

Ceiserstellen

Ceiserstellen Football Club is a professional football club based in Hammerfest, Solaria, Pharos. It competes in the PSL B, the second level of Pharonian football.

Founded in 1885 as the merger of two Hammerfest local clubs, Ceiserstellen has won one major trophy, the PSC Cup in 2014.

History

Formation

The club was founded in December 1885, when the boards and players of two Hammerfest clubs, Ceiser-Morten FC and Stellen FC decided to unite their efforts in order to compete in the Solarian Football Association League that was planned to start in the fall of 1886.



**Hammerfest docks with Ceiser-Morten
canning factory on the near right**

Ceiser-Morten FC had been founded by workers of Ceiser-Morten in Hammerfest, a company supplying ships with canned food, initiated by Egil Morten, the son of the owner. The Stellen FC club was founded by local boys in the Nors neighbourhood in South Hammerfest. Their secretary in 1885 was seventeen-year-old Jasper Exon, the son of the landlord of The Bear Pub in Took Street where Ceiser-Morten FC held their



Jasper Exon

meetings.

The merger of the two clubs was decided after a proposal of Jasper Exon in December of 1885 and the new name, Ceiserstellen FC was decided. The first chairman of the club was local GP Doctor Viennis Murr, who topped the shareholders list with 50 shares.

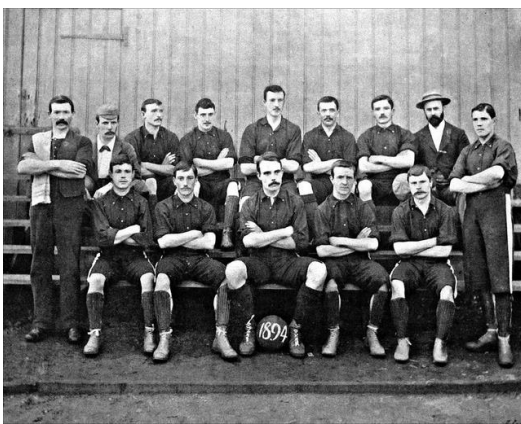
Early years, 1887-1900

Ceiserstellen's first official game was played in Glenn Road, a piece of wasteland that was converted into a football pitch, which an estimated 2,000 fans would congregate around, against Hammerfest Caledonians for the Hammerfest Senior Cup. The match finished 2–2 and the teams shared the cup for six months each.

The club became a founder member of the Solarian Football Association and competed in the Solarian first division in the inaugural season of 1887-88, finishing in 3rd position after champions Albatros Helsingborg and Villemstad Vikings. They won the title in the next season, having moved to Nels Street Grounds, an enclosed area where Ceiserstellen were able to charge an entry fee. They would win the 1891, 1894 and 1896 Solarian titles as well, making Ceiserstellen one of the big names in the state and in Pharos in general.



**Ceiserstellen
1889 Solaria champions**



Ceiserstellen, 1894 and 1896 champion teams

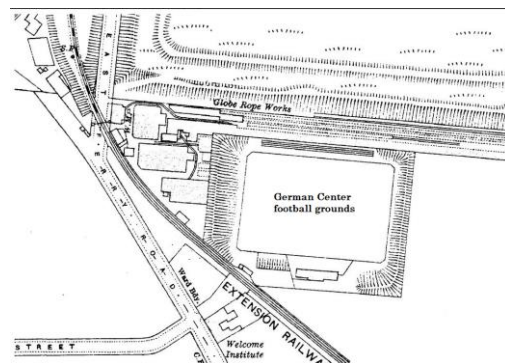


New stadium and the great team of 1920s

Ceiserstellen moved to a new stadium named German Center in 1905, having occupied grounds with limited expansion space in the past 20 years. The estimated cost to buy the grounds was £10,000, covered by the board. The move to the new ground, that could hold up to 20,000 spectators, boosted support and attendances. German Center would expand to almost 35,000 in 1922.

The team won another four Solarian Championships in the early 1900s, in 1900, 1902, 1908 and 1913. They would be contenders for the title in the next years, but would finish behind the big clubs from Villemstad and Tilbruck, i.e. SK Villemstad, Astrix and Tilbruck K.

The Pharos National League was founded in 1917 and Ceiserstellen first competed in 1924 as Solarian champion of that year, finishing in 9th position.



German Center plan, 1905



Ceiserstellen fans watch the first ever game for the National League, a 2-2 draw against Zaria in 1924



Florian Reinke



Pori Hartman

Bale Ranken was appointed manager in September 1924 and he completely rejuvenated Ceiserstellen. By that time the club were one of the most financially wealthiest clubs in Pharos, so Ranken used the board's money to bring to German Center some of the greatest talents of Solaria in the 1920's. Ceiserstellen would win the Solarian Championship three years in a row, from 1927 to 1929 and again in 1931. Some great players appeared during those seasons, like goalkeeper Florian Reinke, left back Pori Hartman, midfielder Hal Ellers and forwards Mark Gisler and Fern Springer. The 5th place in the



Bale Ranken



Mark Gisler

1928 Nationals was their best performance.

Dalton would dominate the Solarian football scene the next years, winning 8 titles until the begging of WW II, so Ceiserstellen's great team could not compete in the National level.

