



## Blackpool Website

### Match Report

#### **Blackpool came from behind twice to pick up a point against Wycombe Wanderers in Sky Bet League One.**

The sides went into the break level due to strikes from Chairboys forward Garath McCleary and a headed effort by Kyle Joseph later in the half for Pool.

Wycombe took the lead once again in the 77<sup>th</sup> minute through Dan Udoh, who fired the ball into the bottom corner from range before substitute Jake Beesley got his second goal of the week to earn Pool a point at Bloomfield Road.

Pool made a fast start the match with a Rob Apter through ball almost getting new signing Dom Ballard in behind, but when the ball eventually fell to Ashley Fletcher he was crowded out leading to a Pool corner. The corner led to the next chance of the match as Ballard received the set piece on the edge of the area to strike on goal, but his effort was well blocked by the Wycombe defender.

In the 7<sup>th</sup> minute Ashley Fletcher exchanged a neat one two with Apter before driving into the box, but his left-footed effort narrowly went wide of the far post.

Ballard done excellent work down the left minutes later to play the ball across to Joseph, who set it for Fletcher to strike but the forward hit his side-footed effort straight at Franco Ravizzoli in the Wycombe net.

Against the run of the play the visitors took the lead with winger Garath McCleary heading in from close range after Richard O'Donnell had parried Udoh's original effort.

Pool went straight back on the front foot after going behind with Joseph exchanging passes with Apter before driving towards goal and laying the ball off for Ollie Norburn to strike, but the midfielder scuffed his effort wide of the mark.

Ballard, who started the match with real energy, nearly bagged his first goal at Bloomfield Road when he slid in to meet a Lee Evans whipped delivery, but Ravizzoli in the Chairboys goal collected his effort, which lacked the power to trouble the shot stopper.

Pool were nearly two goals behind in the 20<sup>th</sup> minute when a free-kick delivery landed on Udoh's head, but the forward's effort was brilliantly kept out by O'Donnell, who scampered across his goal quickly to tip it around the post.

The Seasiders' pressure finally told in the 32<sup>nd</sup> minute when Joseph headed in a Evans corner through a sea of bodies.

Ballard went close again near the end of the first-half, flicking a Norburn header goalwards, but his effort was well held by Ravizzoli as the two sides went into the break level.

#### **HT: Blackpool 1-1 Wycombe Wanderers**

Pool nearly took the lead ten minutes into the second-half when Fletcher met a floated delivery from Evans at the back post, but the forward headed his effort straight into the hands of Ravizzoli in the Wycombe net.

A minute later Ballard had a similar header blocked before CJ Hamilton had his rebound well saved by Ravizzoli.

Evans, who assisted Pool's goal, looked to get on the scoresheet himself in the 77<sup>th</sup> minute when he ran onto a loose ball to strike from range, but his side foot finish sailed over the bar.

The visitors took the lead in the 77<sup>th</sup> minute when Udoh shot from outside the box into the far bottom corner.

Pool were level minutes later when substitute Beesley rose highest at the back post to flick in a Evans' whipped delivery from the right.

The striker nearly had his second and Pool's third a few minutes later when he met an Elliot Embleton delivery from the left, but this time Ravizzoli saved his effort and collected the ball just in the nick of time as Jordan Rhodes tried to fire in the rebound.

### **Richard Keogh expressed a sense of frustration after Blackpool were held by Wycombe Wanderers at Bloomfield Road.**

Pool came from behind twice to draw with the Chairboys 2-2 but with the amount of chances the Seasiders created during the course of the 90 minutes, Interim Head Coach Keogh felt his side should have come away with all three points.

"I'm disappointed we didn't win the game because I thought we deserved to," he said.

"I thought we created numerous chances. A lack of concentration done us in in the end with the goals, but I thought we were the team in the ascendancy for most of the game. I think we had a little bit of a period where we weren't quite at it, but I expected that due to the amount of effort the group put in the last few games. That is why we made changes, to try and bring some energy back in.

"The mentality the lads showed once again, to not know when their beaten was great. We probably should have won it in the end because we were the team in the ascendancy. Bit of frustration in the end.

The Seasiders began the Sky Bet League One encounter with real energy, having early chances through Dom Ballard and Ashley Fletcher, something which pleased Keogh despite the lack of an early goal.

"We started the game brilliantly," he said.

"After Tuesday we knew we had to play with a lot of energy, and I thought we did. We created a lot of chances and probably should have been two up.

"We didn't take them and then we somehow found ourselves one nil down with their first action of the game. We kept going and got control of the game and Kyle (Joseph) took his goal brilliantly.

"You think to yourself is it going to be on of them days when they went 2-1 up, as it was a bit of a sucker punch after all the chances we had. The ability to go again and create more chances was great, a real credit to the group."

Pool midfielder Lee Evans picked up the man of the match award for his performance, which featured two assists for the Welshman and Keogh highlighted the ability the new man has from set pieces.

"Having played with Lee at Ipswich, I know how good of a set-play taker he is," he said.

"He's got great quality, and it is brilliant having him on dead ball situations, as shown today for Kyle's goal and the early chance for Dom (Ballard).