



BOUNCINGS

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8 Sept 19

Stare Byki	1	Premier Soccer League First Division
SC Polonez	4	Olympic Park 29 August 2019

One up, one down

The Byki had a busy two-game stretch to end the month of August, defeating Sting FC 3:1 (see accompanying story) and falling 4:1 to SC Polonez. Those results leave the Byki with 20 points from their 12 matches, good enough for sixth place in the table.

With a rare Thursday night match, the Byki bolstered their squad versus Polonez with the addition of Colin Kirk from the Over 30s in midfield. By coincidence, he was paired in the center of the park with his teenage protege, Jac Chiarelli, making his Byki debut.

The Byki sought to use the big field at Olympic Park to their advantage against an older Polonez side. At times, the Byki looked really good, at the end of the first half, and in the middle of the second half. But Polonez moved the ball more quickly and more efficiently. "Our first touches were abysmal and we constantly turned the ball over way too cheaply," noted Alan Stevens.

The Byki conceded early when a Polonez player turned and shot from 25 yards out. The weak shot wrong-footed keeper Dominik Jerzak, who was leaning towards the far post. The shot, however, bounced into the near post.

Immediately after conceding, Stevens should have done better with an open header at the back post from JD Joiner's corner kick. Stevens steered the ball wide.

The Byki went level in the 35th minute after Richar Daguerre went on a long, winding run down the right wing. He cut to the inside and got chopped down at the top of the box. Mike Stamatinos stepped up and curled a right-footed beauty into the upper right corner past a diving Polonez keeper to make it 1:1.

The Byki looked the better side at the end of the first half, as Enrique Voltaire weaved his way past two defenders, cut inside on his left foot and unleashed a shot across goal. The Polonez goalie saved well and knocked the ball wide.

The contest turned the wrong way for the Byki in the

opening minutes of the second half. In the 50th minute, the Byki botched an offside trap and a Polonez player got in behind. He shot early past a diving Jerzak, who was injured on the play. Goalkeeper depth proved crucial, and Tyler Marfo replaced Jerzak between the sticks.

The score went to 3:1 only minutes later and in similar fashion. A ball over the top beat the Byki backline and Marfo was forced to come out 1 v 1. The Polonez striker lofted the ball over Marfo and into the back of the net.

The Byki squandered a golden opportunity to get back into the contest, but were unable to get four close-range attempts over the goal line. Amey Borkar played a delightful ball behind the defense for Nanmin Kone. The striker found a good shooting position, but the Polonez keeper saved the attempt. The rebound fell to Anton Papou, whose shot was cleared off the line by a Polonez defender. Stamatinos was next in line and his shot was blocked, as was Joiner's follow-up. After surviving that onslaught, the Polonez players probably figured that they could endure anything.

Polonez scored their fourth after converting a free-kick opportunity inside the Byki 6-yard box. Marfo had mistakenly picked up a back pass inside his own area and Polonez made no mistake to hammer the free kick into the bottom corner.

Stamatinos, who had to juggle player-coach duties, was realistic in his assessment of the team. "Our balance was off," he said. "We didn't close down spaces and our shape was way off as a squad. We made simple errors that cost us dearly.

"Overall, we had our fair chances and did not capitalize on those opportunities."

Mike Stamatinos and Alan Stevens contributed to this story.

BYKI LINEUP (4-2-3-1): Jerzak – Joiner, Stevens, Davies, Stamatinos (c) – C. Kirk, Chiarelli – Daguerre, Korinenko, Papou – Voltaire. **Bench:** Borkar, Kone, Mancilla, Marfo.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

1:1 – Stamatinos 1; 35th.

Byki Man of the Match: None given.

WE ARE THE BYKI - Friends - Passion - Soccer

Sting FC	1	Premier Soccer League First Division
Stare Byki	3	Burden Field 25 August 2019

Byki O-30	0	Premier Soccer League Over 30 White Division
International	4	Oak Brook 25 August 2019

On the previous Sunday, the Byki squared off against Sting FC at Burden Field and put together a comprehensive effort at both ends of the pitch en route to a 3:1 victory. They maintained excellent defensive discipline and counterattacked at just the right moments to put away a mouthy Sting side.

The Byki needed just five minutes to snatch the lead. After the Sting defenders scuffed a clearance following a Byki corner kick, a Sting player handled the ball inside his box, prompting the referee to whistle for a penalty. JD Joiner buried the spot kick.

But the home side came back to equalize just four minutes later. A weak clearance left the ball just outside the Byki penalty area and a Sting player swooped in to fire past Dominik Jerzak to make it 1:1.

The scoring flurry continued and the Byki regained the lead in the 11th minute. Winger Alex Mancilla won the ball in midfield and dished off to Mike Stamatinos, who launched a booming pass to the other side of the field. Anton Papou raced to meet the ball in the open space behind the defense and crushed a shot that gave the keeper no chance. "Anton's been hitting those shots at training," said coach George Gorecki. "It was great to see it happen on a Sunday."

