

Dominic

Dominic Holborn Football Club is a professional football club based in Holborn, Diceland, Pharos. The club competes in the PSL A, the top tier of Pharonian football. Founded in 1905, the team play their home games at Daquebe Park Stadion. It won its first major honour, the League National Championship, in 1921. They have 10 PSL Championship titles and 3 PSC Cups and hold the record for most seasons in the top tier. They have also reached an UEFA Cup final in 1987, losing to Scottish club Dundee Utd. The club has rivalries with Diceland's other big team, Rutugrian and a historic rivalry with AG Nobel.



History



Guss Mears

Pre-1905

In 1896, Centrik Augustus "Guss" Mears, football enthusiast and businessman, along with his brother, Jozsef Mears, purchased the Daquebe Park Athletics Ground in south Holborn, with the intention of staging first-class football matches there. They had to wait until 1904 to buy the freehold, when the previous owner died. They failed to persuade Daquebe Sport Club to adopt the ground as their home after a

dispute over the rent, so Mears considered selling to the Great Eastern Railway Company, who wanted to use the land as a coal-dumping yard. Mears' colleague, lawyer Fran Parks, was trying unsuccessfully to dissuade him. Parks later recounted what happened next:

Feeling sad that the old ground would be no more, I walked slowly by his [Mears'] side when his dog, coming up from behind unobserved, bit me so severely through my cycling stockings as to draw blood freely. On



Jozsef Mears

telling the owner "Your damned dog has bitten me, look!" and showing him the blood, instead of expressing concern he casually observed, "Scotch terrier; always bites before he speaks." The utter absurdity of the remark struck me as so genuinely funny that although hopping about on one foot and feeling blood trickling down, I had to laugh heartily and tell him he was the "coolest fish" I'd ever met. A minute later he surprised me by slapping me on the shoulder and saying, "You took that bite damned well, most men would have kicked up hell about it. Look here, I'll stand on you; never mind the others. Go to the chemists and get that bite seen to and meet me here at nine tomorrow morning and we'll get busy".

Thus, on a whim, Mears changed his mind and decided to take Parks' advice to instead found his own football club to occupy Daquebe Park Ground.

Founding and early years (1905-1917)



Lord Cadogan

Dominic Football Club were founded on 10 March 1905 at The Rising Cross pub, (now The Butcher's Hook) opposite today's main entrance to the ground on the Dominic Fan Road. Since there was already a team named Daquebe in the borough, the name of the adjacent road, in honour of Sir Dominic Fan, the great Pharonian Judiciary and Parliamentarian, was settled on after Holborn FC, Diceland FC and Daquebe Park Rangers FC had been rejected. Blue shirts were adopted by Mears, after the racing colors of Lord Cadogan, great beneficiary and first club president, along with white shorts and dark blue socks.

Dominic initially considering joining the Southern League, but were rejected following objections from Rutugrian and Normatia, so they instead applied for admission to the Diceland Football League. Their candidacy was endorsed at the Football League AGM on 29 May 1905; a speech by Parks was particularly important, emphasising the new club's financial stability, its impressive



1905 Dominic squad



Willard 'Fatty' Foulk

new stadium and marquee players such as Willard "Fatty" Foulk, the 135 kg goalkeeper who had won a Diceland league title and two Diceland Cups with the Holborn Trojans.

Twenty-eight-year-old half-back Jan Tait was hired as player-manager. The club began with established players recruited from other teams; along with Foulk, Dominic signed forwards Limmar Indris and Bale Roer from Gint Lakers,



Jan Tait



**Dominic vs Chiftelov, 1st ever home game
1905**



Limmar Indris



Bale Roer

and Fran Nosrap from Champion Athletics.

Dominic's first league match took place away at Charrington against Dais Athletics on 2 September 1905. They lost the game 1–0. Their first home match was against Chiftelov Sport in a friendly. They won 4–0 with 3 goals from Bale Roer and one from Jan Tait. Tait also scored Dominic's first competitive goal, coming in a 1–0 win against Ris Skov.

Dominic finished a respectable 3rd in the Diceland Second Division in their first season, but Tait steadily saw his position undermined by board room interference. He lost the power to select the team in November 1906, and by January 1907 he had left for Dynamo Staker. Club secretary Limmar Leis took temporary charge and led the team to promotion at the end of the season, thanks largely to the goals of Indris and Gaal "Gatling Gun" Hildon (nicknamed "Gatling Gun" because his shots "were simply unstoppable and which travel like shots from a gun"). The latter was the first of many prolific strikers/forwards to play for Dominic; he scored five goals on his debut and 27 in the promotion season en route to becoming the first player to score 100 goals for the club.



Gaal Hildon



Fenel Voogt

Leis was succeeded by Fenel Voogt,

who was to manage Dominic for the next 26 years. The club's early seasons produced little success, and they yo-yoed between the First and Second divisions. They were relegated in

1909–10, promoted in 1911–12, relegated again in 1913–14 and promoted



Dominic Football Club 1911-12

again in 1914-15. The introduction of fine players such as midfielder Velmar Darr and his



Velmar Darr

brother Yord from Trojans, defender Bale Hartfelt and forwards Lors Vella from Gint Lakers and Homir Ingam from Select gave Dominic the necessary boost to their first Diceland title in 1916 and the promotion to the newly formed National Championship in 1917.



Bale Hartfelt

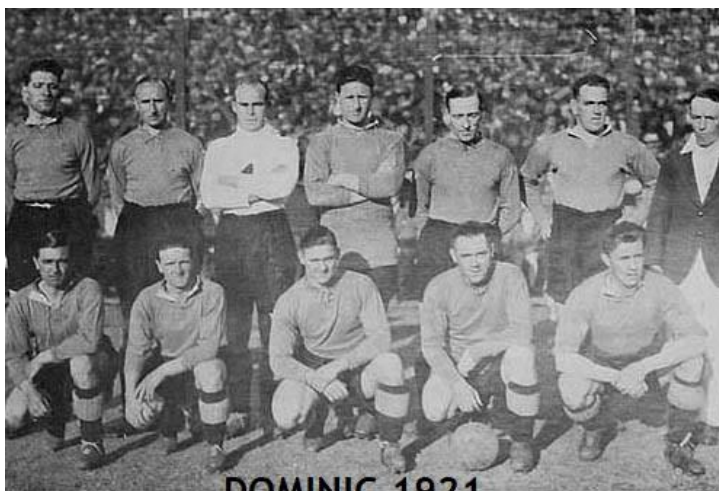
In spite of their checkered fortunes,

Dominic became one of the best-supported teams in the country, with fans attracted by the team's reputation for playing entertaining attacking football and for signing star players. The club had the highest average attendance in Pharonian football from 1914 to 1917.

