



Wolverhampton Wanderers

LONDON SUPPORTERS CLUB

founded 1966



“FAREWELL SIR JACK, A TRUE LEGEND”

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January 2016

FROM THE CHAIR



WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS LONDON SUPPORTERS CLUB

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Roy Eagles

Minutes Secretary

Leo Masters

Newsletter Editor

Steve Ray

Committee Members

Steve Ray
Peter Bartlett
Bob Goddard
Matthew Hawthorne

Club Contacts

Stuart Earl
01760 756278

Dave Slape
0208 764 8023

Peter Woodfield
01634 363704

e-mail

londonwolves.66@btinternet.com

website

www.londonwolves.com

Hi and Greetings to Everybody,

A very Happy New Year to you all, welcome to your long awaited newsletter, and we can only apologise for the non-appearance of the earlier editions. These were almost ready to go to print when problems arose with the printers, Stef was unfortunately beleaguered with personal problems, and Steve was in serious training for his new job and unable to spare any time to work on the magazine. These problems are now hopefully behind us, and new printers have been found, but these hiccups only highlight the huge jobs carried out by our volunteer workers, so huge thanks go to all your committee members.

On the pitch the endless problems seem to be settling down, and a tremendous defensive display at Brighton ended the festive season on a high of nine points from nine, with outstanding performances from some of the younger players, notably Dominic Iorfa, Nathan Byrne and Jordan Graham.

Can you believe how fast the 50th Anniversary Dinner is creeping up on us? The invitations to our guests have been posted this week, and we have had a remarkable early response from members and friends, so if you have yet to book please see the article inside this edition.

The fixtures have been very unkind to us this season regarding our "Meet the Players" event, but please keep an eye on the London Wolves website for details, as I am sure something can be worked out.

Sadly, since we last went to print we lost Sir Jack and Roy Swinburne, and there are articles inside about these two Club stalwarts. Also, you will have heard that Steve Morgan has resigned as Chairman, and rumours are flying around Wolverhampton concerning a possible successor, we shall see.

By the time you receive this, I will hopefully have news on a proposed move from up here in my current home Norfolk back to "The Smoke", and look forward to seeing more of the travelling members than I have over the past few years.

Stuart



“A TRIBUTE TO SIR JACK HAYWARD OBE”



On the 13th January 2015 the very sad news was announced that Sir Jack Hayward OBE had passed away at the age of 91 following a long illness. Sir Jack was a long-time friend and an Honorary Member of London Wolves, he often travelled with London Wolves members on the train from Euston on match days, and on one occasion even won the train competition.



Sir Jack was a Wolverhampton boy through and through, he was born close to Molineux and was a Wolves fan from an early age, and his deep affection and passion for all things Wulfrunian and British never faded. As a young boy, Sir Jack used to crawl under Molineux's turnstiles to grab a glimpse of his heroes, and he retained this passion as a true Wolves supporter throughout his life. He was a truly special man and retained to the end enormous optimism, conviction and enthusiasm for Wolves, always tuning in live to watch or listen to the matches regardless of where he was in the world, or what time of day or night it was.

When Wolves were on the verge of bankruptcy and extinction in 1990 Sir Jack bought his beloved Wolves for £2 million. Over the next 17 years he poured a fortune touching £100 million into the club, and never asked for a penny in return. His vision transformed a decaying Molineux into one of the first, and finest all-seater stadiums in the country. Sir Jack was more than a chairman of the club, he was a custodian, and most of all he cared.

In the summer of 2007, he passed on the baton to current Chairman Steve Morgan, handing over the Club for just £10 in return for a £30 million investment into Wolves. This remains one of the most remarkable and generous acts, from any owner, in any sport. That philosophy shone through during his ownership of Wolves, rather than trying to recoup some of his own huge outlay, he handed over Wolves in such a way that it secured even more investment into our Club.

That kind of philanthropy didn't only extend to Wolves. The purchase of Lundy Island for the National Trust, the backing of the England women's cricket team and his huge donation to help re-build a Hospital in Port Stanley after the Falklands War are just a few examples of his care and generosity towards others.

