

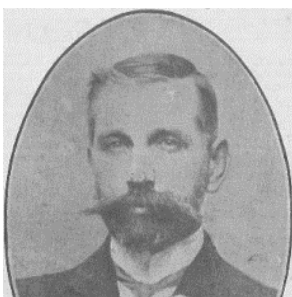
Dalton SC



Dalton Sport Club is a professional football club based in Villemstad, the capital city of the State of Solaria in Pharos. Dalton, founded as SK Villemstad in 1886, acquired its name in 1929, when it was purchased by Solarian-American businessman Rattan Dalton. The club competes in the PSL A League, the top tier of the Pharonian football system. They have won 8 League titles and 2 PSC Cups. Dalton has also played in a European Champions Cup final, in 1985, losing to Liverpool 1-3.

History

Early years (1886-1910)



Jan Hambl, SKV co-founder

The club was founded as Sport Klub Villemstad (SKV) by a group of workers employed by the Laid Square workshop in Arnja, an armaments factory in the greater Villemstad area. They were led by an Army lieutenant, Doktor Danskin, who purchased the club's first football, Jan Hambl and, later, former Select goalkeeper Fran Bears.



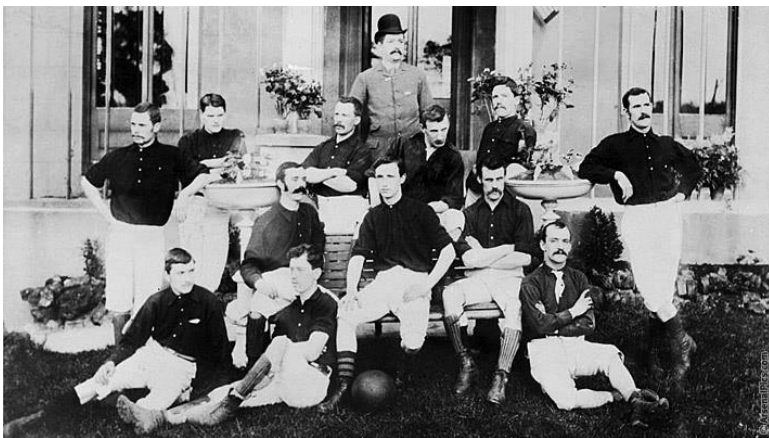
Fran Bears



Maron Ground 1890, SKV vs Ceiserstellen

SKV played their first match on 11 December 1886 against Villemstad Vikings on an open field in Arnja, which they won 6-0. Initially the club played on Plum Common, but soon sought alternative homes, firstly the Sportsman Ground by St.Mary's cathedral downtown Villemstad, before moving back to the Arnja area Maron Ground in 1888. Unhappy with the Maron Ground's poor facilities, the club moved to the nearby

Invicta Ground in 1890, before returning to the Maron Ground three years later as the Invicta Ground's rent proved too expensive.



SKV squad 1888 - Dokor Danskin is on the bench far right with hands crossed

During this period, SKV were successful in various local trophies, winning both the Germania Senior Cup and Villemstad Charity Cup in the 1889–90 season and the Villemstad Senior Cup in 1890–91; they also entered the Solarian Association Cup for the first time in 1889–90. A gulf between SKV and the professional sides from Southern Pharos soon

became apparent, and the club faced the threat of their amateur players being lured away by the money which professional sides could offer; after Beatrix Newport had played them in a friendly game in 1891, they attempted to sign two of SKV's amateur players on professional contracts. SK Villemstad's move to professionalism in 1891 was frowned upon by many of the amateur clubs in the city, and they were banned from participating in local competitions by the Villemstad Football Association. With friendlies and the Solarian Association Cup the only matches available for SKV, they attempted to set up a city equivalent of The Solarian Football League, but the move failed. In 1893 SKV formed a limited liability company. The club was invited to join the Solarian Football League in 1893, initially in the Second Division, becoming the first Villemstad club to enter the League. In response, some of the club's amateur players who rejected professionalism and wanted a workers' team to represent just the city and their work place, broke away to form a short-lived alternative side called Laid Square Factories Football Club.