National Championship era and 1st title

Although winning relatively easy the Diceland Championship, Dominic finished 5th in the first two National Championships of 1917 and 1918 and a close 3rd in 1919, when they were defeated by eventual champions Ferephon Union and Dynamo Pharos in the last 3 games of the season.

After a short break in 1920 when they lost the local Diceland title to arch rivals Rutugrian, Dominic came back strong in the 1921 season. They were comfortably leading the National league until the penultimate day of play, when they suffered a surprising defeat by Internationale in Gilbey Town. Thus, in the last day of play, they needed a win against bottom club SK Villemstad, but at the end of the game in a packed with almost 67,000 fans Daquebe Stadion the score remained 0-0. Fortunately, none of the pursuing teams



DOMINIC 1921

back row from left: Lors Vella, Yord Darr, Lathan Saur, Kleon Verkin, Velmar Darr, Fil Milgan, Fenel Voogt (man)
front: Moree Cairn, Derk Youl, Homir Ingam, Bale Hartfelt, Gaal Smit

managed to win; Zaria and Dynamo Corel drew their matches (to Chiftelov Sport and Orage FC respectively) and Ferephon Union lost in the Gilbey Town derby to Internationale. Dominic and Holborn celebrated their first national title with festivities that lasted a week!

It would take them another 24 years before they celebrated another championship. From the title winning season of 1921 until their next one in 1945, Dominic was 17 times Diceland champions, playing 19 times in the National, but their best performance was 2nd place (4 times, 1926, 1936, 1941 and 1942). In 1926 it was to be the closest the club came to

silverware. The team secured impressive wins over Select and AG Nobel, but were drawn against Chiftelov Sport in the penultimate week of play. Antil Shonen inspired Chiftelov to a 1–0 lead, before Gaal Smit equalized for Dominic. The Blues laid siege to the Chiftelov goal in the second half, but were unable to beat Stanel Ellis and make a breakthrough, so Ferephon Union, who demolished 3-0 Foundation BC in Terminus, went on to lift the trophy on goal difference.

After this dramatic loss of the title the team went into a full-scale renewal. Velmar and Yord Darr, Bale Hartfelt (he died in 1930) and Homir Ingam all ended their career. Manager Fenel Voogt remained until 1934 but he and Dominic were unable to re-capture their previous achievements. Their disappointment epitomised Dominic's flaws throughout the decade, whereby performances and results rarely matched the calibre of players at the club. Money was spent, but



Helvet Keiss



Alan de Haen

some feel it was too often spent on inappropriate players, especially forwards, while the defence remained neglected. Players like midfielders Jedin Sols (from Daquebe SC), Helvet Keiss (from Vitoria Bluecair) and center forward Alan de Haen costed £25,000. De Haen in particular was one of the biggest talents of his era, known for his goalscoring and was Dominic's top scorer in each season, scoring 105 goals in total, but his time in Holborn was hindered by his personal troubles and punctuated by long suspensions for indiscipline, including a two-month ban for swearing at a referee.

Voogt stepped down in 1934 and was replaced by Less Kniton, but the appointment saw little change in Dominic's fortunes. Their best chance



Jedin Sols

came in 1936 when they were top of the table from the start and were grand favourites



Less Kniton, Dominic manager (1934-39)

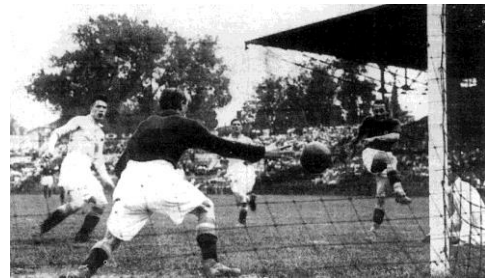
for their 2nd National title. An away draw to bottom-place Dynamo Victoria and a devastating loss 2-4 in Daquebe Stadion to Hilvar Athletics gave the title to Foundation BC.



DOMINIC 1935-36

back row (from left): Sols, Keiss, Kusterman, Kniton (manager), van Sint, Kolen
front: Verbel, Vermis, Brox, Jon Mears (president), Lenar, Haagen, de Haen

In 1937, Dominic competed in the "Arts et Techniques dans la Vie moderne" tournament in Paris against some of the biggest clubs of the time, Austria Wien, Bologna and Slavia Prague, thus becoming one of the first Pharonian clubs to participate in an international tournament. Dominic reached the final of the tournament, where they lost to Italian champions Bologna. The club continued to be one of the country's best-supported teams. The visit of Dalton SC in June 1935 attracted a crowd of 82,905 to Daquebe Stadion, which remains a club record and the second highest ever attendance at a Pharonian league match. Crowds of almost 50,000 attended most of the home games. In 1939, with the club having come no closer to on-field success, Kniton stepped down. He was succeeded by former QUR Subclavia manager, Peter Try.



Carlo Reguzzoni of Bologna scores against Kusterman



Peter Try, Dominic manager (1939-51)

1940-51, Dynamo Moscow, the Youth system and two more championships

With WWII raging in Europe, Pharonian football continued since Pharos was away from major conflicts and far from air raids. Although many players went to England for the war purposes, many of them had duties in the various posts on the island. Goalkeeper Damon Kusterman was the big star of the club, alongside Sols and de Haen. Under



Damon Kusterman

Peter Try's guidance Dominic won 6 out of 7 Diceland championships from 39 to 45, but could not capitalize at the National level, finishing 6th in 1940 and 2nd in 1941 (losing on goal difference again in a 3-way tie on top of the final table) and 2nd again in 1942. In 1943 Rutugrian won the Diceland title and the ticket to the National. Try's team bounced back with a bang.



