

Dynamo Pharos

Dynamo Pharos Football Club is a professional football club based in Mandras, Columbia, Pharos. The club competes in PSL A, the top tier of Pharonian football. The club formed in 1892 when Mandras Dynamo Society absorbed the assets of Mandras North End, to become Dynamo Pharos.

Dynamo Pharos has won 3 Pharonian Championships, all before 1960. Zaria is their main rival.



History

Formation and early years

The origins of Dynamo Pharos Football Club can be traced back to the formation of a football club in the suburb of Byker in November 1881. This team was renamed Mandras Dynamo Society FC in October 1882. The name given to the society was supposed to mean "Power in Motion", taken from the Greek: δύνάμις; dynamis -power, and Latin: motio, -motion. Not coincidentally, this term was first coined earlier (in 1873) by a Mandras-based Pharonian inventor Zenobe Gramme for the electrical generator.



Mandras Dynamo Society FC 1890

In 1886, Mandras Dynamo Society moved from Byker to Haton. In August 1882, Mandras North End FC was formed and in May 1886 moved into Dofatoof Grounds in Haton. The two clubs became rivals in North Mandras and in the newly formed Mandras Alliance League. In 1889, Mandras Dynamo Society became a professional team, before becoming a limited company the following March. Mandras North End, on the other hand, was in serious financial trouble and

approached Dynamo Society with a view to a takeover. Mandras North End was eventually dissolved, and a number of its players and backroom staff joined Mandras Dynamo Society, effectively merging the two clubs, with the Society taking over the lease on Dofatoof Grounds in May 1892.

Despite being refused entry to the Columbian Football League's First Division at the start of the 1892–93 season, they were invited to play in the Second Division. However, with no big names playing in the Second Division, they turned down the offer and remained in the Mandras Alliance League, stating *"gates would not meet the heavy expenses incurred for travelling"*. In a bid to start drawing larger crowds, Mandras Dynamo Society decided to adopt



Dofatoo Grounds late 1890's

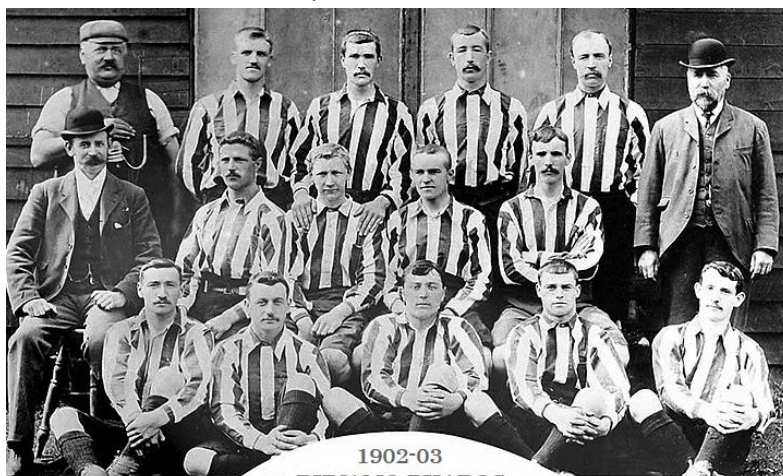


Home kit, 1892-94 & 1894-97

a new name in recognition of the merger with North End. Suggested names included 1892 Mandras, Mandras Rangers and Mandras City, but Dynamo Pharos was decided upon on 9 December 1892, to signify the appeal the name dynamo could have in the whole of Pharos. The name change was accepted by the Columbian Football Association on 22 December, but the club was not legally constituted as Dynamo Pharos Football Club Co. Ltd. until 6 September 1895. At the start of the 1893–94 season, Dynamo Pharos were once again refused entry to the First Division and so joined the Second Division. They played their first

competitive match in the division that September against Southport FC, with a score of 2–2. Turnstile numbers were still low, and the incensed club published a statement claiming *"The Mandras public do not deserve to be catered for as far as professional football is concerned"*.