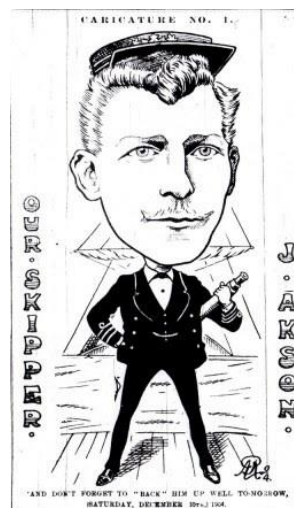
Harl Bradsen

SK Villemstad played in the Second Division for eleven seasons, and generally occupied mid-table positions before the appointment of Harl Bradsen as manager in 1899; Bradsen and his signings, including goalkeeper Jelmer Croft and captain Jan Akson, won promotion to the First Division in the 1903–04 season.

Bradsen moved on to Ceiserstellen in May 1904, before SKV had kicked a ball in the top flight. Despite some strong performances in the Solarian Cup – the club reached the semi-finals in 1905–06 and 1906–07 – SKV were unable to challenge for the League



Jelmer Croft



A game brochure featuring captain J. Akson

title, only twice finishing above tenth place in the First Division between 1904 and 1913. One cause of this decline was the club's ongoing financial problems; despite the boom in football during the early 20th century, the club's geographic isolation, in the relatively underpopulated area of Arnja (then on the outskirts of urban Villemstad), meant that attendances and thus income were low. To stay afloat, SK Villemstad were forced to sell their



Tim Oleman



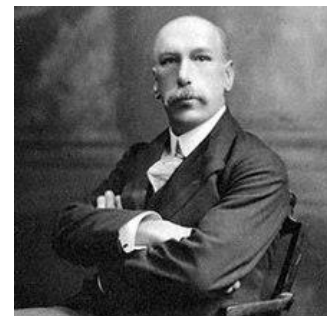
Bret Freaan

star players (including Croft, as well as Tim Oleman and Bert Freaan), and slowly started to slip down the table, which compounded their financial situation as crowds fell. By the end of the decade the average attendance at Maron Ground was 11,000, a little over half of what it had been in 1904. The club was close to bankruptcy, and in 1910 went into voluntary liquidation before being bought out by a

consortium of businessmen; the largest shareholder amongst the new owners was the property magnate Helnus Norr, who was also the owner and chairman of Haast 79.

Move to new grounds and the championship years (1910–1929)

Norr was acutely aware of the problems associated with Maron Ground's location, and was desperate to improve the club's income. First, he tried to merge SKV with Villemstad Vikings. When that was blocked by the Football League, Norr abandoned the merger and looked to move the club elsewhere in the city of Villemstad, eventually picking a site in the port area of Vagen. Despite objections both from Arnja-based fans and residents of Vagen, Norr saw the move through, reportedly spending £125,000 (equivalent to £15,500,000 in 2023) on building the new stadium, designed by famous British architect Archibald Leitch, on the former home ground of the club, the Sportsman Ground playing fields. SK Villemstad moved there in the 1913 close season, having finished bottom and been relegated to the Second Division in the 1912–13 season. The move to Sportsman Ground Stadion brought about much larger crowds; the average attendance in SKV's first season at the new ground was 23,000 (compared to 11,000 at the Maron Ground) and rose further after promotion in 1914, finally warding off the spectre of financial ruin.



Helnus Norr



Less Knaton

The club's return to the First Division was immediately successful. Guided by manager Less Knaton they were crowned Solarian Champions in 1914-15 season, the first club to achieve this after promotion from the 2nd Division. They repeated their feat in the next 3 seasons and they were Solaria's representative in the first ever National Championship in 1917.

The team had great talent in the front line, featuring such players as center forward Morgan Vereny, outside left Jan Meron (who became a successful manager for Zaria later on), inside forward Onum Netril

and center half Anselm Yudel, but lacked quality defensive players. In the first 10 National Championships, the Solarian teams (SKV, Tilbruck Klub, Astrix and Ceiserstellen) all finished either last or second last, since the gap from the other state champions was enormous. SKV won the Solarian Championship 4 times during the next decade (1917, 1918, 1920, 1926). Meanwhile Norr, who was facing financial problems and an expense scandal, sold his shares of the team to Solarian-American entrepreneur Rattan Dalton in March 1929.

New owner, new name, new grounds

The new owner moved in like a true American hurricane. First he filed a petition to change



Rattan Dalton

named Rattan's Plan Stadium.

