



Crawley Town Website

Crawley Town battled well and took a well-earned point home for their troubles as they drew 1-1 with Wycombe Wanderers at the Broadfield Stadium on a bitterly cold February Saturday.

Crawley took an early lead through Will Swan, who, after exchanging passes with Max Anderson, arrowed a shot straight into the top left corner and sparked raucous noise around the ground.

However, the scores were level again after just 20 minutes, when Daniel Udoh grabbed an equaliser from close range.

Twenty-four minutes in, the Red Devils were presented with a great chance to reclaim the lead, in the shape of a free kick from roughly 22/23 yards out, positioned just to the left-hand side of the penalty spot.

However, Kamari Doyle couldn't make the most of the chance, and his whipped effort didn't make it past the men in the wall.

It was Doyle who'd go closest next for the hosts, as he flicked a header goalwards – but it was gathered by deadline day Wycombe signing, Will Norris.

Clear cut chances were few and far between as the first half drew to a close. Again, Doyle looked lively for the hosts and an excellent cross-field pass saw Crawley in down the right-hand side. Alas, the chance came to nothing, but these were positive signs nonetheless.

The teams went in level at the break, but there was definitely reason for Crawley to be optimistic heading into the second half of a game against opposition who have fared very well this season.

Max Anderson went close just after the restart, with a half volley following a corner for the Reds. Though on target, the effort lacked any real power and it was comfortably claimed by Norris in net.

New signing Liam Fraser entered the fray at half-time, and just 8 minutes into the half he teed up Rushian Hepburn-Murphy with an inch perfect through-ball. Perhaps frustratingly, Hepburn-Murphy's first touch looked to take him slightly too wide of the goal, but he still did well to get a shot away which in turn squirmed its way past the far post.

Tyreece John-Jules then fizzed a ball across the box. It narrowly evaded a couple of onrushing Wycombe defenders and looked to be behind Hepburn-Murphy, but again he did well to get a shot away. This time, it was harder for Norris, who had to dive well down to his right to get the shot under control.

The visitors had a couple of chances, although nothing to really trouble Jojo Wollacott in the Crawley net. Midway through the half, captain Josh Scowen unleashed a fierce strike, but it was blocked by the mass of Crawley bodies in the box back defending the corner.

Rob Elliot introduced both Armando Quitirna and Tola Showunmi with eight minutes of normal time left to play in an attempt to win the game for the hosts. Interestingly, the changes coincided with a double substitution for Wycombe – who brought on Xavier Simons (no, not the Leipzig player) and West Ham loanee Gideon Kodua.

With only four minutes of time added on at the end of the second half, it looked as though the game was done – it was a physical contest and Crawley had done well to limit their high-flying opponents to so few chances. Wycombe introduced veteran striker Sam Vokes as the clock ran down, but to no avail.

Flashbacks to Wrexham may have occurred when Beryly Lubala flashed a ball across the box with the added time already up, but thankfully there was no one on the end of it to convert.

On the whole, it was a valuable point gained for Crawley, and attention will now move swiftly on to another home game, this time against Wigan Athletic (Tuesday 18th February – 19:45)