However, eventually figures picked up by 1898–99, when 14,000 fans watched the team play champions St.Albans in a Columbian Cup semi-final. That season Fran Buis became secretary and manager of the club, and he was instrumental in promotion to the First Division for the 1902-03 season. In their inaugural first division participation in the 1903-04 season, they lost their first game 4–2 at home to Queensland Utd and finished in thirteenth place.



**1902-03
DYNAMO PHAROS**

C.BURN (tr)	T.GHEE	T.HITE	D.OSTLER	J.STOTT	
F.BUIS (sec)	C.MATT	D.JANSON	L.LENO	G.STUAN	R.MANIS (man)
R.ALLANER	J.HARVS	I.CAMEN	A.ATKEIN	V.VERDROP	



Against Beatrix in the 1907 Cup final

Dynamo Pharos would win their 1st Columbian Championship in 1912. Up until then they had a couple of Columbian Cup titles, winning in 1907 against Beatrix Newport and in 1909 against Mandras SK. Following their first title, Dynamo Pharos would win another 2 Columbian Championships in 1913 and 1914, making them 3-in-a-row.

The first glory era

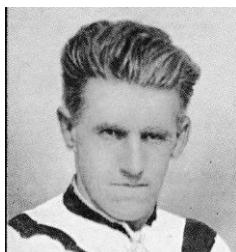
In the late 1910s and early 1920s, under manager Fran Buis, the club built up a promising squad of players, and went on to dominate Pharonian football for almost a decade, known for their *"artistic play, combining team-work and quick, short passing"*. Dynamo Pharos started to purchase talented players, especially from around Columbia, and soon had a squad to rival all of Pharos, as the National



Omar Doerin



Milo Bret



Marc Huser

Championship was in effect from 1917. With players like super star Omar Doerin (one of Pharos' greatest left backs ever), Valron Nolde, Milo Bret, Marc Huser, Cyrus Vesterbrin and Keer Timers, Dynamo Pharos had a team of national talent. Bale de Zee, Lynn Gremer, Kleon Diker, Kals Steg and Lend Huis were also household names in their day. Long after his retirement, defender Bale de Zee said "The Dynamo Pharos team of the 1920s would give any modern side a two-goal start and beat them and furthermore, beat them at a trot".

Dynamo Pharos, won the 1919 Columbian championship and had their first participation at the Nationals, finishing close second to Ferephon Union. They will try again in 1923, as Columbia's 2nd team, since Zaria were 1922 Pharonian Champions and 1923 Columbian Champions. They will win their 1st National Championship, 3 points ahead of their rivals and defending champions Zaria and



