



Wycombe Wanderers Website

Match Report

Wycombe went down to a 1-0 defeat at Reading on Saturday lunchtime as Harvey Knibbs' second-half penalty proved to be enough for the play-off chasing Royals.

Blues dominated the first half but their lack of a clinical touch in front of goal returned to haunt them in the second period after Cam Humphreys was adjudged to have tripped Chem Campbell in the box, and Knibbs did the rest.

Josh Scowen and Adam Reach returned to the starting line-up as Jasper Pattenden and Alex Lowry moved to the bench, with Wanderers looking to bury the demons that left them frustrated in the 0-0 draw against Shrewsbury on Tuesday night.

In a buoyant atmosphere in the Berkshire sun, Wanderers began brightly and saw Adam Reach's clever lobbed effort tipped behind for a corner by Joel Pereira, before Xavier Simons' header found the bottom corner but the linesman correctly judged he was offside.

Cameron Humphreys headed into the side netting after a short corner was worked to the far post as Wycombe continued to keep up the pressure, though Pereira's tactical appeal for treatment allowed the Royals to regroup and gather new instructions from boss Noel Hunt to try to assert themselves into the game.

Still Wycombe pressed forwards, with Sonny Bradley heading over from Luke Leahy's cross, and Reach hitting the target from distance but being unable to beat Pereira.

A flashpoint arrived just after the half-hour mark when Simons was scythed down by Amadou Mbengue and a confrontation ensued between both sets of players, with referee Thomas Kirk showing a yellow card to both perpetrators.

Chem Campbell flashed a rare Reading chance wildly wide of the near post as half-time drew closer, and Mamadi Camara's header from Lewis Wing's excellent cross was comfortably saved on the other side of the interval.

Richard Kone cut in from the left and drew a save from Pereira with a cross-shot, while Wing then unleashed a curling effort from long range which flew harmlessly over the bar.

Garath McCleary forced a fine save from Pereira with a looping header when stretching to meet Kone's cushioned header into his path, and Caleb Taylor couldn't keep his effort down from the resulting corner.

Kone and McCleary's link-up play grew ever more threatening and the two of them saw half-chances closed down in the Reading box, before Humphreys miscued an effort when picked out by McCleary 15 yards out.

Mike Dodds made a triple change on 67 minutes, introducing Alex Lowry, Gideon Kodua and Dan Udoh for Xavier Simons, Garath McCleary and Adam Reach.

Josh Scowen fired just over at the end of a fine Wycombe move, but the breakthrough came at the other end when referee Kirk adjudged that Humphreys had fouled Chem Campbell in the box, and Harvey Knibbs converted the penalty.

Kodua headed Leahy's cross over the bar before Fred Onyedinma took Leahy's place from the bench, but Wanderers couldn't find an equaliser with Udoh and Kodua seeing shots blocked at the death, and turn their attentions now to Tuesday's trip to Huddersfield.