

# Report: Springfield Spirits 4- Detroit Waza 2

Detroit Waza played some of its best soccer of the season, but in the end, the Springfield Spirits ran out 4-2 winners in a ruckus match at Soccer World Springfield.

Waza took a 2-0 lead in the first quarter on goals by Ryan Montague and Dominic Scicluna.

Montague punished the Spirits' defense for giving him too much space at the top of the arc, and the Jamaican put Waza into the lead with a low hard drive which sped past the disparaging dive of Chance Walker in the Springfield goal.

Scicluna then scored on a five on three power-play. Target-man Neil McGill fired the ball off the boards and the player coach volleyed the rebound home expertly from just outside the arc.

Springfield pulled a goal back on the power-play through just before halftime.

Chaos erupted in the third quarter when Nikki Djokic was fouled hard by two Springfield players causing both benches to clear. The fray resulted in red cards being issued to Waza's Scicluna and the Spirits' Cody Kother.

After a thirty minute delay play was restarted and further drama unraveled as the Spirits' Blair Spencer shattered his shin bones in a collision with Waza keeper Ryan Maith. The Detroit keeper was shown the red card for sliding into the challenge.

Juneyt Barutcu took advantage of the ensuing power play finding space at the top of the arc to slot the ball into the near post and tie the game at two.

Springfield took the lead late in the third quarter as Peter Christofilakos finished off a neat one-two with Frank Rodriguez, toe-poking the ball past replacement keeper Bryan Alenky.

Waza went searching for an equalizer in the fourth quarter and almost found it on numerous occasions only for the ball to go just wide or rebound off the post. All hopes of a Waza revival were dashed, however, midway through the final period. Barutcu dispossessed Tommy Stark of the ball in the Waza offensive end and had the presence of mind to look up and see that Alenky was at the midfield circle. Barutcu took one touch and curled his shot three-quarters down the length of the field and into the empty net to send Waza crashing to its sixth straight defeat.

The good news for Waza is that its six game road trip is over and they will finally get a chance to play in front of their home fans next Saturday. Not only will Waza play their inaugural PASL-Pro home opener this weekend, but the opponent is Springfield offering the motor city boys an immediate chance for revenge.