Fran Buis

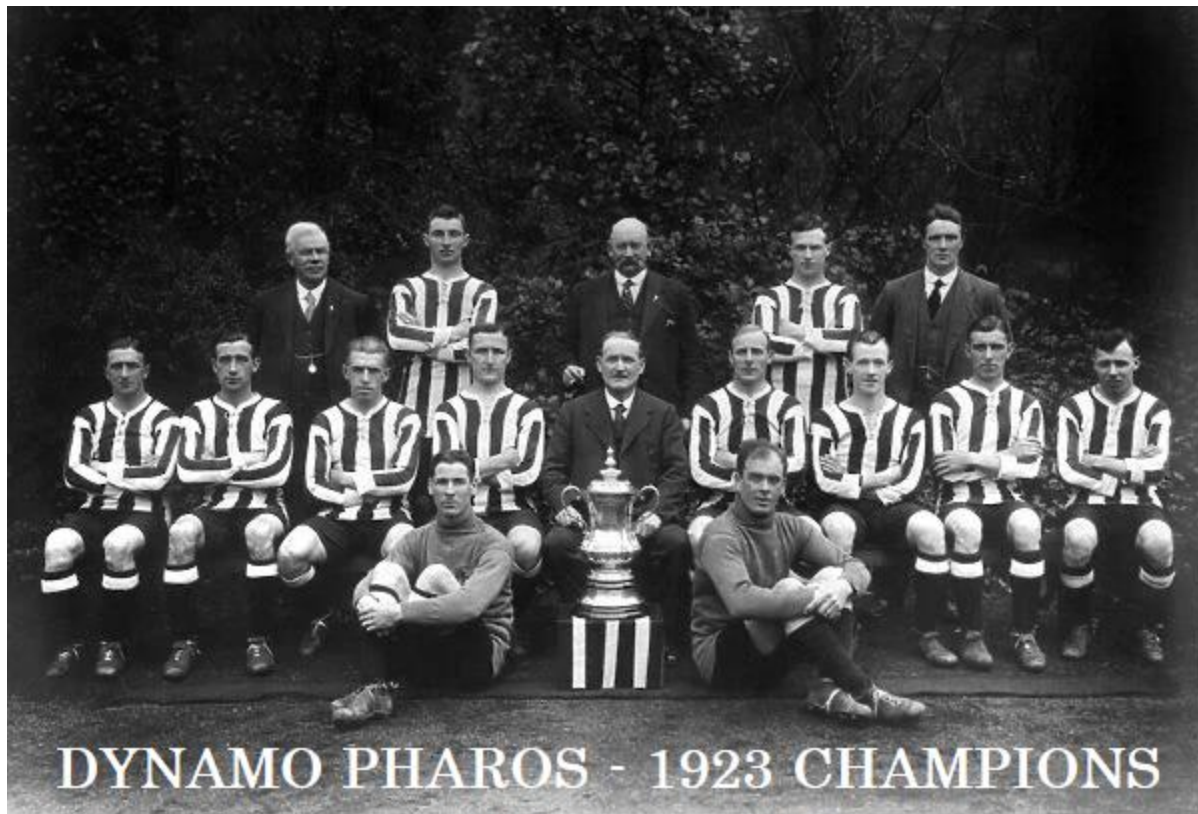


Valron Nolde



Keer Timers

Hinjioamaru. The team became the first and only side in Pharos to win a national title without being state champion.



Standing (from left): Jan Macfer (trainer), Milo Bret, Fran Bruis (manager), Lynn Gremer, Ankor Comb (trainer). Seated (from left): Olav Talens, Kleon Diker, Marc Huser, Cyrus Vesterbrin, Olin Alfs (chairman), Keer Timers, Ford Solten, Omar Doerin, Kals Stag. On the ground: Valron Nolde, Fjort Jagt

They repeated their triumph the next season of 1923-24, this time as Columbian Champions as well. This time it was harder, as they faced fierce competition from Chiftelov Sport and Zaria. They needed just a draw in their last game in Dofatoof to secure the title and they were down 2 goals against Select at the interval. They managed to equalize in the second half, with almost 30,000 fans boosting them forwards, with goals by Keer Timers and defender Lynn Gremer, to lift back-to-back National Trophies.

This great Dynamo Pharos team will finish 2nd in the 1925 National Championship, just 2 points behind Ferephon Union, losing their last 2 games vs Chiftelov Sport and Dynamo Corel, missing a 3rd in-a-row title. They came 3rd in the next season, a year marked by the death of their manager Fran Bruis, who was leading the team from the 1890s.

Post war and WW II years

After their immense success in the 1920s, Dynamo Pharos found it difficult to compete with Zaria in Columbia, who had the economic means to hire better players. They would always



Antil Ingam

been second-best to their Mandras rivals, reaching the Nationals only twice until the breakout of the WW II, in 1929 and 1935, finishing in 4th position each time. Antil Ingam, a former player and youth squad manager was promoted to the first team after Bruis' death.

When WW II broke up, many players had to serve in the army, although football never really stopped in Pharos, being far from the conflict. However, this had a balancing effect in the distance between teams, so Dynamo Pharos had their opportunity against Zaria. During the war

they would win the Columbian Championship 4 times (1939, 1940, 1943 and 1944), but the closest they came to a 3rd



Less de Riet



Derk Klut

National title was in 1943 when the finished level on points

to Dalton SC and lost the title on goal difference. Key players of that period were full backs Jos Raap and Rin Kuhn, center backs Kenneth de Groes and Derk Klut, midfielder Arno Arkenal and center forward Less de Riet.



