerves of steel last Sunday as he stepped up to the penalty spot in the dying moments of second-half stoppage time in an attempt to bring the Byki level for the second time on the day. He converted handily and the Byki left Oak Brook with a point following their 2:2 draw with Sting SC.

Voltaire had scored earlier in the contest to make it 1:1 in a match where the Byki believed that they had been the better side, let down once again by a lack of precision in front of goal. “It’s been the missing piece of the puzzle all season long,” commented coach George Gorecki. “I think we’ve generally gotten better week to week during this first half of the season. There’s always quite a bit of work when integrating this many new players into the roster.”

Indeed, 13 players have made their Byki debut this season. The Byki have a lot of talent and are still trying to maximize on that. It’s a process that everyone wants to see accelerated.

The Byki were the aggressors right from the start. In the second minute, winger Anton Papou controlled the ball deep in the right-wing channel and zinged a sharp cross to the far post. Voltaire was there to nod the ball home, barely missing the target.

Inches separated the Byki from the lead 15 minutes later. Voltaire sprinted to chase down a long ball bouncing towards the Sting goal. The keeper charged out of his box to clear the ball, but could not get it out of the Sting half. Mitchell Mueller took possession and immediately looked towards the open goal, launching an audacious attempt from 45 yards. His lob beat the goalie, but not the crossbar.

Sting turned things around and grabbed the lead in the

21st minute. A low cross from the right side went all the way through the Byki penalty area and was saved by a Sting player at the left-wing touchline. He juked his way to the byline and crossed the ball to a teammate, who headed into the back of the net.

The Byki leveled the affair at 1:1 in the 32nd minute. Tomaro Smith won the ball at the halfway line and dished to Mueller, who quickly played a pass into space for Voltaire. Seeing the keeper approaching fast, Voltaire picked his spot and shot immediately, registering his first goal of the campaign.

Two minutes later, Nanmin Kone sped past his marker on the left wing and carried the ball deep. His centering pass found Mueller, whose first-time attempt went high.

Sting went back into the lead just before the hour. A throw-in on the deep right wing found a Sting player at the near post. He headed along to the back post, where an unmarked teammate buried the header to make it 2:1.

The Byki continued to push players forward. In the 63rd minute, Papou collected the ball in front of goal and somehow shot over the bar.

The game opened up, as fatigued players allowed more and more space. Sting botched a 2 v 2 counterattack when they shot wide from short range. Late in the match, they came again on the counter, but Byki netminder Dominik Jerzak’s foot save denied an open shot on the doorstep of the Byki goal.

That set the stage for a wild finish. The referee had added three minutes of stoppage time to the second half to make up for time lost to a hydration break. In the final minute, the Byki and Sting fought tooth and nail in the Sting penalty area. A Sting player tried to clear the ball away, but it struck the outstretched arm of a teammate who had his back to the ball. The referee spotted the contact and pointed to the spot.

The Sting players went ballistic, fueled by what they perceived to be officiating that had favored the Byki throughout the match. Despite a mass confrontation and an endless barrage of verbal abuse, the referee was able to maintain control and only needed to brandish his yellow card just once. “The behavior of the Sting players was abominable,” said Gorecki afterwards. “That was a tough way to concede an equalizer, but their reaction was way over the top. The referee got it right. I give him full marks there; a lot of referees might not have had the courage to make such a call.”

Voltaire stepped up with full confidence and buried the spot kick to earn the Byki a valuable point.

BYKI LINEUP (4-2-3-1): Jerzak – Stewart, Stevens, Samatinos (c), Korinenko – Smith, Hernandez – Papou, Ruiz, Mueller – Voltaire. **Bench:** Kone.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

1:1 – Voltaire 1 (Mueller); 32nd.
 2:2 – Voltaire 2 (pk); 93rd+.

Byki Men of the Match: Mitchell Mueller and Enrique Voltaire

Lake Zurich	5	Premier Soccer League Over 40 B Division Palatine Celtic Park 4 August 2019
Byki O-40	1	

Luckless Byki still in the dumps

The downward slide for the Over 40 Team continued last Sunday, as they fell 5:1 to the Lake Zurich Aces at Palatine Celtic Field. After snatching the early lead, the Byki conceded four goals before the break, paving the way to another defeat. The stifling heat was no friend to the Byki, who had just two substitutes on the bench.

Whether the match would even take place was briefly in question, as the gates to the field were locked until nearly up to kickoff time. Several players were sufficiently spry to hop the fence, hoping to warm up before the start of the contest.

The Byki controlled possession at the outset and did well to move the ball around the field. An attack orchestrated by Roman Kramarz, Andy Lane, Sean Marquez, Ade Ekundayo and Diego Penafiel executed short, crisp passes to get the ball through the midfield.

This led to the first serious chance of the match, after 10 minutes. Kramarz blasted a hard shot from just outside the area. The Aces goalkeeper dove and adeptly deflected the attempt wide of goal. Five minutes later, the Byki went in front. Penafiel and Lane set up Kramarz with a shot from the left side, beating the goalkeeper at the far post.

The Aces rallied with a quick attack down the left and crossed into the middle from the corner. Emergency keeper Eric Muehlbauer read the play well and stepped in front of the cross to nudge it off the attacker and then cleared the ball to safety.

