



POLYTECHNIC 9 2014/15 SEASON SUMMARY





SEASON OVERVIEW

■ CHANGES IN THE TEAM

After a very poor 2013/14 season which led to relegation I was determined to turn things around in Polytechnic 9s and show that we can play a competitive football. This required significant changes in the squad as well as more sophisticated management. I wanted to make sure that every player in the team knew his position and felt as an important and fully valuable team member.

■ LEAGUE and 2 CUPS

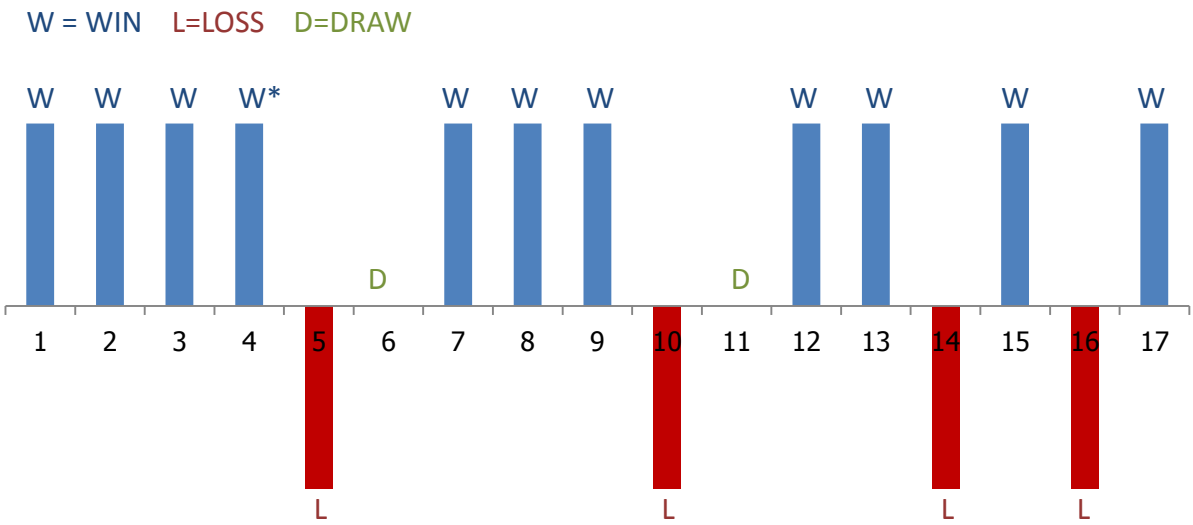
	P	W	D	L	F	A
League	16	10	2	4	53	20
AFA Cup	1	0	0	1	2	3
League Cup	1	0	0	1	1	2
Cancelled Game	1	1	0	0	5	2
TOTAL PLAYED	19	11	2	6	61	27

We entered 3 competitions this season - League in Division 5, AFA cup and League cup. Our performance throughout the season was very consistent and exceeded my expectations. In total we played 19 games across 3 competitions, 11 won, 2 drew and 6 lost with a score 61:27. While we were knocked out in both cups in the first round, we ended up third in the league despite having been occupying the second place for the most of the season.



SAL DIVISION 5

		P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
1	Old Wilsonians 8th	16	13	1	2	53	18	40
2	Alexandra Park 10th	16	10	5	1	61	27	35
3	Polytechnic 9th	16	10	2	4	53	20	32
4	HSBC 7th	16	8	2	6	43	34	26
5	Bank of England 5th	16	8	2	6	41	40	26
6	Civil Service 8th	16	6	1	9	26	30	19
7	Merton 6th	16	5	1	10	30	49	16
8	Old Blues 4th	16	4	2	10	22	41	14
9	Old Wilsonians 9th	16	0	0	16	7	77	0



2 defeats to Old Wilsonians 8s (0-3 A, 1-2 H), home defeat to Civil Service (0-1) and away defeat at Bank of England (1-2) cost us second place. On the other we drew twice 1-1 against the second team (Alexandra Park) and won all remaining 10 games. Having built the Polytechnic 9s nearly from scratch the final third place demonstrates great achievement in a very successful season.