Norr appointed former National Hammerfest's manager Olav Simaen as Dalton's new manager in 1931. Simaen reformed

the name of the team from SKV to Dalton Sport Club Villemstad as well as their crest and colors (from the original canon-crest and black and white colors, to a cowboy hat and red and white ones), which was accepted by the PSC. Then he bought an area in the city's west in Flesland suburb, near to the Villemstad Airport and the city's exhibition grounds and built a new stadium for the team. He also funded the city of Villemstad, so that the railway and bus services would facilitate the project. By 1931 the 45,000 spectator's stadium was complete and



Rattan Plan Stadion 1931



Olav Simaen

many of the club's practices, including modernizing the training and physiotherapy regimes, and brought in quality players, having a large transfer budget by virtue of Dalton's improved revenue from their new stadium and the 'wallet' of Helnus Norr. The team featured stars like winger Pat Crestan (from Veert Substantia), central defender Embling Moerel (from Astrix Villemstad), center half Ral Ruby (from Nadin Bergen) and goalkeeper Virtus Bent (from Norse Atlanta). He also suggested a change to the formation to adapt to a

relaxation of the offside law, adjusting Dalton's formation to the "WM", strengthening the defense by pushing the center half back into defense and the full-backs out to the wings. Over time, Simaen developed the formation further, putting an emphasis on a pacey forward line, wingers cutting inside, and the role of a creative ball-playing midfielder.



Embling Moerel



Pat Crestan

The Golden era of 4 National titles (1930-1943)

With Simaen in charge, Dalton won the Solarian League in 1932 and managed a 4th place in the National Championship, the best place for a Solarian team ever. In the next season the team celebrated their 1st ever National title as they finished on top of the National League table on a 3-goal difference from Chiftelov Sport, beating the Diacrian team in the penultimate day of play 2-1 in a packed stadium in Villemstad, with goals from Pat Crestan and Gebor Lapar.



DALTON SC 1933

Back row (from left): Ral Ruby, Alun Kapersund, Virtus Bent, Julien Cagan, Bern Ganter, Dors Resterp. **Middle (from left):** Rattan Dalton (president), Rogen Hatlen, Pat Crestan, Deegan Rampersand, Olav Simaen (manager). **Front:** Embling Moerel, Pasco Samb

They dominated Solarian football over the next years, winning all but two state titles until 1943. The team finished in 3rd place in the next two seasons in the Nationals and 4th in 1936. Simaen proceeded to reorganize the team, by introducing players from the youth squad. Brit Nausdal, the Solarian boy-wonder was the new leader, along with defenders Holt Solberg and Mik Valberg, goalkeeper Olav Rolsgard and forwards Stefan Myhre and Marlon Pop.



Holt Solberg



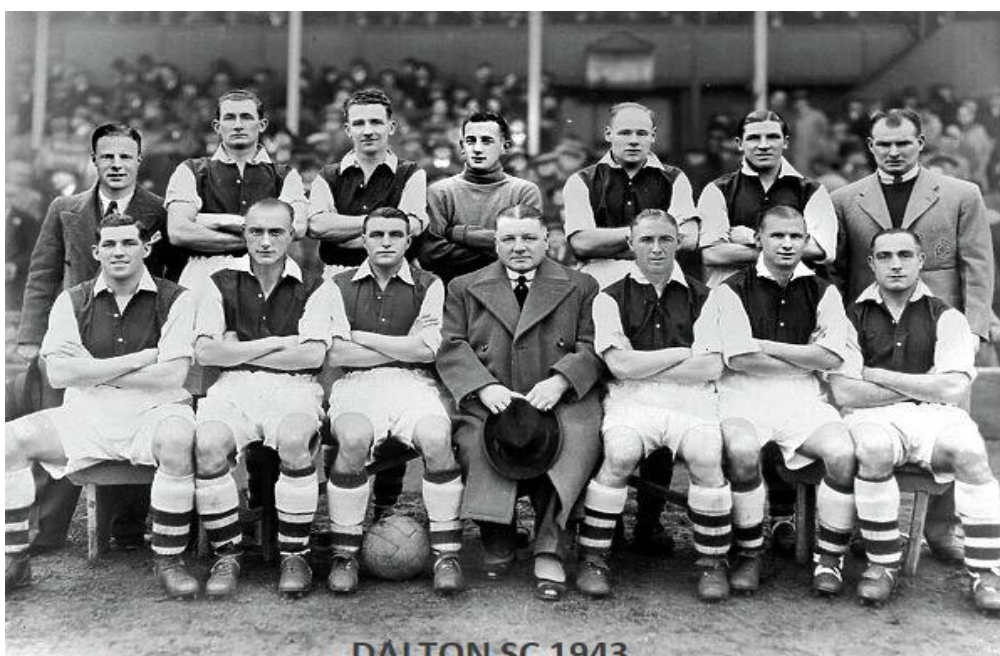
Marlon Pop

In 1938 Dalton SC was National Champion for the 2nd time, in a 3-way tie on top of the table with Zaria and Ferephon Union, but with much better goal difference. 22-year-old Nausdal was the league's mvp.