Lathan Garne

Try's biggest contribution to Dominic was off the field. In a bid to counter the spiralling cost of transfer fees in football, he oversaw the development of an extensive new youth and scouting programme, headed by ex-players Noth Taler, Centron Brisch and Fenel Longolin, which would ultimately see the club produce its own players. The policy would provide the core of Dominic's first team for the next three decades in particular, producing such players as Telos Eberlein, Lathan Garne, Lewis de Sanden, Bayta and Toran Darell, Eto Demerzel, Ivo Layton, Litoral Thumbing, Folin

Rera, Sim Aldon and many more.



DOMINIC 1944-45

Back row from left: Haagen, Fustre, Gislain, Kusterman, van Per, Vermis. Front row: Perin, van Sint, Tyron, Bojar, Lenar

The 4th place of 1944 in a championship where AG Nobel dominated from start to end, saw the introduction of several youth players in Try's first team. It was the 'boarding school' for what was to follow next season. With 6 youngsters in the team (Hal Fustre, 21, Val Perin, 22, Madi van Per, 22, Onis Tyron, 21, Telos Eberlein, 19, Marlon Atersol, 21), Dominic won their 2nd National Championship, 24 years after their first one. A 1-0 win over

Hinjilucaya in a packed Daquebe Stadion with a 52 min. goal by Onis Tyron clinched the Championship over Internationale of Gilbey Town.

In October 1945, with the war having just ended, the Pharonian football authorities sought a way to celebrate the return of the peacetime game. As part of a goodwill gesture, it was announced that Dynamo Moscow, reigning champions of the Soviet Union, would tour the United Kingdom and Pharos and play several home teams, including Pharonian champion Dominic. The match took place on 13 November at Daquebe Stadion with Dominic wearing an unfamiliar red strip due to a clash with Dynamo's blue kit. Before kick-off, the Dynamo players presented a bouquet of flowers to their opposite number. The Russian team surprised many observers with their talent and tenacity by fighting back from 0-2 and 2-3 down to earn a 3-3 draw. An estimated



Telos Eberlein

crowd of over 100,000 people attended the match, with thousands entering the ground illegally. This crowd is the highest ever recorded at Daquebe. Spectators watched from numerous obscure places, including many on the dog track and on the top of stands.

Dominic would finish 3rd and 7th in the next two Nationals, but in 1948 they produced one of the best ever squads for the club, reaching their 3rd National title, 1 point clear

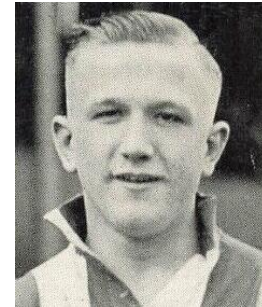


Dominic vs Dynamo Moscow 1945

of Centralia Trandor. Key to their success was the defensive line and Lathan Garne (who had

replaced Kusterman at goal), conceding only 16 goals, the 2nd-best record after Chiffelov Sport's 15 in 1935.

In the next 3 years Rutugrian, Dominic's Dicelandic arch-rivals, dominated locally, winning 3 consecutive titles (plus a National one in 1949). That meant that the great Peter Try's Dominic team could not advance in the National level. At the end of the 1951 season Peter Try offered his resignation, which was accepted by the board. Deril van Sint, 37 years old at the time, who was Try's assistant after retirement in 1949, was appointed as new manager.



Deril van Sint, best player 1945 & 1948

Deril van Sint: modernisation and 2 more Championships (1956, 1960)

One of the first "tracksuit managers" who used to shake each player by the hand and wish them "all the best" before each match, van Sint proceeded to modernize the club, both on and off the field. One of van Sint's first actions was to remove the image of a Holborn Pensioner (the army veterans who reside at the nearby Royal Hospital) from the match program and the club's old nickname was no more. From then on they were to be known as the Huskies or the Blues. This also led to the introduction of a new "husky and cross rampant" crest.



Deril van Sint manager 1952-61

He improved the training regime, introducing ball work to training sessions, a practice rare in Pharos at the time; the youth

and scouting systems begun by his predecessor were extended and he abandoned the club's old recruiting policy of signing often unreliable stars, opting instead for lesser known but more reliable players from the lower divisions. He also urged the club's fans to be more partisan and to get behind the team. The team took back the top position in Diceland from Rutugrian, but van Sint's early years in the national level were unpromising, as Dominic finished 3rd, 8th and twice 5th between 1952 and 1955.

In 1956, one year after the club's jubilee year, everything clicked. The team found a consistency rate not previously there as Dominic unexpectedly won the National Championship title. It included goalkeeper Lathan Garne, midfielders Marlon Atersol, Val Perin and Madi van Per and forwards Onis Tyron and Telos Eberlein (perhaps the only genuine star in the side), all having won the 1948 title. Alongside were players that emerged from the youth system, such as Salvor Piete, Less Santel, Anselm Rask and Helnus Hjart. The title came in a dramatic way. Foundation BC had a comfortable lead, but with 3 games remaining they suffered unexpected defeats from Atlantic Union and Oamaru FC and Dominic cut the point deficit to 1, with one game to play. Then in the last day of the league, Foundation drew at home to Dynamo Corel when at the same time Dominic crashed Dynamo Pharos 4-1 in Daquebe Stadion, with 2 goals by Telos Eberlein and another



Less Santel



The Dominic team before the final game of the 1955-56 season vs Dynamo Pharos in Holborn. Back row (from left): Jan Oxber (trainer), Ankor Fa, Madi van Per, Helnus Hjart, Less Santel, Lathan Garne, Lathan Tabenor, Yol Maers (secretary). Front row: Salvor Piette, Onis Tyron, Anselm Rask, Deril van Sint (manager), Val Perin, Telos Eberlein

2 by Helnus Hjart and Madi van Per. The two teams ended level on points but Dominic was crowned champion because of superior goal difference.

Deril van Sint was considered a hero by then in Holborn, after this 4th Dominic National title, but this did not last for long. A disappointing 9th place in 1957 and a mere 7th in 1958 brought much grumbling in Daquebe Stadion, with the fans demanding changes. Yol Mears, grandson of Jozsef Mears, co-founder of the club, had a lengthy discussion with van Sint at the end of the

1958 season and in spite his initial decision to fire the manager, decided to stick to van Sint's plan to go along with another bunch of youth squad players. A series of other promising youngsters, informally known as '*van Sint's Ducklings*' (like Litoral Thumbing, Zdenek Hanel, Bayta Darell, Toran Darell and Eto Demerzel) emerged in the first team, though their inexperience ensured that performances remained erratic. The team finished 5th in 1959 but in the next season they went all the way, winning their 5th



Lewis de Sanden
best player in 1960



Dominic manager Deril van Sint addresses a large crowd of supporters who have gather on the pitch following Dominic's 3-0 victory over Orage FC at Daquebe Stadion to become National League Champions 1960.