Arno Arkenal

Ingam left as manager in 1946 and Dokor Vielnik took over. Vielnik was the older brother of Dynamo Pharos player Mott Vielnik, who played for the club between 1923 and 1940 as a defender and was part of the back-to-back championships as a youngster.

1946-1959, on the way to a 3rd Championship

During the late 40s and the 1950s, Dynamo Pharos won the Columbian title another 6 times. They made it 3 in-a-row from 1947 to 1949 under Vielnik, who had to re-organize the team with young players from the youth squad and around Columbia. They did not have much success in the National though, since funding was limited, compared to other clubs,



Dokor Vielnik 1946

especially Zaria.

Some great talents emerged from the youth squads this period, like center back Fenel Tilon and midfielder Erden De Pres. Dynamo Pharos won the 1954 championship with a team of youngsters and then again in 1956, finishing in 4th position in the Nationals. The turning point for the club was made in



Fenel Tilon



Erden De Pres



Less Medel

1955, when Less Medel, Zaria's playmaker and mvp in the 1950 title, decided to switch sides and come play in Dofatoof. This was considered an impossible transfer at the time, taking into account that it was extremely difficult for a player to play for a rival club. Another big step was made in 1957 when the board went over the roof to bring the talented young striker Lewis Grain from Beatrix



Lewis Grain

Newport to Dofatoof.

By 1959 things were ready for greatness. The team of youngsters of late 1940's had matured. They won the Columbian Championship with ease and went on for the battle in the Nationals. On the penultimate day of play they surpassed Hilvar Athletics in the table, by a 3-0 win in Nobel over Nobel SC, and although they could not win their last game – a 2-2 draw against Dalton SC in Mandras – they benefited from the draw of Hilvar in Oamaru, to win the Championship, the 3rd in their history, on goal difference. Erden De Pres was named MVP and Lewis Grain was top scorer.



DYNAMO PHAROS - 1959 CHAMPION

back row (from left): Fenel Tilon, Yum Galer, Fran Agon, Stanel Pers, Yahim Lundal, Florian Patels. Front row (from Left): Arno Arkenal, Preeme Refin, Lewis Grain, Erden De Pres, Less Medel

1960-1980

The 1960's was a decade of disappointment for the club. The great 1959 team slipped from greatness due to financial problems. Medel left after the 1959 triumph for Canada to play for Toronto Metrostars. Goalkeeper Fran Agon left for Dynamo Sandtown, so did Preeme Refin and Yahim Lundal, who both went to play in Britain. Arkenal, Tilon, De Pres and several others retired in those years and as a result Dynamo Pharos won only 1 Columbian Championship, the one in 1963. This was the only time that the team competed in the National League,



Dofatoo Stadium in the 60s

finishing in 2nd place, just a point behind champions Foundation BC.

During the 60's the board used a lot of the club's assets to expand the Dofatoo Stadium, building the new Doerin stand in the west side, named after Omar Doerin, increasing the capacity to 45,000, and floodlights in the four corners.

Financing was always the club's major problem.

Dynamo Pharos was set up as a private

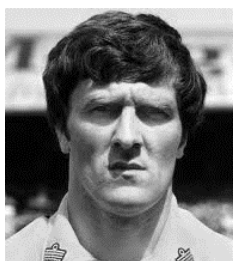
company limited by shares in 1895. The club traded in this way for much of the 20th century, dominated by Keag, Estoo and Seym family ownership. No family had a clear majority ever and feuds were frequent inside the board of directors with alliances changing from time to time.



