



Wycombe Wanderers Website

Match Report

Blues fell to a rare home defeat as Shrewsbury Town bounced back from a 1-0 deficit to win 2-1 in blistering conditions at Adams Park on Saturday afternoon.

Garath McCleary's excellent second-half strike was the reward for plenty of attacking endeavour from the hosts, but they lost their way after Matthew Pennington headed home an equaliser and Luke Leahy smashed home a late penalty to hand the points to the Shrews.

Gareth Ainsworth was forced to shuffle the pack due to injuries and illnesses picked up by Sam Vokes, Ryan Tafazolli and Dominic Gape, meaning Chris Forino came into the backline to partner Joe Jacobson in the middle, while D'Mani Mellor lined up in attack.

The Shrews settled the quicker of the two teams, coming close when Julien Dacosta headed towards goal requiring Jacobson to clear, but Wycombe soon got on top, going close when Jack Grimmer crashed a header against the crossbar on his 100th appearance for the Blues following Josh Scowen's flick-on.

The visitors threatened through another Dacosta header and a long-range effort from Jordan Shipley, but Wanderers turned up the heat (not as the day needed it) with a drilled shot from Anis Mehmeti which hit the side-netting from a well-worked Garath McCleary corner.

Jordan Obita forced a smart save from Marko Marosi before McCleary's follow-up was blocked, and the Shrews keeper then repelled Lewis Wing's powerful effort from outside the box and Daryl Horgan's cross-shot which was creeping towards the far corner.

Wing's free-kick landed over the bar and Josh Scowen's shot on the turn lacked the pace to beat Marosi as Wycombe ended the half on top, but level with their opponents in terms of the scoreline.

The second half needed a moment of magic to break the deadlock and it arrived from the right boot of Garath McCleary, who broke through the Shrews' resistance with a powerful low arrowed effort into the corner from 20 yards after good work from D'Mani Mellor.

Blues pushed for a second, with McCleary stinging the palms of Marosi with another effort from range, but the Shrews levelled soon after from a routine long throw which was flicked into the path of Matthew Pennington, who headed home to give Tyla Dickinson no chance.

Wycombe began to fade in the heat after that, unable to recapture their earlier free-flowing football, and only fashioning half-chances from set pieces that were comfortable for Marosi.

The appearance of Alfie Mawson from the bench brought the home fans to their feet but there was to be no fairytale return as Wanderers conceded the decisive penalty soon after, with Joe Jacobson pulling back his man in the box and Luke Leahy smashing home the penalty.

Seven minutes of stoppage time didn't yield the vital equaliser, though Chris Forino hit the target with a downward header, but the Shrews held on for the three points.