National Championship title, again in the same dramatic way, as leaders Zaria drew 1-1 to Foundation in the last day of play, while Dominic beat Orage FC 3-0 (goals by Hjart, Rask and Piette).

Emergence (1960-70) and the "Diamond squad"

Just a few days after the last Championship, Deril van Sint fell ill. He was treated repeatedly, getting in and out of the Holborn hospital and he finally died on 16 September 1960, aged

only 46. It was a big shock for the club, the city of Holborn and the whole Pharonian football community.

For the next 4 years the team slumped as they competed with Rutugrian for the Diceland crown, taking 2 apiece. In 1965 former player Lathan Tabenor was appointed head coach.



Lathan Tabenor

He imposed a regime of strict discipline and promoted many young talented players emerging from the team's youth system. He used a couple of seasons to experiment and plan for the future, finishing 3rd in 1966 and 2nd in 1967.

Dominic thus entered the 1968 season to the National Division with a new, youthful but experienced team which included the uncompromising Helnus "Chopper" Hjart (who was the only one remaining from the previous team, aged over 30),



Eto Demerzel

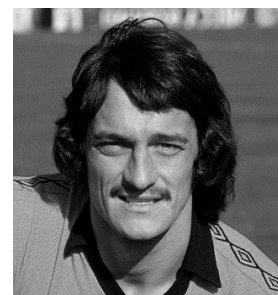
goalkeeper Folin Rera, prolific goalscoring winger Yate Fulham, forwards Eltrend Zengil and Eto Demerzel (his 225 goals were a record for the club for a long time), full-backs Ankor Yael and Litoral Thumbing, center backs Salvor Leendo and Anters Haver, captain and center half Zdenek Hanel and most of all the midfielder duo of brothers Bayta and Toran Darell, all products of the youth system. They all completed the Diamonds line-up, as they were named, because Tabenor had referred to the team as his "*little diamonds*" during a TV documentary and the name stuck. The team celebrated their 6th National Championship early in the season (in the last 5 games they won only one). One more time the defensive line was the best, conceding only 12 goals, breaking Hilvar's 13 from 1966. They finished 4th next season, but repeated their feat in 1970 to win their 7th National title.



Folin Rera



Yate Fulham



Bayta Darell



Toran Darell



Litoral Thumbing

Decline (1971-82)

Tabenor stayed in charge for another season, but at the end of 1971 he had an offer to manage Chelsea in Britain, which he could not turn down. His assistant Ron Suart was placed in charge of the team. From the early 1970s, the discipline of the team began to degenerate, as Suart fell out with several key players, most notably the Darell brothers and Fulham over their attitude and lifestyle. As the spirit of the team declined, so too did results. They finished a disappointing 8th place in 1972 and an even worse 9th in 1973. They would have been last in 1974, but climbed in 6th place at the finish, thanks to a win over Hilvar Athletics, just 3 points clear of last place Internationale. The feud between Suart and the Darells had reached its apogee, so the manager was sacked by the end of the 1974 season.



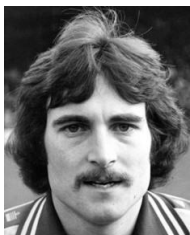
Ron Suart

The building of the pioneering East Stand as part of a plan to create a 60,000 all-seater stadium added to the club's woes. The project coincided with a world economic crisis and was hit by delays, a builders' strike and shortages of materials, all of which sent the cost escalating out of control, to the extent that the club's debts stood at £4 million by 1977. As a result, between August 1974 and June 1978, Dominic were unable to buy a single player. The decline of the team was matched by a decline in attendances – those who remained were marred by a fierce reputation for violence amongst a section of the Dominic support (the boundary between passion and hooliganism being dangerously narrow in those days). The late 1970s and the 1980s saw the height of football hooliganism in the footballing world; while the problem was widespread, Dominic's hooligan element became particularly notorious and would blight the club throughout the following years.



Daquebe Stadion East Stand 1975

Former left back Ankor Fa became manager in 1974 and led the side to a 7th place in the National Championship of 1975. New arrivals at the team were Kals Voogt and Escel Demen from the youth squads. Fa stayed for the 1975-76 season, but left in April 1976, following a contract dispute with chairman Yol Mears over a company car and another ex-player was appointed, this time former right-back Hal Fustre. He could not help the club either, finished in 9th place in the Nationals and was too sacked by the end of the season.



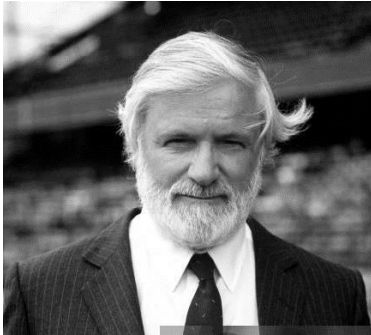
Escel Demen

Another former player, Salvor Piete, took over in 1976, the third manager in 9 months. He stayed as head coach for 3 seasons, but could not win a title, not even the local Diceland one, losing to Rutugrian in 1977 and Normatia Diaspar in 1978. He followed the van Sint example, promoting youngsters from the youth system to the first team, since all the great players of the past either retired or left, due to the lack of proper financing. The new bunch of players included the likes of Lathan Vonnegut, Dokor van Terger, Sim Aldon, Salvor Anten,

Lev Miron and Peter Swan. Piete's team eventually won the local title in 1979, but finished in the 6th position in the Nationals.

The Kenny Bats era and the battle for Daquebe Stadion

In 1979, Yol Mears resigned as chairman, ending his family's 74-year association with the club. One of Mears' last actions was to appoint former



Kenny Bats

Normatia boss Jan Neel as manager. A year later, Dominic Football & Athletic Company, heavily in debt and unable to pay its players, was acquired from the Mears family interests by businessman and one-time chairman of Del Rey Hilvar, Kenny Bats, for the sum of £1, though for reasons which remain disputed, he did not buy Daquebe Park Properties, the company which owned the Stadion freehold. By this point, Dominic was in a parlous financial state and losing £12,000 a week. Bats would later

describe what he took over as "a social club with a little football played on a Saturday".