Dokor Vielnik 1970

Dokor Vielnik, who was still at the manager's position after 25 years,

decided it was about time to turn things around for the club in the 1970s. He started working with young players from the youth squad, organizing the department with great coaches like Cyrus Karna and former players like De Pres and Klut. Some great players were emerged in the 70s from the youth program, such as Osvald Hanis, Limmar Lameth, Cheter Hammin and Orum Husner. He also was able to find talented youngsters around Columbia without spending almost any of the team's money, like defenders Viennis Dorwin from Centar Vernon and Helvet Cosker from Halik Mandras and midfielder Lev Hando from Dynamo Sandtown. As a result of Vielnik's work, Dynamo Pharos dominated Columbia's Championship in the 1970s, winning 9 out of 12 titles



Limmar Lameth



Osvald Hanis



Cheter Hammin



Helvet Cosker



Viennis Dorwin

between 1970 and 1981, when the PSL was formed. Unfortunately, this Vielnik's second great team could not lift a national cup like the one in the 1950s. They finished in 2nd place 4 times (1971, 1972, 1975, 1979) and in 3rd twice (1970, 1976). In 1971, with a 2-point advantage, they could not win either of their 2 last games (draws against Dalton SC and Dominic) and lost the title on goal difference. In 1979, with Cyrus Karna in charge as manager

(Vielnik retired in 1976), could not pass in front of Dalton SC in the penultimate day of play, drawing in Hilvar.

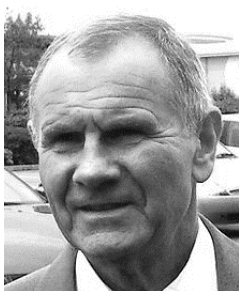
Dynamo Pharos, alongside Zaria, were Columbia's representatives in the inaugural National season of the newly formed PSL in 1981, with Beatrix Newport and Dynamo Sandtown allocated in the 2nd division.



Cyrus Karna

The PSL era – 1980's and 1990's

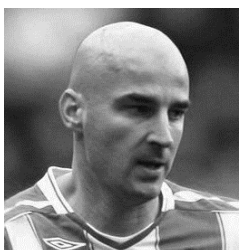
Although the 1980's started well, with the team finishing in 5th place in the first 2 seasons, it did not continue the same for the rest of the decade. Dynamo Pharos would finish at the bottom end of the table until 1987, when the PSL format changed into a group regular season and play-offs, changing 3 managers; Cyrus Karna (1982-1984), Dewlat Mejners (1984-1986) and Kals Bertan (1986-1987).



Anselm Kesla

The team did not perform so well in the new format either, staying out of the play-offs. Karna replaced Bertan (1987-89), then came Yol van Baal for 6 months and he was replaced by Helnus Blok (1989-90).

In 1990 former AG 1959 coach Anselm Kesla was hired. Kesla, who had been champion with the Nobel team in 1986, steered Dynamo Pharos back to dignity, leading the team to the play-offs in all 4 seasons that he stayed in the club. However, with the lack of proper funds, the team could not go a step further and challenge the big names for a title.



E. De Ruiter



Yol van der Ven

In Kesla's time some great talents emerged for the club, like defenders Yol van der Ven and Eltrent De Ruiter. Also, Krayl Dorian, bought from

Oamaru FC in 1992, would bring a lot of money for the club when he was sold 6 years later. Kesla was let go in December 1994 and Less Drowte, former player and coach of Oamaru FC and Dynamo Corel replaced him.

Drowte stayed for four and a half seasons in Dofatoof. He was disliked by the fans when he sold van der Ven and De Ruiter in his first season



Less Drowte

and was hated in his last one when he sold Krayl Dorian. His best season was in 1997, when Dynamo Pharos finished in 6th position of the new format of PSL.

Yol Daluben replaced Drowte in 1999, staying for a single season, with the club finishing in the last place of the table (there was no relegation then).