The Aces kept up the pressure, as their central attacker worked the ball from left to right along the 18 yard box. Despite heavy traffic, he was able to slip a hard shot just inside the left post to make it 1:1.

The Aces went 2:1 up when a long pass over the top of the Byki defense found their striker. He got there just before Muehlbauer could intervene and slipped the ball past him just inside the left post.

Kramarz was not far away from an equalizer a few minutes later. His shot from the far left side lofted over the goalie's head but banged off of the post.

The Aces kept the Byki back on their heels for much of the rest of the first half. Muehlbauer did well to thwart a free kick attempt from 25 yards. The Aces striker hit a hard, knuckling bullet that Muehlbauer could only fist away and the Byki cleared the ball away.

The Aces made it 3:1 when a hard shot from the left side deflected off a Byki defender and just narrowly made it inside the right post. The Aces' fourth goal was nothing short of fantastic, as an Aces player curled a corner kick directly into the goal. The Byki had everything covered as well as they could, with defenders manning both posts. The placement was perfect, eluding Muehlbauer and jumping defenders, settling

in the side netting.

The Byki defense tightened things up in the second half. Doug Towsey had several clearances, along with Paul King and Jay Brough. Ruben Bullon moved back into the middle to help out George Higginbotham and played well as stopper. Muehlbauer was quite busy in the second half. He intervened after a through ball put a sprinting Aces striker in alone on the right side. The shot was going to the right corner, but Muehlbauer got a hand on it and somehow deflected it away.

The Aces got their fifth goal when a striker barged up the middle of the field and hit a hard shot that deflected off a Byki defender and just scraped the underside of the crossbar.

Moments later, an Aces player carried the ball into the box on the right side with King marking. Muehlbauer used both hands to deflect the powerful shot over the goal. Muehlbauer made another great play five minutes later, stopping a point-blank shot with his left hand to bust up a breakaway situation.

Muehlbauer then donned his Superman cape, deflecting a curling shot and then scrambling to snare the rebound. He was in the perfect spot on a corner kick, knocking the ball over the bar following chaos outside the 6-yard box. Said Muehlbauer afterwards, "My hands literally hurt today, some of those shots were so hard."

Eric Muehlbauer and Doug Towsey contributed to this story.

BYKI LINEUP (4-2-3-1): Muehlbauer – Towsey (c), King, Higginbotham, Brough – Lane, Penafiel – Bullon, Marquez, Ekundayo – Kramarz. **Bench:** Carrillo, Melendez.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

0:1 – Kramarz 3 (Lane); 15th.

Byki Man of the Match: Eric Muehlbauer.

Byki O-48	3	Premier Soccer League Over 48 Division
Olympiacos	0	FORFEIT 7 August 2019

Freebie for Over 48s

The Over 48 Team received their second forfeit victory of the season on Wednesday when Olympiacos Chicago were unable to field a credible squad and chose to concede the points ahead of time.

The Over 48s will get another week off coming up, as HNK Concordia has asked for a postponement, owing to many players traveling on vacation. It is unclear whether the match will be rescheduled.

PSLC FIRST DIVISION**4 August 2019**www.nslchicago.org

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Red Devils FC	10	7	2	1	31	14	23
Unia Chicago	10	6	2	2	42	20	20
Borrachos FC	10	6	1	3	28	14	19
BH Lillies	10	5	4	1	29	15	19
SC Polonez	10	6	0	4	42	32	18
Thunder Sports Club	10	4	2	4	19	19	14
Stare Byki FC	8	4	1	3	13	16	13
Sting SC	11	2	3	6	26	42	9
Shogun Wind	11	2	1	8	18	33	7
Westchester United	10	0	0	10	11	54	0

PSLC OVER 30 WHITE DIVISION**4 August 2019**www.pslichicagoland.com

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Levski Chicago 2014	9	8	0	1	44	8	24
Stare Byki FC	9	6	1	2	37	14	19
Tricolorii FC	9	6	0	3	26	10	18
FC Oasu	10	5	3	2	31	19	18
FC Igloopol	10	5	2	3	19	23	17
International SC	11	3	3	5	28	33	12
AEK FC Chicago	6	3	2	1	16	10	11
Chicago Rangers FC	9	2	3	4	12	30	9
Shogun	10	1	0	9	9	43	3
Stimulus Package United	9	0	0	9	7	39	0

PSLC OVER 40 B DIVISION**4 August 2019**www.pslichicagoland.com

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Deerfield	7	7	0	0	24	5	21
United Dynamo	8	6	2	0	25	10	20
FK Danubia	8	5	0	3	21	17	15
Park Ridge Rogues	8	5	0	3	16	18	15
Lake Zurich Aces	8	4	1	3	28	13	13
MANA United SC	7	2	1	4	18	13	7
Gato Verde	8	2	1	5	18	20	7
Stare Byki FC	8	1	0	7	9	41	3
Real FC Blues	8	0	1	7	13	35	1

PSLC OVER 48 DIVISION**8 August 2019**www.pslichicagoland.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
Sofia BG	9	6	0	3	27	20	18
HNK Concordia	7	5	1	1	20	8	16
Olympiacos Chicago	11	3	1	7	22	38	10
St Charles Celtics Silverbacks	8	2	1	5	13	30	7
Atletico Torino FC	14	2	1	11	18	46	7
Stare Byki FC	10	2	0	8	17	48	6