Brit Nausdal

They came 2nd best to Select in 1939 and 1940 and after a short break next season (Ceiserstellen won the Solarian title), they managed back-to-back National titles in 1942 and 1943.



DALTON SC 1943

Back row (from left): Mott Taker (trainer), Bern Ganter, Holt Solberg, Olav Rolsgard, Linge Bjork, Deegan Rampersund, Olav Simaen (manager).

Front row (from left): Stefan Myhre, Rogen Hatlen, Brit Nausdal, Rattan Dalton (president), Jon Gjelsvik, Marlon Pop, Mik Valberg

Post war – 30 years of crisis

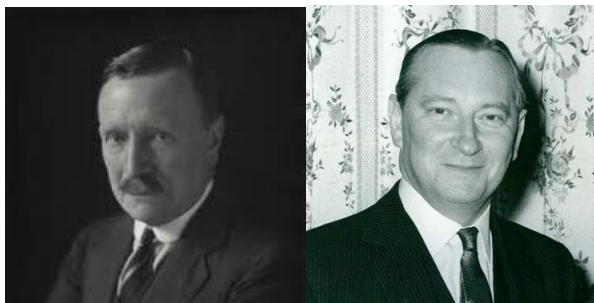
After the last championship of 1943, the club went into a crisis. Rattan Dalton died suddenly in January 1944 from pneumonia. His eldest son, Luke Dalton took over the family businesses, including the management of the club. The 40-year-old Luke was living in Texas by that time and he appointed former player Anselm Yudel as caretaker. The flow of money suddenly stopped and the club went into a crisis. Olav Simaen left by the end of the 1944 season for FTK and Yudel took over as manager as well.



Rattan Dalton's ownership and presidency were commemorated by a bronze bust at the club's stadium.

Players were not paid in time and problems with team discipline sky-rocketed, with its climax a Dalton's players strike in 1946. They only managed one Solarian title from 1944 to 1951, losing almost all the others to Simaen's FTK. During these seasons a total of 8 managers passed from the Plan, most of them not lasting for an entire season.

Meanwhile, Luke Dalton expressed the desire to sell his shares. By no later than 1950 the



**Dalton's new owners in the 50's,
Simon Heel & Brooks Smit**

majority of Dalton SC shares were held by Simon Heel who became Dalton's new president and Brooks Smit, the MP for Villemstad West and a future Mayor of Villemstad. In those days the shares were not considered to be valuable and had never paid a dividend, and were seen largely as a charitable exercise to provide recreational entertainment for the working people of Villemstad.

The majority of the Championships players had been retired by 1952. Brit Nausdal, the former midfielder and captain of the Dalton's triumphal decade was the new manager. Under his guidance, the club was on the right track once again. Financing was stabilized and new players were brought in, like defenders Orum Juman, Helnus Rolsgard (keeper Olav Rolsgard's cousin), Onum Freiman and Stor Borgen, midfielders Eltrend Hooy, Roman



**Brit Nausdal,
manager in the 50's**



Orum Juman



Eltrend Hooy

Solheim and Jos Groterund and forward

Lors Engh. They by no means were of the same calibre as the past squads, but they formed a solid and disciplined team. Dalton won the Solarian Championships in 1952 and 1953 and then again 3 back-to back ones, from 1957 to 1959, but their best performance in the National Championship

was a close 2nd to Hilvar Athletics in 1958.

In 1962, president Heel made the bold but ultimately unsuccessful step of replacing Nausdal with former Astrix Villemstad captain Vill Ritt as manager, despite his lack of managerial experience and the fact that he had no prior experience with the club. Like his predecessor, Ritt was not very successful in the national level, although it was under his leadership that the club won another 3



Vill Ritt

back-to-back Solarian titles from 1963 to 1965. Ritt remained without a title for the next 4 years, having his last one in 1969 (plus a 3rd place in the Nationals) and was let go in January 1970 after a terrible season start.