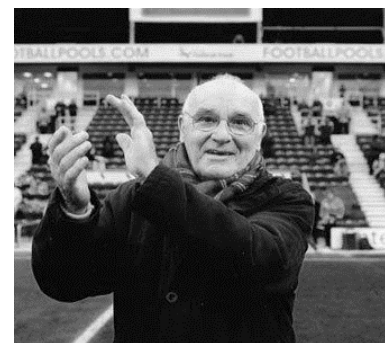
«There were hangers-on in the wrong areas, all over the club. I wrote everything off and started again. Dominic used to have a bootman to clean the boots. The apprentices just stood around watching him clean away. He went. The directors had their own chauffeur to drive them around town. He went. Even the lottery lost money. How? There were just two birds selling tickets. They went. »

Bats immediately started reorganizing the team. Neel was out in 1981 and former Villa Town and National Team player Idor Proktor was hired as head manager. Proktor, who had worked as an assistant manager in Townsville after his playing retirement in 1972, managed to win the Diceland championship (the last one, since the Soccer League, PSL, was formed next year) and finish a respectable 6th in the Nationals, gaining promotion for the new PSL A division of the 1981-82 season.

As noted above, when Bats bought Dominic in 1982, he only bought the club and not DPS Properties, the company which now owned the freehold of the stadium.

According to Bats, he and Yol Mears, the majority shareholder of DPS Properties, shook hands on a deal which would see Dominic acquire Mears' stake in DPS Properties for £450,000. Mears and Lord Cadogan subsequently sold their shares to property developers Marler Estates, giving Marler a 70% stake in the company. This began a long campaign by Marler to force Dominic out of Daquebe Stadion so it could be sold off and redeveloped.

Over the next decade, Bats waged a war of attrition against Marler, acquiring a minority stake in DPS Properties and initiating a series of court injunctions and delaying tactics, designed to wear them down. He also launched the "Save the Park" campaign, with the aim of raising



Idor Proktor at his honor day in 2018 in Daquebe Park

£15 million to acquire the freehold from Marler. Marler in turn put forward several schemes which would see Dominic removed from Daquebe park. In March 1985, Marler's plans to redevelop the site without Dominic were approved by Daquebe Park Council; the council reversed its policy when the Union Party of Diceland (UPD) and the Labour Party (LPD) gained control of the Dicelandic Parliament in 1985. In December 1987, in a "momentous decision", Bats' own plans to redevelop Daquebe Park Stadion into a modern football stadium were approved by the council's planning committee.

Dominic were nonetheless served notice to quit the stadium, upon the expiry of the lease in 1989. Cabra Estates, however, which had purchased Marler in 1989, were eventually bankrupted in the property market crash of 1992. This enabled Bats to do a deal with their creditors, the Dais Bank, and reunite the freehold with the club. Bats then created the Dominic Pitch Owners, a non-profit organisation owned by the fans which in 1997 purchased the freehold of the stadium, the club's naming rights and the pitch to ensure that property developers could never again try to purchase Daquebe Park Stadion.

Revival and glory days (1981-89)

The start of the PSL era was difficult for Proktor. He had a relatively young and inexperienced team, with players under 25 years of age, with the exception of Demen, Voogt and Vonnegut. They stood well and finished in the middle of the table. They would have done better, but managed only 1 win in their last 10 games. Proktor, with the help of Bats started to reorganize. He bought forward Ducem Roati from Alma Sport and winger Lo Shelver and midfielder Lathan Krag from Atlantic Union. In the 1982-83 season the club finished in 7th position, 12 points behind champions Dalton SC, mainly because they could not produce a single win at home against the top 6 teams of the table – they were defeated in Daquebe Park 0-4 from Dalton SC, 0-6 from Hilvar Athletics, 0-3 from Select, 2-6 from Dynamo Corel, 1-4 from Zaria and only a draw 1-1 with Dynamo Pharos.

The midfield line was the strong point of the team with Sim Aldon, Salvor Anten, Lev Miron and Lathan Krag.



Sim Aldon



Lathan Krag

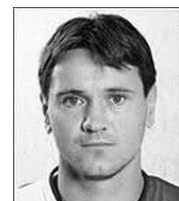
Roati could not produce the goals Proktor hoped in his first season, but the manager gave him his time to adopt to his new environment.

During the next season of 1983-84

Dominic performed attractive football and contested



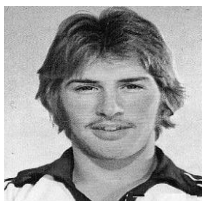
A share certificate of the Dominic Pitch Owners PLC



Ducem Roati



Salvor Anten



**Dokor van
Terger**

the title. Winning the 9 out of last 10 games they finished 3 points behind back-to-back champions Dalton SC in 2nd place, the best place since their championship winning season of 1969-70. Sim Aldon produced 22 goals, as Proktor used him as an attacking midfielder instead of his normal position as a center half, with Ducem Roati adding another 15. In defence the trio of Vonnegut, van Terger and Ton Maxell stood firm in the 3-5-2 formation.

The Bats administration, realizing the potential of the team and with the prospect of European games for the UEFA Cup, decided to spend really big. With Dominic's future at Daquebe Park now secure, Bats and millionaire director Madi Hardin (who had acquired 25% of the club) were now making money available for the club to spend on players. The Polish superstar Zbigniew Boniek was acquired from Juventus for a record sum for the club. His arrival was met by 100,000 fans who travelled all the way to Nobel airport. Poktor also bought defenders Yol Gilmer from Victoria City and Kon Glendo from Hinjioamaru and forwards Yahim Airek from Chiftelov Sport, Fran Mohis from Altar Hawera and new rising star Fenel Knapp from Champion Athletics. It was an almost completely new team, destined for glory.



