



Kansas City Kings Lose to St. Louis Illusion of the PASL-PRO 5-3 – January 24, 2009

In what was the Kings biggest test so far for the 2nd year franchise, Kansas City traveled across the state to St. Louis, to play their first US Arena Open Cup match. It just so happened to be against the St. Louis Illusion of the PASL-Pro. Coached by legendary Jamie Swanner, and boasting a roster of some former St. Louis Steamers.

The game started out with the Illusion controlling the ball for much of the 1st quarter. KC couldn't capitalize on an early St. Louis mistake, with Nick Kelly just missing the goal. At the 11:00 minute mark, KC Committed a defensive foul that allowed former Steamer Joe Reiniger to play Brandon Gibbs on a back door, set piece goal. 9:30-mark Matt Iverson for KC misses on a transition goal. 7:45-mark Joe Reiniger puts a goal in on a KC defensive breakdown. The Kings had a Power Play, but couldn't capitalize as Justin McMillian and Mali Walton for the Illusion, organized a great defensive stand. End of the 1st St. L 2-0 over KC.

At the 11:15 mark the Kings had another defensive breakdown and again Brandon Gibbs for St. Louis headed the ball in. The Illusion leads 3-0. KC finally started to exert their athleticism and physical ness on the game. 10:40-mark Stephan near miss, 7:35-mark Mirsad 2:00 minute penalty for slide tackling, KC Kills the St.L Power Play. Stephan fouled hard for the 4th time. 3:40-mark Stevey Hoffman for KC 2:00 minute penalty for boarding. KC does a great job of holding fort while down a man, and then a breakaway for Stephan Stokich and Ilfan Kudic GK for the Illusion fouls Stephan hard outside the box. The teams are now even 4v4. Milan Ivanovic for KC scores a right net bomb on the ensuing set piece. KC down 3-1. And the Kings killed the remaining Illusion Power Play. After lots of pressure from the Kings, Shaun David for the Illusion gets a breakaway and scores with :10 seconds left in the half. 4-1 Illusion leads @ the end of the half.

Whatever adjustments Kings Coach Vlatko Andonovski made at halftime, boy did they work. The Kings came out and dominated the 3rd quarter. 12:12-mark Drew Perkins scores for KC, 10:27-mark Michael Garven takes on and beats Justin McMillian and Kudic the GK, to put KC down 4-3. Another flurry by KC forces Illusion coach Swanner to call a time out. The Illusion only manages 2 shots in the 3rd quarter. That saw the Kings miss numerous opportunities. 4-3 Illusion lead at the end of the 3rd.

The 4th quarter saw much of the same as the Lucas Rodriguez show began; he simply took over the 4th with his creative play and pinpoint passes. 13:00-mark Stephan misses upper 90, 12:20-mark Drew misses' 2v1 breakaway. Lucas misses at the 11:05-mark. Kansas City was awarded a 2:00 minute Power Play from Mali Walton for boarding. The Kings 4-5 outside the box shots as Illusion Goalkeeper Kudic comes up huge for his team. A clearance at the 3:00-mark by Elvir Kafedzic, puts the game away, as Kings GK Josh Schreck was out of his box, during the Kings high pressure, trying to tie the game. Final score 5-3 Illusion.

Game Roster 1/24/09: **KC Kings:** Brandon Williams, Raad Quimisieh, Drew Perkins, Nick Kelly, Lucas Rodriguez, Matt Iverson, Milan Ivanovic, Mirsad Dzilic, Stefan Stokic, Josh Schreck, Mike Garven, and Assistant Coach Tonio Paternostro. Head Coach Vlatko Andonovski. **St. L Illusion:** Ilfan Kudic, Justin McMillian, Shaun David, Roger Gemoules, Matt Little, Joe Reiniger, Mike Zoregel, Damn Kordic, Mali Walton, Mike Banner, Brandon Gibbs, Elvir Kafedzic, Vedad Alagic and Head Coach Jamie Swanner.

About Kansas City Kings

The Kansas City Kings are sophomore members of the Premier Arena Soccer League (PASL-Premier) and are the Defending 2007/2008 Midwest Division Champions. The Kings mission is to offer a platform to train, showcase and develop the area's top collegiate players, for preparation of professional playing opportunities. They are located at 5909 Equitable Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64120. 816.231.4812. For additional details visit - www.kcsoccerdome.com/kings or www.arenaleague.com or www.myspace.com/kcsoccerkings.