Kol Benzoam, Zeb Elman, Zeb van Gol

During those years, some very talented youngsters from the youth squad, managed by Cyril Festi (who would become first team manager in 1971, replacing Ritt), emerged and were promoted to the first team. Players like central defender Zeb Elman, midfielder Col Benzoam and forward Zeb van

Gol, all of them becoming members of the newly formed National Team, although Dalton did not win any major title.

The Cyril Festi era and ‘the game of the century’

Following the dismissal of Vil Ritt in the winter of 1970, Dalton SC appointed youth manager Cyril Festi as his successor. The move that brought surprise to some, not least Festi himself,



Cyril Festi



Stanel Meinhalf

who requested that he be able to return to his old role in the academies if being manager had not worked out after 18 months. With assistant Dan Exon, Festi brought a more

professional approach to the club and promoted talent from within, as well players with potential from around Solaria; Dalton’s youth team had won the Solarian Youth Cup in 1970, and talented defensive players such as Ankor Bler, Stanel Meinhalf and Linge Denir graduated to the first team. He also bought



Ankor Bler



Linge Denir

another bunch of young Solarian aspects for his attack, like Bale Rossem from Livona Stendal, Jan Lefkin from Ceiserstellen and Yol Iders from Astrix Villemstad.



Jan Lefkin



Bale Rossem

Festi complemented this attacking ability with some more experienced heads; captain Zeb Elman at centre half marshalled a strong defence, while the hard-tackling Anters Trebel filled the defensive midfield position. The team showed early signs of promise, winning 4 Solarian Championships in a row, but in all those seasons they went home empty-handed from the Nationals. They reached 3rd place in 1971, 4th place in two

successive seasons in 1972 and 1973 and finally a close 2nd place in 1974, on goal difference to Foundation BC.

Festi continued as first team manager as he enjoyed the trust of the administration and the love of the fans. He strengthen his front line with new players, such as Aug Haven from



Cyril Festi lifts the PSC Championship cup 1979

Hinjioamaru and Preeme Lokris from his youth squads. Having a strong battle in Solaria with FTK, Ceiserstllen and the new rising force Albatros Helsinborg, he finally accomplished the club's ultimate goal, a national title. It came in the 1979 season and they were pushed all the way to do it. They were leading the table comfortably after the first round, but they did not win a single game in the second round until the last day of play. After being defeated by Oamaru FC in the Hinji capital, they needed to win away in Cress to get the title. They did it in an emphatic way, beating Atlantic Union 3-1 in Cress (goals by van Gol, Rossem and Haven) to lift their 5th title, 36 years after their last one. The team returned to Villemstad the same day and the celebrations lasted for 3 days, after Mayor and co-owner of the club Brooks Smit declared a public

holiday!



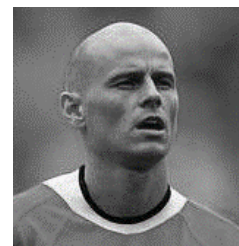
Stanel Beita



Onum Beita

Festi continued as manager for the next seasons, finishing 7th and 4th in 1980 and 1981 in the last 2 National Championships with the old format, as the PSL was formed officially in the summer of 1981, ending the so far local championships. He bought the Diacrian prospect Dokor Sis from Dynamo Lys and promoted to the first team youngsters from the youth squad, such as, among others, the brothers Stanel and Onum Beita.

The 1981-82 season started well for the bandits, but ended in a dramatic way. Dalton was on top of the league (18 teams in the new PSL National format) with a 4-point lead from Dynamo Corel and Hilvar Athletics with 2 games remaining, on the way to a 6th championship title. An unexpected defeat 5-4 away to Hinjilucaya, brought the 2 teams within



Dokor Sis

1 point from Dalton, who had to win Dynamo Corel in the last game in Rattan Plan to lift the trophy. In a packed stadium with anticipating fans, Dalton faced a determined Corel team in what was to be known as the '*game of the century*'. Dalton went ahead 2-0 in 10 min with goals from Dokor Sis and Onum Beita, but Corel stroke back and took the lead in half time 2-5 with 4 goals from Theo Calgan and 1 from Salvor Dirige. The home team scored twice with Sis and Farel Greham in the start of the second half and pushed to equalize. Theo Calgan scored again in the 69th minute and Dalton collapsed. Three more goals from Sy Seidman,



**Theo Calgan scores 1 of his 5 goals in the 1981-82
'game of the century'**

Fernando Costa and Fil Akis brought the score into the humiliating 4-8 and Dynamo Corel was crowned champions, leaving Dalton in 2nd place.