Zbigniew Boniek

The season started well with the elimination of German club FC Koln in the first round of the UEFA Cup and the thrashing of big rivals AG 1959 in Daquebe Park in a memorable game that ended 9-6 for the home team (Fenel Knapp score 5 goals). Then they eliminated Standard



Fenel Knapp

Liege of Belgium in the second round with two emphatic wins, 4-1 at home and an impressive 9-4 away. The European project ended in the 3rd round; they beat Spartak Moscow 4-1 at home, but suffered a 0-5 defeat in Moscow. Meanwhile AG 1959 had surpassed them in the league, but once again, in a tremendous game in Ostrich Stadion in February 1985, they won 6-5, to regain the lead. Fenel Knapp scored a total of 32 goals, a record in PSL for goals scored in one season. Dominic went on all the way to win their 8th National title that was celebrated

accordingly around Holborn.

Idor Proktor signed a new lucrative contract with Bats, making him one



Wlodi Smolarek

of the top paid managers around Europe. Goalkeeper Fil Zanos came from Kent Utd as a backup to James Pixii and another Pole was bought to pair with Boniek, winger Wlodzimierz Smolarek from Widzew Lodz. The 1985-86 season



Fil Zanos

started with an unexpected defeat by Alma Sport, but then 9 straight wins brought Dominic on top of the table. In the meantime, they started

their games in the European Champions Cup. In the 1st round they eliminated Anderlecht from Belgium (1-0, 4-3), in the 2nd round Omonia Nicosia from Cyprus (4-0, 3-0) and then in the quarter finals Bayern Munich (5-0 at home, 0-1 away). Dominic was in the semifinals against Romanian Steaua Bucharest. They won 1-0 in Daquebe Park with a 78 min goal by Smolarek, but on 16 April 1986 they suffered their biggest defeat. The Romanian team that surprised Europe that season by winning the trophy in the final against Barcelona, squashed Dominic 7-0. The European expedition took its toll on the team in the PSL, where they ended in 3rd place behind eventful champions AG 1959 and Zaria. Boniek was top scorer with 29 goals.

Midfielder Bred McLean was the only purchase in 1987 from Select. The season proved to be the best for the club in Europe and domestically. Competing in UEFA Cup, they reached the final, eliminating on the way Standard Liege (6-0, 5-5), Tirol Innsbruck (5-3, 5-0), Spartak



Dundee's goalkeeper Billy Thompson saves before Fran Mohis in the 1987 UEFA Cup final

Moscow (2-1, 3-3), Torino in the quarter-finals (3-2, 5-1) and Gothenburg in the semi-finals (2-0, 2-0). In the double final against Scottish Dundee Utd, they lost 4-5 in Dundee (goals by Knapp, Smolarek, Roati and Krag), but were unable to win in the 2nd leg in Holborn, due to the amazing game of Dundee's keeper Billy Thompson, who kept the score 0-0. In the PSL league Dominic was trailing defending champions AG 1959 by 2 points before the last day of play. However, the Centralian side lost at home 1-4 to Atlantic Union. Dominic defeated Oamaru FC in Holborn by the same score

and were crowned champions (their 9th title).

In the next season 1987-88 the PSL format changed. In a peculiar group system for the first part of the season, Dominic was in the National Central group, together with Hilvar Athletics, Oamaru FC, Dynamo Pharos, Rutugrian and Cardenas. No new players were bought that season and the effort was focused in ECC. Thus, they finished a disappointing 5th place in the group, meaning they could not advance in the play-off round. They managed to reach the PSC Cup final, but they lost to Rutugrian 2-0 in a disappointing performance. The European season was another story. They eliminated Rapid Vienna (0-1, 4-2), PSV



Rutugrian's Hulton (on the ground) scores the 2nd goal in the 1988 PSC Cup final

Eindhoven (2-0, 1-1), Girodines Bordeaux in the quarter-finals (0-0, 2-0) and reached the semi-finals once more, as they had done 2 years ago. This time was the great Real Madrid

that proved too much to beat. After a 2-2 draw in Holborn, they lost 0-6 in Bernabeu. Proktor left by the end of the season to Atlantic Union and the Dane Sepp Piontek replaced him.

The 90's – eight managers but only one cup title

Dokor van Terger left for AG 1959 and was not replaced equally, since Peter Haller from Telstar Athletics and Marc Lanic from Tarnec FC were not of the same calibre. With Piontek in charge Dominic topped their PSL regular season group, but in the 1st round of play-offs



Dominic's captain Lev Miron celebrate with the 1989 cup

they were eliminated by Oamaru FC. The team reached the PSC Cup final for a second time in a row and this time were victorious. In the final played in 1st June National Stadion the beat Villa Town 4-0 with goals from Fenel Knapp, Fran Mohis, Bred McLean and Lev Miron, to lift their 1st cup title.

Piontek left to manage Turkey's National Team and Fil Sahtior, former manager of Olympic Eptapolis was given the job. Boniek retired and Jan Urban, another Pole was signed together with Pharos' international forward Salvor Dirige from Dynamo Corel. They

topped the regular season group again and reached the play-offs semi-finals (eliminating Hilvar Athletics and Oamaru FC in the first two rounds), but were beaten by eventual champions AG 1959.

Sahtior stayed until 1992, reaching the play-offs quarter finals both times. In 1992 Lathan Sivena was hired, but failed to produce something better and so the administration appointed Lathan Devers, former National Team coach who had a couple of PSC Cup titles with Zaria and Rutugrian so far. The team lacked quality players and Bats was reluctant to invest in foreigners (with the exception of 2 Russians, Alexander Mostovoi and Oleg Salenko). The format of the championship changed once again and Dominic failed to go to the play-off rounds. Devers quit in 1995 and the team changed 3 managers in 3 seasons; Stin Blasco in 1995-96 (failed to promote to play-offs), Olynthus Thallos in 1996-97 (finished 12th in the post season



Salvor Dirige



Lathan Pinter scores in the 2000 Cup final

format) and Limmar Koleg in 1997-98 (finished 15th in the new 20-team PSL A). The same fate had Idor Schaeffer, who managed to refresh the team for his first season, reaching 7th place but failed in the next two, finishing 13th and 15th, so was shown the exit. In 2000 Dominic reached the PSC cup final and won their 2nd title by beating FTK 2-0 by 2 goals from Lathan Pinter. Former player Ak Ramanujan, Schaeffer's assistant stepped in in 2001 and Dominic finished in 18th place, their worst position ever in PSL.