The 2000's – new owners

In April 1999, property developer and businessman Jan Hal bought 72.9% of the club for ff 30 million, floated the club on the stock exchange as a public limited company, with less than half the shares sold to the Hal family and the majority holding going to his business

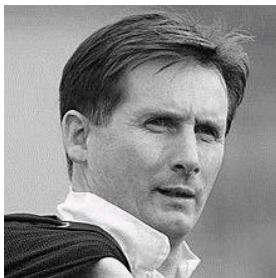


Jan Hal



Fran Seperd

partner Fran Seperd. Later that year, Hal stepped down as chairman and was replaced by Seperd, with the Hal family represented on the board by Jan's son Dokor.



Dewlat Mejners

Dewlat Mejners, a former Queensland Utd defender and former coach (1984-86), was promoted from the youth squads to the first team by the new board. Mejners worked with the current team plus some very talented youth players he brought from the team's academies, mostly in the offensive line. Players like Marc Talan, Limmar Talahay, Derk Krihal were establish during that era, as well as



Limmar Talahay



Salvor Marel

defender Salvor Marel.

Dynamo Pharos would finish in 11th position in 2001 and in 7th in 2002 and established themselves as a strong opponent for the big names. In the summer of 2004 Mejners disagreed with Seperd and Hal about the transfer policies and left the club for Kent Utd. Former player and manager of Dalton SC Ankor Bler replaced him as manager.

2004-2010 ups and downs

Talahay was sold to Oamaru FC for a record fee for the club, but was not replaced properly. As a result, Dynamo Pharos were relegated in the end of the 2004-05 season. Bler was fired and experienced coach Olynthus Thallos was hired. Hamil and Orre also left the club, refusing to play in the 2nd division. The owners did not seem to understand the situation fully, but Dynamo Pharos managed to be promoted again to the PSL A next season and stayed afloat in 2007-08 by goal difference to Ceiserstellen, despite the continuous selling of top players, like Ador Bolt to Hilvar Athletics. Thallos managed to keep Dynamo Pharos to PSL A in 2008-09, but in the next season, with no real quality players coming in, Dynamo Pharos finished last and was relegated for the 2nd time.

2nd Division and New Owner

In 2010, Mik Asler, a retail entrepreneur, who according to the Pharos News Rich List 2010 was the 49th richest person in Pharos, purchased the combined stakes of both Dokor and Jan Hal, 41% share in the club, through a holding company Dofatoof Holdings, with a view to buy the rest. Upon purchasing this share, he appointed Cheter Mort as chairman, while gaining more shares, owning 93.19% of the club by 29 June 2007. This figure reached 95% on 11 July 2007, forcing the remaining shareholders



Mik Asler



**Dynamo Ph. fans show
Mik Asler Out cards**

to sell their shares.

The team struggled in the 2nd division as Asler had no intention to help the team financially. After completing the purchase of the club, Asler had announced that he planned to sell the club on three occasions. The first occurred after fan protests over the resignation of new manager Fran Toran in September 2011, when Asler stated, "I have listened to you. You want me out. That is what I am now trying to do." However, he took it off the market on 28 December 2011 after being unable to find a buyer. On 31 May 2012, it was reported that Asler was attempting to sell the club again. On 8 June 2012, Asler confirmed that the club was up for sale at an asking price of ff 100 million. By the end of August 2012, the club was back off the market. On 16 October 2017, Dynamo Pharos announced that Asler had once again put the club up for sale, reporting that he hoped that a deal could be concluded by Christmas 2017.

Relegation to Amateur League

Meanwhile, after Fran Toran's resignation, Ador Carlin was manager from 2011 to 2013 and Theo Di Lorto from 2013 to 2015, with the club saving the 2nd division position in play-out games. Lors Edens took over in 2015-16 and Dynamo Pharos again stayed in PSL B by winning a play-out game against Haast 4-3. Peter Vassing, a former Ceiserstellen player and manager came next, saving again the club in 2016-17 in play-out game against Aragon Gizerak with the same score, 4-3. He was not so lucky the next season. Dynamo Pharos finished again in a play-out position, but this time they lost in Dofatoof 0-1 to Albatros Helsinborg and were relegated to PSC A, the amateur division.