NOTE: W* This game was cancelled as Old Salesians withdrew from the competition



COMMITTMENT

Player	Played	%
Petr Holecek	19	100%
Arash Moham	19	100%
Borja Miguel	17	89%
Dimitris Karydis	16	84%
Miltiadis Giannopoulos	15	79%
Nikolas Drakatos	14	74%
Karl Assing	12	63%
Diego Estoban	12	63%
Istvan Szlavik	11	58%
Matt White	11	58%

Player	Played	%
Celso Felipe	8	42%
Jose Henao	8	42%
Juan Salazar	6	32%
Carlos Dager	6	32%
Andrew St. John	6	32%
Abz Arabi	5	26%
Joe Kelly	4	21%
Rids	4	21%
Gustavo Dager	3	16%
Zeeshan Goburdhun	3	16%
John Woodward	3	16%
Reza (GK)	3	16%

Player	Played	%
David Munez	2	11%
Ales Vochyan (GK)	2	11%
Alan McDermott (Vets)	2	11%
Patrick (8s)	2	11%
Jan (6s)	2	11%
Max	2	11%
Mo Chicarro (7s)	1	5%
Chris Unwin	1	5%
Lee Irons (Vets)	1	5%
Matt	1	5%
Davide (8s)	1	5%
Owen (5s)	1	5%
Anthony Frattura (8s)	1	5%
Cameron (8s)	1	5%
Ram	1	5%
Tim (7s)	1	5%
Steve (6s)	1	5%
Tomas (6s)	1	5%
Chris (5s)	1	5%
Ben (5s)	1	5%
Manwhinney (5s)	1	5%
Dave	1	5%
Gustavo	1	5%
Dani	1	5%
Matthew (6s)	1	5%
Steff (6s)	1	5%
Dewayne (6s)	1	5%

Believe or not Polytechnic 9s used 49 different players this season! Only 10 players played more than 50% of all our games. Having higher number of committed players is definitely something to work on in the next season.



GOALKEEPER



Polytechnic 9s' number #1 goalkeeper choice was **Miltiadis** who played 14 out of 19 games, conceded 20 goals, saved last minute penalty at Alexandra Park and SCORED a goal from the goal kick against Old Salesians! Rumours say that Old Salesians couldn't bare the humiliation and consequently withdrew from the competition.



DEFENSE



The most common Poly 9s back four was **Matt** or **Istvan** at right back, **Petr** and **Karl** as centre backs and **Diego** at left back. In total we conceded 27 goals across 3 competitions (19 games). In the League we had second best defense (20 conceded goals) after Old Wilsonians 8s (18 conceded goals). Not only did our defenders successfully eliminate oppositions' attacks but they also managed to score. Petr equalized at Civil Service where we won 5-4, Istvan opened our score at Bank of England (5-2 W), Matt opened the score at home game against Old Wilsonians 9s (6-1 W) and Diego's quick feet scored 2 goals – 1 at Bank of England (5-2 W) and 1 at home against Old Wilsonians 9s (6-1 W).



MIDFIELD



The middle of the park was orchestrated by **Dimitris** and **Nickos**. Both players were new to the team and a great addition to the whole club - both on and off the pitch. The club is even considering introducing Greek food next season after the home games as they noticed they never stayed for meal. Dimitris's thunder shot from 20 yards against Bank of England was one of the finest goals we scored this season. Both midfielders provided our strikers with lethal passes and precise crosses. When Dimitris or Nickos were unavailable **Andy SJ** was a great substitution whose experience and great headers eased up the defenders' work.



WINGS



Jose was another great addition to the team. Having played a left wing he created numerous chances for our strikers and scored 2 goals. It was a big loss for the team when he had to stop playing due to his study commitments. The same applies for **Juan** – quick and skilful right wing who had the most goal assists. Similarly to Jose it was a big loss for the team when he returned to his home country. **Celso** and **Carlos** took up their positions and built on our game.



STRIKERS



What a season for **Arash** it was! He terrorised our oppositions throughout the entire season and managed to score 23 goals for Polytechnic 9s. Never-ending hunger for goals, powerful shots, unstoppable headers, but also quiet few missed chances – that is a summary of the Polytechnic second best goal scorer in the 2014/15 season and a player who did not miss a game and played all 19 competitive games.

Borja - the supersub was our second best striker with 7 goals. When the oppositions were getting tired Borja came on and implemented his fine technical skills to finish them off. Merton, in particular, must have nightmares until now as Borja scored 5 goals against them. Everyone can still remember the one when he produced a fine footwork which could only be seen by Messi in his top form. He dribbled among 4 Merton defenders and then chipped the ball over the keeper to the left top corner.



