



# Wycombe Wanderers Website

## Match Report

### **A back-and-forth tie between two fired up sides brought the Chairboys nine-game home unbeaten run to a close.**

Despite leading twice in the game, a red card and a quickfire double helped the Tykes to overcome a battling Wycombe team at Adams Park.

Dale Taylor fired home a neat finish to earn the Blues an early lead in the first half, however his opener was cancelled out on the stroke of half time through Sam Cosgrove's deft header.

A quickfire opening to the second half from Wycombe secured us a return to the lead, however a brave Donovan Pines sliding finish alongside composed efforts from Corey O'Keeffe and Conor Grant completed an impressive turnaround for the travelling Reds.

David Wheeler's late kick on O'Keeffe gave the home side an uphill battle too steep to climb as the substitute saw red, with Barnsley seeing out a comfortable ending to the fixture with a man advantage.

Matt Bloomfield made two changes from Tuesday night's key victory over Cheltenham, with Freddie Potts and Sam Vokes making way for Josh Scowen to captain the side. Additionally Beryly Lubala entered the fray, earning a start after his midweek wonder goal sealed all three points for the Chairboys.

A quick start for the Blues was spearheaded by Scowen, who's cross towards Sadlier dropped nicely for Taylor. However, the Northern Irish international sliced his half volley wide for his early sight on goal.

Wycombe took an early lead after genius interplay from a Kieran Sadlier throw in unleashed Luke Leahy down the left wing. Wanderers' leading provider for the season assisted once again with a low cross into the penalty area, finding Taylor in the right place at the right time – this time stabbing home into the bottom left corner.

Liam Roberts dropped a seemingly easy take minutes later; however Taylor lost his footing this time and couldn't quite convert for a gift wrapped second of the afternoon.

Scowen's crosses continued to cause chaos in the Barnsley box, as his teasing delivery was deflected onto the post by a wrong-footed Pines.

Barnsley ended the half with a flutter of half chances, with Jack Grimmer's challenge on O'Keeffe dividing opinion between both sets of players as the Tykes claimed for a penalty. Moments later Cosgrove tussled with Grimmer, leading to both receiving bookings for their troubles.

However, the away side made their pressure count in the final seconds of the opening half, as Cosgrove headed home the rebound from Luca Connell's excellent free kick.

### **Half time: Wycombe Wanderers 1-1 Barnsley**

Bloomfield's men immediately responded in the second forty-five, retaking the lead through a tidy Sadlier finish in the six-yard box, converting from Garath McCleary's genius floor-bound cut back after an exquisite Lubala backheel.

Despite the early response Wycombe weren't ahead for long, as Connell's inswinging corner fell to Pines and Barnsley bundled home to draw level just two minutes after conceding.

Introducing Richard Kone onto the scene certified a momentary change in tempo for the Blues, as the Ivorian's dogged running earned both McCleary and Sadlier chances to cut in and curl and effort goalwards, yet neither resulted in the vital fifth goal of the game.

Upon the fifth goal of the afternoon, the Tykes eventually lead for the first time. The Chairboys' reluctance to clear their lines at the back post allowed O'Keeffe to arrive late and turn home unmarked, undoing an excellent hour of play.

Misfortune continued to plague the home side as just seconds after entering the field, David Wheeler received a red card for a late tackle on Barnsley's latest goalscorer O'Keeffe.

An afternoon to forget for Wycombe was only exacerbated by Grant in front of the terrace, as his near-post strike arrowed into the top corner and past Ravizzoli, wrapping up the three points for the visitors.

Despite the relentless press of Sam Vokes and Kone, Barnsley held out with their two-goal advantage until the final whistle in HP12, ending Matt Bloomfield's side's nine game unbeaten run at Adams Park.