The match evened out after that and the closest anyone came to scoring during the remainder of the first half was a Sting player who put home a rebound from close range in the 45th minute. The goal was ruled out for offside.

The Byki got into a comfort zone in the 72nd minute. Papou sent a ball from midfield behind the Sting defense and Nanmin Kone sprinted into the clear. The goalkeeper came off his line, but was immediately caught in no-man's land. Kone picked his spot and slid his third goal of the season into the back of the net.

That goal took the wind of the Sting's sails and the Byki created a bevy of chances in the final quarter hour. Dmytro Korinenko picked the pocket of a Sting defender and had only the goalie to beat, but sent his shot high.

Richar Daguerre drilled a shot from the right flank in the 80th minute, forcing the goalkeeper to go full stretch. Four minutes later, Amey Borkar's insightful diagonal pass freed Kone, but the keeper came up big to deny the Byki striker.

BYKI LINEUP (4-2-3-1): Jerzak – Joiner, Stevens, Davies, Stamatinos (c) – Hernandez, Borkar – Korinenko, Mancilla, Papou – Kone. **Bench:** Daguerre.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

0:1 – Joiner 4 (pk); 5th.
1:2 – Papou 1 (Stamatinos); 11th.
1:3 – Kone 3 (Papou); 72nd.

Byki Man of the Match: Anton Papou.

Byki just can't finish

The Over 30 Team sought to solidify their spot in second place in the table when they faced off against International SC on August 25, but fell flat in a 4:0 defeat that dropped them into a pack of teams chasing after league leaders Levski Chicago. "Story for us all game was not finishing," said player-coach Robby McClure.

International, however, proved to be better marksmen, running out to a 2:0 lead by halftime. The first goal was a heater to the upper 90, tipped off of Amit Khankari's gloves. He had just popped back up after a save and could not react in time to stop the rebound.

International doubled their margin later in the first half. Botchy passing by the Byki in their defensive third gifted International a 1 v 1 situation in front of Khankari.

The Byki tried to regroup during the break and created some attacking opportunities. In the 50th minute, newcomer Shane Price collected the ball in the middle of a crowded International penalty area and looked for a shot at the far post but went just wide.

In the 63rd minute, Alex Guzman fired a one-time shot on a rebound from the top of the box. The ball went straight to McClure, who was well positioned at the six. It was an opportunity that was harder to miss than to make, but McClure dragged it wide of the far post.

Richard Sodeinde and McClure had great situations late in the contest, but were unable to get around the International goalkeeper in 1 v 1 situations.

International weathered the storm and knocked home two more goals to put the game out of reach.

Amit Khankari and Robby McClure contributed to this story.

BYKI LINEUP (3-5-2): Khankari – Herholdt, Talukdar, R. McClure – C. Kirk, Gibbs, Nugent, Price, Akbas – Champagne, Q. Kirk (c). **Bench:** Campa, Guzman, Sodeinde.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

None.

Byki Man of the Match: None given.

Real FC	6	Premier Soccer League Over 40 B Division
Byki O-40	2	Windemere Park 25 August 2019

Byki O-48	0	Premier Soccer League Over 48 Division
Jake's Stars	5	Olympic Park 29 August 2019

Byki fall to cellar

The Over 40 Team squared off against Real FC on August 25, the only team that they had beaten all season so far. Real got their revenge in a 6:2 victory that propelled them over the Byki in the table and dumped the Byki into last place. The Byki have lost eight matches in a row.

Real needed only eight minutes to get on the scoreboard. A long ball to Real's striker beat the Byki defense and Byki keeper Luis Tobias could not arrive in time to intervene. The striker faked Tobias to the ground chipped the ball past him. Four minutes later, a Real player intercepted a poor pass back to Tobias, and suddenly the Byki were down by two.

The Byki clawed their way back into the match after 20 minutes. Ade Ekundayo fought for possession just outside the box and a Real player handled the ball, resulting in a free kick for the Byki. Diego Penafiel stepped up and nailed it from 25 yards for his first goal of the campaign.

Moments later, Dave Safford crossed the ball into the mixer, and a Real player was guilty of another handball offense, this time inside the penalty area. Penafiel's spot kick was stopped by Real's goalkeeper and a chance to equalize fizzled away.

In the 24th minute, Real ran a counterattack down the right wing and a header found its way into the back of the net to make it 3:1.

Sean Marquez gathered a ball following a Byki corner and forced Real's goalie into a very difficult save, as he tipped the ball over the bar.

Real added another tally before the break to take a commanding 4:1 lead.

The Byki would get no closer in the second half. Real added two more to their total, while the Byki registered a consolation goal at the end. Ray Najera was tripped inside the Real penalty area, leading to the second penalty of the day for the Byki. Ekundayo did the honors with ten minutes to go.

Eric Muehlbauer and Doug Towseys contributed to this story.

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

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

2:1 – Penafiel 1; 20th.
6:2 – Ekundayo 2 (pk); 80th.