1940-1980

Ceiserstellen's fortunes fluctuated in the post war years. Dalton SC and FTK would dominate the Solarian Championship, winning 34 out of 41 titles from 1941 until the formation of PSL in 1981. The Hammerfest club had a small piece of the action, winning titles in 1941, 1948, 1955, 1962, 1968 and 1970.

The most successful National Championship run was made in 1955, under manager Cheter Heyt. Although Heyt had a roster with an average age close to 30, he managed to play attractive football using all of the players in a circular rotation and came close to a miracle, when Ceiserstellen were leading the table with 2 games to go. Unfortunately, they suffered two defeats, from later on champions Dynamo Corel in German Center and away to Alma Sport in their last game, finishing in 4th position, their best performance ever in the National level.



Cheter Heyt



Jan Lefkin

One of Pharos' best ever footballer, left winger Jan Lefkin, was a product of the academies of the club. Lefkin played for Ceiserstellen from 1967 to 1971, when he was sold for a record fee to Dalton SC.

When PSL was formed in 1981, Dalton SC and FTK took the 2 Solarian spots for the first division. Ceiserstellen, Albatros Helsinborg and National Hammerfest were allocated to PSL B, the second division.

The PSL era – up and down the divisions

The first 4 seasons in the PSL League Ceiserstellen was a yo-yo club. They were promoted in 1982, relegated in 1983, promoted again in 1984 and relegated again in 1985. Bale Cleise, a former AG 1959 player, took over as manager-player in 1985 and as a general secretary from 1987 to 1994.



German Center, 1985

By 1988, the PSL decided to form a closed 24-team league with a regular season and play-offs, based mainly on financial criteria. Ceiserstellen were among the teams selected. They had recently renovated their ground, German Center, to hold 47,000 fans and had just signed a great international star, Pharonian-German midfielder Salvor Valoren, a former Hertha



Salvor Valoren

Berlin player, who opted to use his Pharonian citizenship from his mother's side and play for Pharos and Ceiserstellen.

Ceiserstellen would not make a notable presence in the first year of the new PSL. Under manager Jan Kostis, they reached the play-off rounds in 1990, 1991 and 1992, being eliminated in the 1st round every season.

1995 season



Kals Bertan

When unknown 50-year-old Kals Bertan took over as manager in 1993, no one could imagine the outcome of the move. Bertan had previously worked one season in Dynamo Pharos and had mainly coached local teams in Columbia and Solaria. He managed to lead Ceiserstellen into a memorable season in 1994-95, finishing in the 2nd place in their regular season group, having the 2nd best overall record in goals scored and 4th overall in points. In the play-off round, the team were undefeated, with 2 wins and 5 draws, finishing in 3rd position

behind Dalton SC and AG 1959 and earned a European cup berth. 22-year-old goalkeeper Linge Ibars was the best player on the side, with the front line of Peter Vassing and Escel Dol scoring 15 goals each and Porfirat Turpin and Moree Armas adding another 13 each.



Linge Ibars

1995-2005, another slump

The last season's form did not last. Ceiserstellen remained out of the play-off zone for the next 2 seasons and Bertan was replaced by Fenel Ercling. The PSL changed its format again in 1997 to a 20-team single, closed league, a format followed until 2004. During those years, Ceiserstellen would finish in the bottom half of the table, changing managers almost every couple of years; Jan Darryl succeeded Ercling, then Bale Edwin came and finally Stin Blasco in 2001.



Stin Blasco

They avoided relegation in 2004, finishing just 2 points clear of the zone, but in 2004-05 they finished last and were back to the second division.

Up and down the divisions again

James Dikei took over from Blasco as manager after the relegation. He managed to bring Ceiserstellen back to PSL A immediately, but could not avoid a new relegation in 2007, losing the battle on goal difference to Dynamo Pharos.

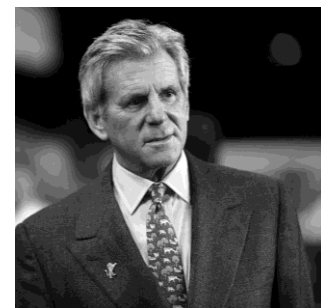


Peter Vassing

Peter Vassing, the club's center forward of the 1990s, was named as new manager. Vassing led the team to PSL A again, finishing in 2nd place of the second division. He stayed with the club for another 4 seasons, reaching as high as 10th in 2010, but in 2012 Ceiserstellen were relegated again and Vassing was sacked by the new board.