2002: start of Roman Sivomar era

Kenny Bats was facing financial problems and Madi Hardin had sold most of his shares. With the club facing an apparent financial crisis, Bats unexpectedly sold Dominic in June 2002 for £60 million. In so doing, he reportedly recognised a personal profit of £17 million on the club



Roman Sivomar

he had bought for £1 in 1982 (his stake had been diluted to just below 30% over the years).

The club's new owner was Pharonian-American billionaire Roman Sivomar, who also took on responsibility for the club's debt, quickly paying some of it. He hired Escel Demen as manager, a Holborn-born former player, who was managing Bayta Darell's Vesterbro academy at the time. He then went on a spending spree before the start of the season and landed players like Ador Moreta, Salvor



Escel Demen

Marel from Dynamo Pharos and Jan Den Vorde from Cardenas SFC.

Dominic was starting to improve, finishing 14th in 2003 and in 7th position in 2004. Yol Stack was also brought in 2004 from Chiftelov Sport, to strengthen the defensive line.

Meanwhile, Sivomar invested heavily in rebuilding the stadium. The revamp began in 2003 with works on a new fourth stand that would close the horseshoe shape of three other stands, raised on artificial hills. What was supposed to be 'just' the last stand of the old stadium, proved to be the first one of a completely new ground. Architects of local Modern Construction Systems studio quickly created a vision of a roof covering all stands, but that proved to be impracticable, forcing the designers to find a different solution. During work, which was divided into three phases, it changed several times, resulting in current, asymmetrical shape of the ground. The team had to move and play their home games in the National Stadion in Greenfield, some 200 km away, for the next 5 seasons in a row, usually before almost empty terraces.

The 2004-05 season was an almost triumph for Demen and Dominic. They reached the PSC Cup final that season and won their 3rd title by emphatically beating Dalton SC 4-0, with 2



Ruel Flar and Yahim Ferl celebrate the PSC Cup victory

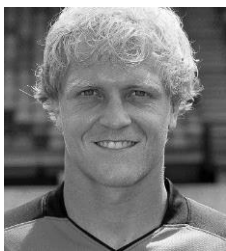
goals by Yahim Ferl and another 2 by Ducem Kieren and Ruel Flar. In the Championship, they were leading the PSL table until the last day of play, but in the last home game vs Select they were held 0-0 till the end. Their rivals, Centralia Trandor needed to win to pass them, but they were held at 0-0 too by Olympic Eptapolis until the 92nd minute of play, when a goal by Onis Kerun gave the Trandor side the title by 1 point. The team was in European competitions once

again, gaining a place in Champions League qualifiers for the next season.

Relegation

Demen was offered a huge contract by Chiftelov Sport and left at the end of the 2004-05 season. Former FTK manager Fenel Azer was given the helm, but the new owner did not buy any new players, as his business in America took most of his time away from Holborn. The team had a bad start, with only 1 win and a draw in the first 10 days of play. They were most of the season in and out of the relegation zone. In the 2nd round of the season, they managed only 2 wins and 2 draws, counting 13 defeats and thus they finished 17th and were relegated to PSL B. The fan were furious with Sivomar, demonstrated around the city asking the new owner either to invest or leave.

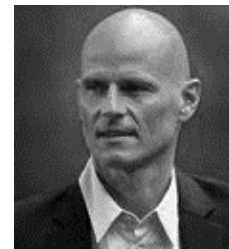
Sivomar responded. Dokor Sis, who was champion with Chiftelov Sport in 2001 was given the manager job. Sis maintained the same squad with one addition only. The new 'wizard kid' of Pharonian football, Less Dena was bought from Hinjilucaya for ff 21 million and Sivomar promised more players after the season and the certain promotion. Indeed, the team



Less Dena

performed exceptionally well and finished in the 1st place of PSL B, returning to the top tier.

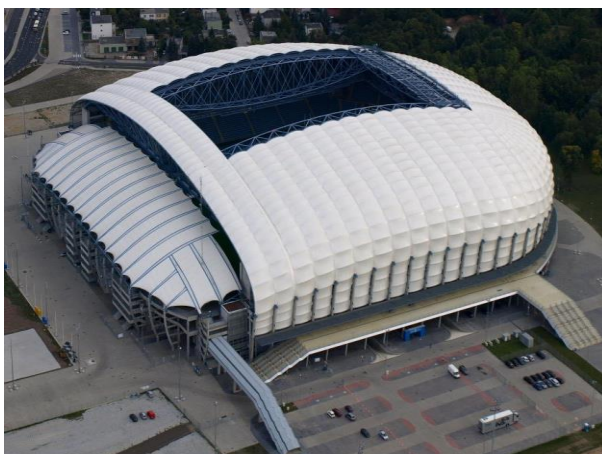
Two new players were added in midfield, Linge Mestrian from Titania Schottegut and Antil Pam from Rul Katai. They finished in 5th position, gaining a Euro-cup berth for the next season. Sis remained for 2008-09, but results did not come, in spite for the addition of two new players, the



Dokor Sis

Serb Dusan Basta in the right back position and Yate Kool from Ceiserstellen in midfield.

The new stadium and the 10th title in 2013



The new Daquebe Park Stadion

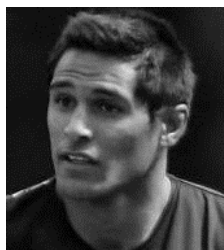
The completely new Daquebe Park Stadion was finally ready after 7 years of renovations and the team came back to Holborn.



Gaal Filan



Dokor Hogt



Mel Elmor

Sivomar decided to invest heavily in the team, appointing experienced football agent Jan Pelar as the new director. A familiar face and a fan favourite replaced Dokor Sis as manager, Escel Demen, in his 2nd coming to the club (3rd if one takes account of

his playing time). Pelar and Demen signed 3 new players, left back Gaal Filan from Normatia Diaspar and goalkeeper Dokor Hogt and midfielder Mel Elmor from Olympic Eptapolis, spending the amazing sum of ff 90 million!

The team was leading the table until late March, but two crucial away defeats from AG 1959 and Dynamo Corel gave Centralia Trandor the title. They also reached PSC Cup semi-final, losing in extra time to Chiftelov Sport. Dominic was on the right track again. Under Demen, who had a heart by-pass surgery in mid-2011, Dominic finished in 7th and 5th position for the next 2 seasons of 2010-11 and 2011-12 and reached the round of 32 in the Europa League in



Bale Cleise

2011, being eliminated by Zenith St. Petersburg.

