

## Wimbledon Website Match Report

Wimbledon made it three straight EFL League One wins in a row, after beating Wycombe Wanderers 2-1 at the Cherry Red Records Stadium. First-half strikes from Omar Bugiel and Steve Seddon saw the Dons on their way to all three points.

A week on from the <u>2-1 comeback victory away at Doncaster Rovers</u>, Wimbledon were back in action on home soil as they welcomed Wycombe Wanderers to the Cherry Red Records Stadium.

Manager Johnnie Jackson named an unchanged XI for the first time this season, sticking to a winning formula as he and his side looked for three consecutive league wins in a row.

The Dons got off to a flying start and could've easily been two goals to the good in the opening five minutes. Excellent link-up play from Matty Stevens saw him backheel it into the path of Alistair Smith two minutes in, but the effort from the midfielder curled just wide of the mark.

Skipper Jake Reeves played an excellent ball over the top a minute later into the path of Myles Hippolyte, who found himself in behind the Wycombe defence and one on one with goalkeeper Mikki van Sas. His strike on his weaker right foot was unfortunately off target.

Though the early pressure from Wimbledon was rewarded as the side took the lead 10 minutes in. A perfectly whipped in free-kick from Seddon was met by Omar Bugiel who rose highest inside the box to head home.

His first league goal of the campaign gave the Dons a deserved lead, and the side continued in search of a second. Another free-kick from Seddon in a nearly-identical position was held by van Sas a few minutes later.

Wycombe didn't really offer a threat to the Dons defence, with their only corner being easily dealt with and cleared away.

A volleyed attempt from Bugiel half-way through the half was blocked by a recovering Wycombe defender, while a long-range effort from Reeves was deflected out for a throw-in.

Just past the half-hour mark, the Dons were wheeling away in celebration once more and it was a combination of Seddon and Bugiel that struck again. A long ball over the top from Ryan Johnson was held up brilliantly by Bugiel who worked it into the path of Seddon.

Running across into the box, the No. 3 took it in his stride and finished with the outside of his left foot for his first goal of the campaign and his first goal for the Dons after five years and a day.

A well-earned two-goal cushion was no more than the Dons deserved, and they continued to enjoy more of the ball and were mostly in the Wycombe half. They took the 2-0 lead into the half-time interval and looked to build on it in the second 45.

Wycombe came racing out the blocks in the second-half as they looked to gain a foothold in the game. They won a succession of corners, and clipped the crossbar with a looping cross that evaded everyone, however the Dons defence stood firm to deny any attempt from troubling Nathan Bishop.

The visitor's sustained pressure at the start of the second-half paid dividends on the hour-mark as they managed to halve the deficit. A skewered attempt from Ewan Henderson that came off his knee managed to find its way into the back of the net.

It was the Chairboys who had momentum fully in their favour after scoring, as they kept the Dons pinned back in their final third. Nathan Asiimwe and Johnson both did well to block and clear respective efforts, while the former was brought down on the counter as the Dons looked to relieve the pressure.

The game settled into a more of a rhythm as the Wycombe momentum started to falter. Changes for the Dons saw Callum Maycock and Danilo Orsi come on in place of Hippolyte and goalscorer Bugiel to further break up play while refreshing the legs.

It took until the 85th minute for the Dons to muster their first real attempt of the second-half, with Smith pouncing on a loose ball in the middle of the park. He and Stevens combined, though the attempt on goal was blocked.

Wycombe had the ball in the back of the net with two minutes of normal time remaining, though it was disallowed by the referee due to a throw-in being falsely awarded to the visitors.

The Dons held on through the six minutes of additional time, reinforced with the experienced Patrick Bauer coming on to shore up the defence, to secure a third successive league win and fourth across all competitions.

Victory over the Chairboys sees the side move up to fourth in the League One table ahead of the later kick-offs. Attention will turn to Lancashire to face Blackpool on Saturday, 4 October (KO: 3pm) - click here to buy your tickets for this game and back the Dons!