Back-to-back PSL Champions and the Heysel disaster

After his death, the shareholding of Brooks Smit was divided between his son and daughter and ended up in the hands of his grandchildren, Cly Smit (Life-President), Rik Smit and Sara Bagge-Smit. Simon

Heel's shares passed first to his son Deril and then his grandson and former Dalton chairman Peris Heel; he sold much of his family's shareholdings in the 1980s to Damon Dein, a local



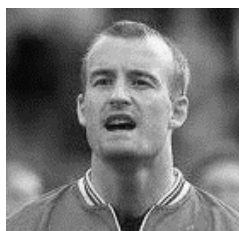
Damon Dein

businessman who became president of the club in 1980 and was one of the architects of the formation of the PSL in 1981, which re-shaped the structure and finances of Pharonian football. *"I felt football was really a sleeping giant and had a long way to go," Dein said. "After seeing how the Americans operated their sport, particularly American football and baseball and basketball, I felt we were light years behind. We had so much more to give as an attraction".*

Festi went ahead in the next season buying right back Moree Paramay from champions and rivals Dynamo Corel and made a move that would give



Valter Meeus



Jari Eloranta

the club the boost it needed; he moved Stanel Beita from the right back position to midfield, alongside with Yol Iders and Bale Rossem,



Moree Paramay

giving Dokor Sis the liberty to move freely and create. With President Dein's help they also brought to Rattan Plan Belgian center back Valter

Meeus and forwards Shenet Pewrifoy from Villa Town and Jari Eloranta from Del Rey Hilvar. The new Dalton SC became Pharos champion in back-to-back seasons, 1982-83 and again in 1983-84. They also reached the semifinals of the European Champions Cup in 1984, eliminating on the way the likes of Hamburg SV, Dinamo Bucharest and Dynamo Minsk before losing to Liverpool 0-2 in Villemstad after a 2-2 draw in Anfield.

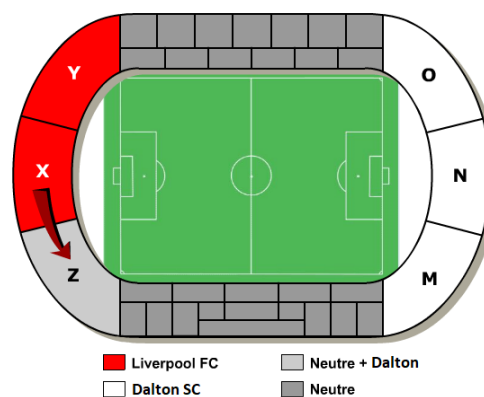
The next season in Europe proved more prestigious as they reached the final of the ECC, having once again Liverpool as their opponent. They eliminated on the way to the final, Lyngby, Sparta Prague, Juventus and Bordeaux. In the final, held in the Heysel Stadium in Brussels, they lost 1-3 to Liverpool. The final was overshadowed



Memorial in St Mary's Gardens, Villemstad

were injured in the confrontation between Liverpool hooligans, Dalton supporters and the Belgian police.

by the Heysel Stadium disaster that happened prior to the final match, leading to the ban of English clubs from European competitions for the next 5 years. Thirty-nine people, mostly Pharonians and Dalton fans, were killed and 600



Dalton fans are crushed against a wall after rioting on the terraces amid the Heysel stadium disaster on 29 May 1985. A plan of Heysel showing the position and movement of fans.

Slight decline (1985-1991)

Although Cyril Festi stayed with the club until 1989 and new players came in (like goalkeeper Linge Heridan, defenders Bale Del Heez and Yol Brunendal, midfielders Derek Stock and the



Bale Del Heez

Belgian international Jan Ceulemans and forwards Yol Irulan and Mel Timan), the team entered another barren spell. Dokor Sis left for Chiftelov Sport in 1986 and Dalton was a different team without him. Their best place was a 3rd in 1987.

Festi had to leave by the end of the 1988-89 season and former AG 1959 manager Anselm Kesla was given the job. He lasted for only half the season, although the owner bought some prestigious international players like the German goalkeeper Harald Schumacher and the Pole winger Dariusz Dziekanowski. Former player Valter Meeus took over, but the team could not even make the PSL play-offs in the new championship system. It was time for a drastic change once more.

By the end of the 1990-91 season, president and owner Damon Dein was searching for the right person to be given the task to bring Dalton on top of the Pharonian football again.