A new owner and a new stadium

In March 2011, Bris Ventures, led by Lanel Bris, who had interests in business and financial services, retail, property and sport, invested ff 5m into the club. In addition to this investment, a further ff 1.5m was raised from investment from other parties and existing directors of the company and former secretary Derk Falmer invested another ff 500,000. A date for an Extraordinary General Meeting was set for 2 July 2011. A week before the EGM, Bris Ventures, converted a ff 2.3m loan into shares in Ceiserstellen PLC – thereby becoming the club's major shareholder. Fellow directors Derk Falmer, Terel Keys and Stanel Till also converted a combined sum of ff



Lanel Bris



Derk Falmer

1,200,000 into shares, so Bris and the rest of the board held a combined stake of 46.66% in the club. On 2 July 2011, Lanel Bris won the support of 46,000 shareholder supporters at the crucial shareholders meeting, and became the club's new chairman. Former chairman Din Lais, who had foisted the meeting on the Ceisertellen Board, did not turn up.

The new owner and Board started plans for redeveloping the stadium and the surrounding area. The plan of building a new stadium for Ceiserstellen was born early into the twenty-first century. The great location near Hammerfest's south-eastern bypass was retained, but the new stadium didn't follow previous one's blueprint.

German Center stadium was demolished in spring 2013 and new stands were rotated by roughly 90 degrees. The new stadium's concept was a simple and clear one. Metal sheets on the roof, metal mesh on the facades, only except the main grandstand (covered with glass). The western grandstand accommodated the club museum, megastore, offices and all of the commercial zones, also including 370 underground parking places. From the inside the west side also included 34 skyboxes and over 2,000 VIP seats. Despite its size, the new stadium was built within just 16 months, by the domestic contractor Market. The stadium was named



Ceiserstellen's Nors Arena

Nors Arena, with naming rights to different companies per 5 years, with Bris Ventures, Lanel Bris' company and owners of the club as the first name-givers, Bris Ventures Nors Arena.

2014, a PSC Cup triumph

In the summer of 2012, Kals Bertan was called out of retirement to replace Peter Vassing. Miracles happen only once, so Bertan could not help Ceiserstellen return to PSL A. He was let go on March 2013, with former manager Bale Edwin taking the job.



Bale Edwin

Edwin had worked twice for the club, in 1992-93 and 2000-01. He had also worked with other Solorian clubs, like Albatros Helsingborg and FTK. He made some good transfers for the club, with goalkeeper Tomaz Poro from Rul Katai, defender Timo Svanberg from Kent Utd and forward Genar Mazelen from Select. He also promoted to

the first team youngsters Anters Tinhof, Eto Grutjer, Mil Janson and Maron Benne from the youth squads.



Anters Tinhof – Eto Grutjer

Ceiserstellen finished 3rd in PSL B, securing promotion to the first division. In the PSC Cup, the team reached the final for the first time in its history, eliminating Zaria on penalties in the semi-final. On 7 May 2014 in Greenfield against favourites Dominic, the score line was 0-0 after 120 minutes. In the penalty shoot-out, Tomaz Poro saved Bale Engel's first penalty and Peter van Ziln missed the second one. With Linge Vesterbek, Genar Mazelen, Eto Grutjer and Anters Tinhof scoring their penalties, Ceiserstellen won 4-2 and was PSC Cup winners for 2014.



Anters Tinhof takes the last penalty



left: Ceiserstellen players celebrate – right: Ceiserstellen's captain Linge Vesterbek with the cup

2015-present

Bale Edwin left following the Cup triumph, as he was offered a huge contract by AG Nobel, taking with him the two young fullbacks, Tinhof and Grutjer, for an amazing fee, that gave some breath to the financing of the club, that had some difficulties following the construction of the stadium.

Centron Luder, a former player and academies manager took over, but Ceiserstellen could not avoid another relegation to the second division. After a disastrous season in Nobel, Edwin returned to the club in the summer of 2015. He led the club to the top of the table and back to PSL A. Edwin remained another 2 seasons in Hammerfest, finishing 13th and 11th. In the summer of 2018, at the age of 68, he decided to retire and became an honorary vice-president.

Fran Levit was hired in his place, but the club was in an economic recession. They could not



Linge Han

avoid another relegation (their 7th from 1981). Homir Suel, former National Hammerfest and Dalton SC manager was hired, but the lack of proper funding left Ceiserstellen without any hopes for an immediate promotion. Finishing in 13th place in 2022, Suel was let go, with youth squad manager Linge Han taking his place.

On 4 July 2023, the club announced the death of owner and chairman Lanel Bris, who died in a car accident.

The 70-year-old lost control of his Range Rover and hit a tree. He died at the scene. A club statement remarked *"Under Lanel's passionate leadership and guidance, Ceiserstellen Football Club has enjoyed tremendous success and*



Jan Bris

stability. Since first becoming involved in the club in 2006, he has presided over some of the greatest moments in Ceiserstellen's history, and his influence in providing the platform for those was immeasurable...any success moving forward will be in his memory and honour. It will be his legacy." His only son Jan Bris became the new owner and Derk Falmer was named as his replacement as chairman. Fenel Pirsig replaced Linge Han as manager in 2025.