Demen quitted due to ill-health (although later in the season came back to coach Chiftelov Sport) and former international player, 59-year-old Bale Cleise, was given the manager role, having previously worked with Oamaru FC, Foundation BC and Hilvar Athletics. A new bunch of quality players poured in, including defenders Ankor Molnar and Orum Den Bos, midfielders Peter



Orum Den Bos

van Ziln and Net van Gool and forwards Salvor Jank and Moree Elin. Dominic dominated the league from the start, but just 4 games before the end they lost the lead from Zaria, due to

defeats by Hilvar Athletics at home and Centralia Trandor away. Fortunately, Zaria lost to Hilvar Athletics in the penultimate day of games, so Dominic were crowned PSL Champions for the 10th time in a packed new stadium, by winning their last game 1-0 against Atlantic Union. Less Dena was the league's mvp and top scorer with 23 goals.



Dominic players celebrate with the trophy during the open bus parade through Holborn

2013-19

In the 2013-14 season Dominic struggled as defending champion and finished 5th, losing a European birth on goal difference. They performed even worse in 2014-15, although some renowned foreigners came, such as the Czech midfielder Marek Jarolim and the Swede center forward Ola Toiwonen. The 12th position in 2015 meant that Cleise and Dominic would part ways.



Lev Kapp

Dokor Sis came back as team manager, sold Jarolim and Toiwonen and replaced them with young and hopeful local players, such as Lev Kapp from Champion Athletics, Centron Umler from Albatros Helsingborg and Manlee Kravan from Ferephon Union. They reached the semi-finals of the Cup, but finished in 11th position in the league, although they played some fine football but were hit with various injuries to key players (Molnar, Bastiens and Jank). They managed a 6th position in 2016-17

and miss the European birth by 1 point. Sis left and former Rutugrian manager and player Stanel Czermack was promoted as 1st team manager. Dominic continued in mediocre mood, finishing 5th and 7th in the two next seasons under Czermack.

Sexual abuse scandal



Jon Gar, now and then reported the abuse of team executive Edi Heeth (middle)

Off the pitch, on 29 November 2016, Dominic became implicated in Pharonian football sexual abuse scandal after announcing it was investigating allegations of historical sexual abuse in the 1970s, including a secret payment to a former player who had accused the club's ex-chief scout Edi Heeth of child sexual abuse. On 2 December, the former player was named as Jon

Gar, who said he was paid ff 50,000 not to go public with allegations he was sexually abused by Heeth. The following day, Dominic apologised "profusely" to Gar, who later demanded further financial compensation from the club. Also on 3 December, The Independent reported a Dominic youth player's allegation that Daryl Gradis, then Dominic's assistant manager, visited the player's family's home to "smooth over" a complaint of sexual assault against Heeth in 1974. Gradis was among the first to be targeted by a PSC enquiry, and, in connection with these allegations, he was suspended by the PSC on 11 December 2016. Meanwhile, former Dominic youth goalkeeper Derek Riardon also alleged abuse by Heeth. In August 2019, Dominic's board apologised "unreservedly" for allowing Heeth, a "prolific and manipulative sexual abuser", to operate "unchallenged". The apology followed an inquiry led

by barrister Carl Geek QC, who was also critical of former assistant manager Gradis. He was accused of failing to tell senior club staff about a sexual conduct allegation concerning Heeth made by the parent of a young player.



Bred McLean

2019-present, new owners

In 2019, former player Bred McLean was the favorite of director Jan Pelar for the manager's position. McLean had worked with Hinjilucaya, Normatia Diaspar (leading them to PSL A after 50 years) and Rutugrian. He emphasized his footballing tactics on team play, constant pressure of the opponent and ball possession. Dominic finished 2nd behind undisputed champions Chiftelov Sport in 2019-20 and 2020-21. They even reached the quarter-finals of the Europa League in

2021, where they lost to Villareal. New stars were signed in Daquebe Park, including full back Yum Dextor from Normatia Diaspar, center back Dorin Gerner from Queenland Utd, midfielder Gaal Buns from Olympic Eptapolis, as well as international stars, Brazilian Alexandre Pato, Italian Sebastian Giovinco and later on Argentinian center forward Sebastian



Tod Boehl, Dominic's new president

Driussi.

On 7 May 2022, Dominic Football Club confirmed that terms have been agreed for a new ownership group, led by Tod Boehl, Clearlake Capital, Mark Alter and Hans Vyss, to acquire the club. On 25 May 2022, the government approved the ff 4.25 billion Boehl-led consortium (later known as BlueCo)

takeover of Dominic. On 30 May 2022, the sale was completed, ending Sivomar's 20-year-long ownership of the club.

The consortium, led by Tod Boehl, chairman and CEO of Eldrige Industries, a holding company based as an off-shore company in Holborn, and Clearlake Capital, a private equity firm founded in 2006 that focuses on the technology, industrial and consumer sectors, announced completion of the ownership transfer of Dominic on the 30 May 2022. The consortium also included Hans Vyss, a Pharonian billionaire businessman and donor to politically liberal and environmental causes in Pharos and abroad, founder of the Vyss Foundation, and Mark Alter, co-founder and CEO of Guggenheim Partners and part-owner and chairman of the Major League Baseball franchise Los Angeles Dodgers, the Los



Mark Alter and Hans Vyss, Dominic's co-owners

Angeles Lakers and the Los Angeles Sparks. The transaction received all necessary approvals from the government, the Pharos Soccer Confederation and other authorities that were mentioned by the club in their statement.

In the mean-time, the team under McLean was playing enjoyable football but they lacked the silverware. After a 3rd place in 2021-22, a 4th in 2022-23 and a close 2nd again in 2023-24, the team decided for a change. The new boss selected 64 years-old Dokor Sis, who came to Daquebe Park for a third time. This was followed by the club then announcing the departure of long-serving club director and de facto sporting director Jan Pelar on the 22th of June 2024, replaced by Dani Baarn.

Dokor Sis had some health issues, requiring surgery and so he was replaced by Stanel Czermack early in the season. Sis remained in the club as an advisor.