HIGHLIGHTS

■ HIGHEST VICTORIES

- 6-0 against Bank of England
- 6-0 against Old Blues
- 6-1 against Old Wilsonians 9s

■ REMARKABLE PERFORMANCES

- The very first game of the season against HSBC 7th (4-1)
- Away game at Merton (5-1)
- Arash's 4 goals against HSBC 7th (4-1)
- Borja's hat-trick at Merton (5-1)
- Miltiadis's last minute saved penalty at Alexandra Park (1-1)
- Miltiadis's goal from goal kick against Old Salesians (5-2)



AWARDS

- **PLAYER OF THE YEAR: ARASH MOHAM**

Arash had another great season for Polytechnic Club. He played all 19 games for Polytechnic 9s and 3 games for Polytechnic 8s. In total he scored 25 goals (23+2) to become our top scorer and second best club scorer.

- **PLAYER OF THE YEAR RUNNER-UP: Dimitris Karydis**

Dimitris was new to the club and immediately won his place in the team. He either played as a centre back or centre midfielder. He used his experience and technical skills to eliminate attacks as well as to send accurate passes to our attackers.

- **MANAGER'S PLAYER: Borja Miquel**

Borja displayed absolutely fantastic attitude throughout the entire season despite having started most of the games on the bench. Always made a difference when he came on.

- **MANAGER'S PLAYER RUNNER-UP: Karl Assing**

Reliable, vocal and a true leader of the defense.



AWARDS

- **MOST COMMITTED PLAYER: Petr Holecek**

As a captain and Polytechnic 9s manager Petr tried to do his best both on and off the pitch. He never missed a game, did all administration duties, tried to put together the best squad every week, led the players on the pitch, managed the subbings during games, and in most cases washed the shirts.

- **MOST IMPROVED PLAYER: Miltiadis Giannopoulos**

Apart from saved last minute penalty and a goal he scored directly from a goal kick, Miltiadis produced several magnificent saves throughout the season earing us important points. Having his country-fellas on the pitch he also improved his communication with defense.

- **BEST NEWCOMER: Diego Estoban**

Diego was a great addition to our team. He is a universal player therefore could play as a left back or right wing and always delivered fantastic performance.

- **TOP GOALSCORER: Arash Moham**

23 goals for Polytechnic 9s and 2 goals for Polytechnic 8s earned him a second place in the club Les Parsons 2014/15 trophy.



AWARDS

- **GOAL OF THE SEASON: Borja Miquel**

We have seen plenty of beautiful goals over the last season however Borja's goal against Merton when he dribbled among 4 defenders and then chipped the ball over the keeper to the left top corner won the goal of the season award.

- **NATHAN WATLING AWARD: Miltiadis Giannopoulos**

**Nathan Watling Award aka The worst howler of the season is a tradition that has been around for quiet few years now as an honour to a great former Polytechnic player and manager Nathan Watling. Although Nathan left the club 3 years ago he still keeps sending in talented football players from the International Language School where he teaches English. Hence why there are many talented foreign footballers in the Polytechnic club!*

It's fair to mention that before Nathan left he won this trophy 3 years in a row.

The prize is awarded for the worst howler that happened in our team over the past season. It can be anything comical that happened on or off the pitch. It is in no way meant to cause any offense but rather have a little laugh after the long season.

It was a rainy and muddy November afternoon just across our home ground at Civil Service (CS). A very close game from the very beginning. The hosts are giving us a hard time and soon take the lead. We manage to equalize but CS score another goal. We then again score to be 2-2 at HT. Exactly the same scenario is happening in the second half. CS score a goal, we equalize and then again. In the last quarter of the game we finally manage to overturn the game and take a lead (5-4). With less than 5 minutes into the final whistle Karl sent a back pass to our keeper Miltiadis who saved it with his hands inside the box!!! The referee rightly awarded an indirect kick inside our penalty area! Fortunately for us the ball bounced off our wall and sent Borja to a solo run through the half of the pitch just to be denied by the hosts' keeper.... (PS. We managed to win this game 5-4)



LAST WORDS FROM THE MANAGER



It has been an absolute privilege and honour to have played with all of you this season. I would like to thank to everyone who was involved in our successful season and wish you all the best in upcoming season!