Byki Man of the Match: None given.

Jake's Stars flex muscles

Inactive for several weeks due to postponements and forfeits, the Over 48 Team took the field on August 29 and fell to first-place Jake's Stars Villains 5:0 at Olympic Park.

The Stars have been the class of the competition for several years and 2019 is no exception, as they carry a healthy six-point advantage over the Park Ridge Rogues. They needed just 17 minutes to bag two goals against the Byki.

In the 13th minute, a back-header to netminder Dan Sapulding went wrong and a Stars forward got there first for the easy tap-in. Four minutes later, a well placed through ball beat two Byki defenders, leading to a breakaway goal for a 2:0 lead.

In the 20th minute, Dave Safford's nutmeg led to a breakout for the Byki. He crossed the ball to the far side for Attila Kotsy, who shot first-time, narrowly missing the short corner.

Spaulding then cleared the ball to left side for Safford, who sent a long pass down the flank for Ray Najera. He chipped a pass to Ade Ekundayo and his shot missed wide.

In the 37th minute, Ekundayo intercepted a Stars pass and found the streaking Kotsy on the right wing. Kotsy centered for Steven Pedlow, who tried to control with his chest.

The Stars added to their total three minutes before the halftime interval, when a cross from the right side found the netting on the far side of the goal.

The Byki were more assertive early in the second half and kept working ball nicely through the pitch. Five minutes in, Ekundayo fired from 20 yards, but the keeper did well to tip it over the bar.

In the 60th minute, Pedlow ran down the left side and dribbled into the box. His shot hit the side netting. Five minutes later, he was at it again, thwarted by the goalie.

The Stars made it 4:0 on 70 minutes when they handily converted a cross to the far post. Shortly thereafter, the Stars wound up shorthanded. Two teammates got into a heated dispute, causing one of them to abandon the field entirely.

Ray Najera pressured the goalkeeper into a bad giveaway that went right out in front to Kotsy, who drilled a one-timer from just outside the box. Kotsy's attempt went right back to the keeper, who actually chuckled in appreciation of his good luck.

The Stars final tally came ten minutes from the end, when a striker latched onto a loose ball that had ricocheted off of two Byki defenders. He dribbled to goal and slotted home for a 5:0 lead.

E. Muehlbauer, S.Pedlow and E. Tower contributed to this story.

BYKI LINEUP (4-2-3-1): Spaulding – Safford, Tower, King, Zadlo – Muehlbauer, Huck – Carrillo, Kotsy, Ekundayo – Najera. **Bench:** Pedlow.

PSLC FIRST DIVISION**29 August 2019****www.nslchicago.org**

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Red Devils FC	13	9	3	1	41	18	30
Borrachos FC	13	8	1	4	38	20	25
Unia Chicago	12	7	2	3	45	22	23
BH Lillies	12	6	4	2	36	19	22
SC Polonez	12	7	0	5	47	39	21
Stare Byki FC	12	6	2	4	23	26	20
Thunder Sports Club	13	5	4	4	28	26	19
Shogun Wind	12	3	1	8	21	34	10
Sting SC	14	2	3	9	28	51	9
Westchester United	13	0	0	13	15	67	0

PSLC OVER 30 WHITE DIVISION**25 August 2019****www.pslchicagoland.com**

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Levski Chicago 2014	11	10	0	1	57	10	30
FC Igloopol	12	7	2	3	33	23	23
Stare Byki FC	12	7	1	4	42	26	22
Tricolorii FC	13	7	1	5	33	22	22
AEK FC Chicago	11	6	3	2	35	19	21
FC Oasu	12	6	3	3	39	24	21
International SC	13	4	3	6	35	37	15
Chicago Rangers FC	11	2	3	6	13	38	9
Shogun	12	2	0	10	11	55	6
Stimulus Package United	11	0	0	11	7	51	0

PSLC OVER 40 B DIVISION**25 August 2019****www.pslchicagoland.com**

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Deerfield	9	9	0	0	28	6	27
United Dynamo	9	7	2	0	26	10	23
FK Danubia	10	6	0	4	30	19	18
Park Ridge Rogues	10	6	0	4	22	22	18
Lake Zurich Aces	10	5	1	4	32	16	16
Gato Verde	9	2	2	5	18	20	8
MANA United SC	8	2	1	5	18	15	7
Real FC Blues	10	1	2	7	19	37	5
Stare Byki FC	11	1	0	10	13	61	3

PSLC OVER 48 DIVISION**29 August 2019****www.pslchicagoland.com**

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Jakes Stars Villains	12	11	1	0	57	12	34
Park Ridge Rogues	12	9	1	2	51	12	28
Sofia BG	10	7	0	3	32	21	21
HNK Concordia	8	5	1	2	20	11	16
Olympiacos Chicago	13	5	1	7	32	42	16
Atletico Torino FC	14	2	1	11	18	46	7
St Charles Celtics Silverbacks	12	2	1	9	19	49	7
Stare Byki FC	11	2	0	9	17	53	6