Derek Stock

Helnus Blok glory days and the 8th title

In May 1991, Atlantic Union manager 46-year-old Helnus Blok, a former Cardenas SFC defender as a player, was appointed as Dalton's new, long-term manager, and it was the beginning of a new era of success at Rattan Plan. Blok gradually sold off most of the older players and replaced them with new signings and players promoted from the youth team, while imposing much stricter discipline than his predecessors, both in the dressing



Helnus Blok



Moree Izenur



Jozsef Vendel

room and on the pitch.

Players like goalkeeper Moree Izenur, defender Jozsef Vendel, midfielder Fran Eliad and forward Lathan Demoz emerged from the youth squads and quality foreigners like the Swede Johnny Ekstrom and the Serb Dragan Stojkovic were bought to give Dalton a touch of



Lathan Demoz



D. Stojkovic

experience.

Dalton's form immediately improved, so much so that the club reached the play-offs for the first time in the new format, losing 2-0 to Chiftelov Sport. For the next two seasons Dalton finished on top of their sub-group in the championship and reached the play-offs finals both times. In 1992-93 they lost to



J. Ekstrom

Ferephon Union on penalties, after a 1-1 draw in 120 minutes, with Preeme Foldi missing the crucial last kick. In 1993-94 they reached the play-offs final once again, this time losing 1-0 to Hilvar Athletics from a 18th-minute Kleon Pratt goal. They also reached the PSC cup final for the first time, but they lost again to Hilvar Athletics 2-1.



Helnus Blok with the 1995 PSL trophy

Blok was beginning to lose faith in the project, but Damon Dein stood firm behind him. The 2 foreigners that came in the summer of 1993 and 1994, Stojkovic and Ekstrom (especially the latter), gave the team the extra boost it needed for the title. In the 1994-95 season Dalton was unstoppable. They finished on top of the table, both in regular season as well as in the play-offs new mini-league format.

Dalton did not retain the title the following season; they finished fourth in their sub division and did not make the play-offs. Helnus Blok resigned as he was offered the National Team manager position. The man Blok replaced, Roman Sis, the former NT manager, came to Villemstad. Roman Sis, Doktor Sis' father was a national hero, as he was in charge of the team that won the 1992 Euro. He finished a close 2nd to

Dynamo Corel in 1996-97 losing a crucial game to Oamaru FC. The format changed once more next season and Dalton, lacking generous funding as Dein was facing economic problems, finished a disappointing 14th in the 20-team league. Sis left and former player Jan Lefkin took charge from 1998 to 2001.

Meanwhile Dein made plans to built a new stadium for the team, as Rattan Plan was aging. In order to finance the project, he sold some of his shares to various funds, such as Granada Holdings Ltd and Landsdon Partners, an investment management firm known for its investments in equities. By 2002 Rattan Plan was demolished and the team was forced to play its home games in the small Astrix Villemstad stadium, so finances got worse.

Construction on the site of former Rattan Plan started in 2002. After two years a new stadium was ready. Created by JSK Architekt this venue was one of the first stadiums “wrapped” with



Spirit Arena, Dalton's new stadium



Kos Unap

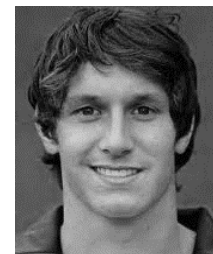
mesh that simulates it being a cuboid, when in fact stands have rounded corners. Under one of the stands a rail terminus was located, making public transport very popular among citizens. There was also a hotel integrated into the stadium. Modern infrastructure and location within the city's largest exhibition/event center made the stadium very attractive to supporters and visitors. Although fans called it New Rattan Plan, the name Spirit Arena was the new name for the venue, after Spirit Shipping company of billionaire shipowner Kos Unap and his son Christian Unap who were the club's new owners by 2004, buying the majority of Dalton's shares from Dein and the various funds.

The 21st century – 2 PSC Cups

Former player Ankor Bler succeeded Lefkin by the end of 2001 season, but Dalton's fortunes did not improve. They finished last in 2001-02 season (there was no relegation back then) and Bler was fired. Olynthus Thallos, a former Foundation BC player was hired. The Unaps faced problems with the stadium loans, so the team had to function with no major additions to the roster. Thallos brought to the first team some hopeful youngsters from the youth

squad, such as Lev Teevan, Virt Naret, Poly Heus and Lathan Dravel and the team finished 15th in 2002-03 and a prestigious 5th place in 2003-04, gaining a place in the next years UEFA cup.

