



Wycombe Wanderers Website

Match Report

Richard Kone scored twice and Beryly Lubala was also on target as Wycombe returned to winning ways with a dominant display against Stevenage.

The striker smashed home Cameron Humphreys' pass early on and lobbed home in style from distance following a poor clearance from the keeper.

Lubala flicked home a header from Humphreys' cross to seal the contest, and Kone was denied a hat-trick from the penalty spot courtesy of a fine save late on.

Blues head to Charlton on Sunday for their final game of 2024.

Wycombe made three changes to the side that drew 0-0 with Bolton six days earlier, recalling Dan Harvie following his suspension and Aaron Morley after he was ineligible to face his parent club, while Jack Grimmer returned at right-back in the absence of the injured Jasper Pattenden.

That meant that Tyreeq Bakinson and Alex Hartridge moved to the bench, where they were joined by the returning Josh Scowen and Gideon Kodua.

Stevenage went hard and long in the opening exchanges but got caught out at the back to gift the opener to the Chairboys when Carl Piergianni squandered possession to Cameron Humphreys, who played in Richard Kone and the striker lashed home from the edge of the box.

Jordan Roberts lashed wide from distance and Nathan Thompson landed a header on the roof of the net as the hosts sought a response, while Kone remained a handful for the Boro backline, duly supported by Beryly Lubala and Fred Onyedinma out wide.

Wanderers continued to create a series of 'nearly' moments around the box without troubling the keeper, while the hosts' moves regularly broke down outside the Wycombe area as the defences stood firm.

Wonderful wing play from Fred Onyedinma opened up a chance for Humphreys shortly before half-time, but his effort deflected just wide of the left-hand post.

But the Blues didn't have to wait long for their second goal, and while it was a gift of a poor clearance from keeper Taye Ashby-Hammond, there was still plenty for Kone to do as he lobbed home exquisitely from 30 yards.

That was it for the first half, but Stevenage were buoyed by a double substitution at half-time and nearly pulled one back when Jamie Reid struck the underside of the crossbar following a deep corner.

Wycombe alleviated the pressure with a couple of openings at the other end, firstly when Luke Leahy blazed over from Kone's lay-off, and then when Dan Harvie drilled straight at the keeper from 25 yards.

Then Aaron Morley curled a free-kick over the top from the corner of the area after Leahy was fouled as Wycombe found themselves immersed in an irresistible passage of play that would inevitably lead to a third goal.

It came via the head of the in-form Beryly Lubala, who flicked home a clever cross from Cameron Humphreys following a well-worked corner, sparking pandemonium in the buoyant away end.

With Stevenage barely able to lay a glove on the Blues at this stage, despite a series of feisty challenges, it should've been 4-0 with 10 minutes remaining, but the keeper guessed correctly to deny Kone a hat-trick from the penalty spot after Leahy was tripped in the box.

Kone came off to a standing ovation soon after as Josh Scowen and Gideon Kodua made their welcomed return from injury, as Humphreys also made way.

Scowen was denied a fairytale goal by a last-ditch tackle in stoppage time, but that didn't stop the celebrations of an impressive away win and a 19th league game unbeaten.