



Wycombe Wanderers Website

Match Report

An end-to-end ninety minutes saw honours end even at Adams Park, as Wycombe were held to two-a-piece by a battling Port Vale display.

Anis Mehmeti fired in a thunderous strike to open the scores early doors before a Vale corner left Wanderers frustrated as they levelled right before half time through James Wilson.

A magical moment from Lewis Wing restored the Blues lead as the Tyneside Pirlo volleyed home a beauty to retake the lead, before being cancelled out shortly after from yet another Valiant corner, this time from Port Vale captain Tom Conlon.

Gareth Ainsworth made two changes from his side's draw with Morecambe, with Brandon Hanlan making his first league start of the season, alongside David Wheeler's return to the midfield.

A frantic opening to the game ensued, with Ellis Harrison finding himself in behind the Chairboys defence within the opening three minutes. The Vale forward expertly rounded Max Stryjek before firing over the remaining open goal, much to the terrace's delight.

Just seconds later Wanderers fired home the opener through an Anis Mehmeti thunderbolt, Wycombe's resident magician dancing past his man before blasting a rocket past the helpless Jack Stevens.

Nick Freeman took inspiration from Anis's earlier strike 25 minutes in, this time attempting his own effort at cutting in from the right, blasting his following effort narrowly wide of the right post.

Both sides played some mesmerising football in the opening half, Vale this time going close to capping a fine team passage of play with Gavin Massey dancing past Obita before dragging his effort inches wide.

The end-to-end encounter continued to conjure up chances for two direct attacking sides, Obita whipping an inswinging corner onto the head of Alfie Mawson who could only head down towards Vale 'keeper Stevens.

Port Vale found the leveller right before the half time whistle, as a deadly corner found its way through to James Wilson who made no mistake to tap home from six yards out, as the Blues couldn't clear their lines quick enough.

Half time: Wycombe Wanderers 1-1 Port Vale

The Valiants were the first to inflict their poise on the second half, playing a neat move into the lively Ellis Harrison. Vale's top scorer struck his effort narrowly wide of the post, an early warning sign for the Chairboys to sharpen up.

A speculative Lewis Wing free kick showed signs of what was to come for the Blues after a stale opening 15 minutes to the second half, as Wing spotted the keeper out of position but couldn't quite find the curve on his strike to trouble him.

Wing's practice paid its dividends moments later, as the ball bobbed to him on the half volley 20 yards out. The Chairboys' midfield dynamo controlled expertly, before arrowing his attempt into the bottom corner to reclaim the Wanderers advantage.

Vale responded in the 75th minute after a reluctant spell of Wycombe defending gave away a corner. The away side's skipper Tom Conlon reacted first to the delivery to turn home once again from close range, pegging the Chairboys back for the second time.

Substitute Dan Butterworth should've given Vale the lead just seconds later, jinking his way into the box before narrowly striking wide of Stryjeks's left post, leaving Gareth Ainsworth frustrated at his side's defending.

Despite Wanderers best efforts at finding the final key ball through Garath McCleary, the Blues couldn't break down a sturdy Vale defence, as both sides were forced to settle for a point in HP12.

Full time: Wycombe Wanderers 2-2 Port Vale