From 2004 to 2010 the team struggled as funding was minimum and the fans were furious against Kos Unap and his son, demanding for them to leave. The only significant transfer was that of midfielder Helnus Persing from Zenith Parietal with 38 mln. Dalton finished in the 13th place of the new league format 5 times (!) during this period, battling to avoid relegation each time (with the exception of a 7th place in 2006-07). Ankor Bler and Jan Lefkin were alternating as team managers.



Helnus Persing

Although they did not perform well in the league, they had success in the PSC Cup. In 2005 they reached the final, but lost 4-0 to Dominic. They repeated their run in 2006, this time though they lifted their first Cup trophy ever, by beating Select 3-2 in sudden death extra time, with a 94-minute goal by Dokor Meisal. In 2009



Lon Meisal beats Select's defence to give Dalton SC the PSC Cup of 2006

they went all the way once more, and won their 2nd PSC Cup, beating Centralia Trandor 4-3 on penalties.

The trophy drought and the parade of managers (2010 – today)

The team budget began to increase as Kos Unap decided to help the team go

back on top. More than ff 150 mln were spent in the next 3 years, given however for players that did not make a significant difference, either because they did not have the quality or did not integrate well in Villemstad. All of them – Jan Nalas from Aragon Gizerak, Liem Elgner from Albatros, Hal Artal and Fenel Siron from Haast 79, Alvin Gams from Champion Athletics and Lathan Gercus from Select – had left the club by the end of the 2014 season (with the exception of Siron).



Paul Sedan scores and Lon Elmir saves Escel Proda's kick in the last 2 penalties in the 2009 PSC Cup final

By the end of 2010 season, youth manager Steel Galen replaced Jan Lefkin as first team coach and stayed at the helm for 3 seasons, finishing in the 3rd place in 2011-12. Then former



Steel Galen

Atlantic Union and Zenith Parietal manager Kleon Ursel was hired. He proceeded in a complete rejuvenation of the team's front line, introducing players like Gaal Lund and Preeme Rak from Oamaru FC, Less Jaron from Albatros and Lanel Ichko from Queensland Utd. The team finished in the 13th place once again and Ursel was let go.



Kleon Ursel

Dokor Sis came for the next season, after his 4-year spell in the National Team, finished 7th, but at the end of the season he left for Dominic, disagreeing with Unap for his salary.

Then another former international player, Orum Osman, who had previously worked at Zaria, was given the job, but once more the team struggled in the league, finishing in a disappointing 14th place.

In May 2016 Christian Unap, who was in full charge of family business and Dalton SC due to his father illness, decided to hire Roberto Di Matteo, the Italian former player who as a



Roberto Di Matteo

manager of Chelsea had guided the London team to victory in the 2012 UEFA Champions League Final. He spent a record amount for the club in the 2016 transfer season, bringing to Spirit Arena international players like Jamaican full back Adrian Mariappa from



Christian Unap

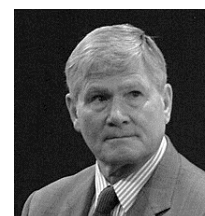


Ezequiel Lavezzi

Crystal Palace, Ivorian international midfielder Cheik Tiote from Newcastle Utd, Ecuadoran center half Carlos Gruezo and with a record amount the renown Argentinian wizard Ezequiel Lavezzi. Dalton finished 3rd in the league, behind champions Hilvar Athletics and AG Nobel, performing excellent football. They also earned a place in next season's Europa League (they were however eliminated in the

qualifying round by Marseille). Di Matteo's Dalton finished 8th next season and the Italian was sacked, with unknown former National Hammerfest coach Homir Suel to replace him. The fans were furious with Unap and his controversial decisions, but the owner did not pay any attention. Attendances in Spirit arena dropped, so was the team's performance. In 2018-19 they finished in 11th place. Suel was fired too and former player Yol Iders was hired.

Iders had guided Astrix Villemstad to the 1st division after 86 years! He maintained almost the same squad but in spite of playing attractive football, results did not come. He stayed 3 seasons in Villemstad with 9th place in 2021 his best performance.



Yol Iders



Fenel Marty

Another Astrix Villemstad manager replaced him, former international player Fenel Marty, who guided Dalton to 7th place in 2022-23 and 2023-24. Dalton SC reached also the cup final in 2024, losing to Select in extra time. Marty stayed with the club, leading them even higher, to the 6th position in 2024-25.