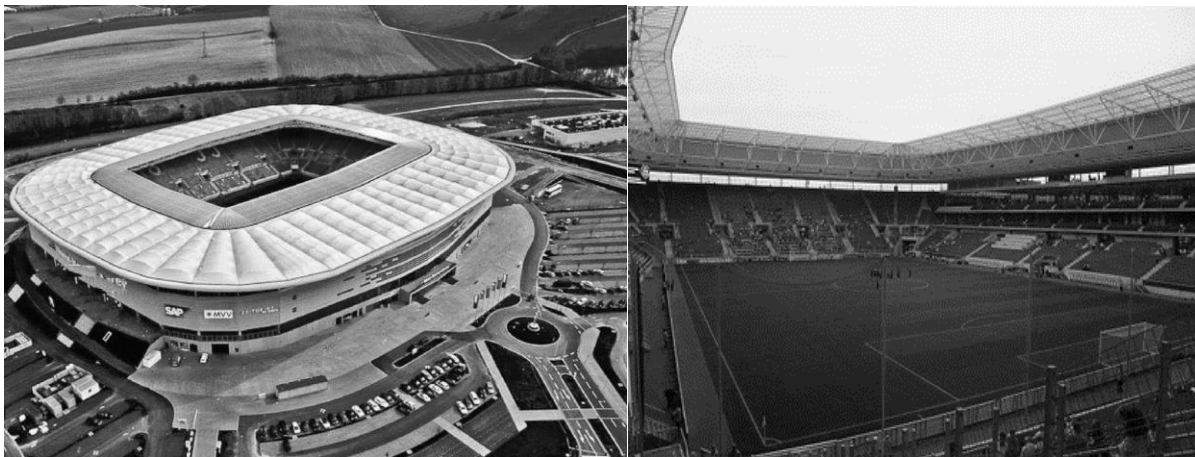
The Hopp brothers' era and the new stadium

The situation in Mandras' North End was tense. Riots was almost a daily phenomenon, asking Asler to leave the club. Finally, in September 2018 Mik Asler sold the club to billionaires Elmar and Simon Hopp, owners of DF Sports & Media and E&S Capital Partners, who trade metals and minerals, for a reported ff 305 million. The

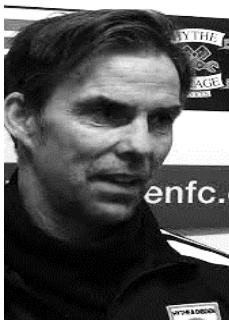


Elmar and Simon Hopp

Hopps had bought an area in Moer, next to Highway A29, in order to build a new stadium for the club. They had also agreed with the City of Mandras to donate the Dofatoof stadium to the city. Construction of the new stadium started in 2019, with the club still in the PSC. Initially planned to be built in Leazer Park or Osebur, the stadium was blocked in both locations. Third one was the Moer area, right next to Highway A29. Road communication along with perspective of other connections by tram and train were among reasons for this plot. The renown practice of Bervhaas & Partners designed what was to be a ff 60m new ground for Elmar and Simon Hopp's Dynamo Pharos. Along with initial plans railway station was created near the venue in 2021 as an expansion of tram hub that was done earlier. Since July 2021 the ground promotes DF company due to its first naming rights contract.



DF Stadium



Mik Bodleian

From Amateur to PSL A

The Hopps hired former Arcadia Veinon manager and former player of Ferephon Union Mik Bodleian as new manager. Bodleian who had played football until his 50's, took an almost dissolved team and in 3 years led them back to the professional divisions. He had 2 failed attempts in the PSC-PSL play offs in 2019 and 2020, losing to Victoria City and Villa Town, but made it in his 3rd attempt in 2021, beating Rul Katai 3-1.

In the 2021-22 season, Dynamo Pharos, with the financial help of the Hopp brothers and playing in the new DF stadium, topped PSL B, 12 points clear of Hinjilucaya and returned to the top tier of Pharonian football. In 2024 Bodleian led the team in the 8th position of the PSL.