Just a few months before his death Sir Jack visited the Wolves Museum and was shown his own tribute in the Hall of Fame. When asked to sign the visitors' book, his message was simple, "Glad to have helped". That summed up Sir Jack in a nutshell, he was a humble and honest man, a true gentleman in all senses of the word, and he will be sadly missed.



We will be forever indebted for everything the great man did for our beloved Wolverhampton Wanderers. On behalf of everyone connected to London Wolves *"Thank you Sir Jack. You'll never be forgotten"*.

Steve Ray
Newsletter Editor



Minutes of 2014-15 Annual General Meeting

Date: Friday 31st July 2015.

Time: 7:30pm.

Location: The Shipwrights Arms, 88 Tooley Street, SE1 2TF.

Agenda:

1. Apologies for absence
2. Chairman's Address
3. Minutes of 2014 AGM
4. Matters Arising
5. Secretary's Report
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Travel Secretary's Report
8. Social Secretary's Report
9. Newsletter Editor's Report
10. Website Editor's Report
11. Election of Officers
12. Membership Fee
13. Any Other Business

Apologies for absence: S Leonard, P Abbott, S Armett, S Ray, I Glass and D Gilson.

Chairman's Address: Stuart welcomed those present and said the Club was functioning well. He introduced the committee and thanked the two Peters, Dave and Roy especially.

Minutes of 2014 AGM: Last year's minutes were read by the attending members.

Matters Arising: Dave asked about XPRO and the Derek Dougan DVD's. Stuart reported nothing had been heard from XPRO but we still owe for solicitors advice.

Secretary's Report: Dave reported a membership of 240, paying £2229. The "Goalden Gate" draw had raised £605-50, Train Competitions £136, badge sales £30 and programmes £2-30. Secretarial expenses totalled £473-48 plus £102 for the replacement Player of the Year trophy for Bakary Sako. Dave thanked the two Peter's, Stefan, Rob and Stuart for their assistance over the season. Dave announced he had suspended membership renewal pending the publication of the magazine, a bulk renewal will be sent out in August. Dave also announced the membership cards will be laminated.

Treasurers Report: The meeting read the financial statement and Phil O'Connor asked about £552-50 outstanding for match tickets. Peter replied it was mainly owed by two people, one is seriously ill and the other has been contacted and the issue is being addressed, Phil suggested a limit on credit. A loss on fares is due to part subsidised travel for long distance matches. Credit card holders £81 [100 @ 80p], will result in a profit after the 50th anniversary, the Badge is embossed on them. Phil asked regarding £250 Trademark for London Wolves Ltd and Roy Said £50 Christmas profit difference was in vouchers.

Travel Secretary's Report: Peter said trips were run to all home games and to twelve away games with a good train service. Thanks again to Morris Jacobs for a number of midweek matches. The highest attendance was 30 which was for the game against AFC Bournemouth at home, and 27 at Wigan, although the overall average was down. Group Travel was now back at Euston and Virgin are hoping to set a standard ticket price. The Club has seven Season tickets and there was a £880



loss over the season. Peter thanked the five season ticket loanees and the twelve away season ticket holders. There was a £53-35 deficit from trips due to part-subsidised expensive away trips. The £5 discretionary fee was not enforced and outstanding money from 2013-14 was collected, but there was no progress for previous seasons. There is a £1 increase for admission to all stands next season and Peter thanked Dave Wood [ticket office] and Dave for help during the season. Phil asked about the seven season tickets and Peter replied that one was for sale. It was decided the committee would review the situation prior to next March's Early Bird renewals and possibly reduce the number.

Social Secretary's Report: Roy reported problems with fixture changes at the end of the season. The Christmas lunch was supported by 88 attendees and The Bluebrick vouchers meant there were fifteen guests (It was the sixth year the price was set at £20). Next season, it is hoped to organise a racing or dog's night, and the Christmas lunch will hopefully be before the Nottingham Forest game, Sky permitting. Ken Henworth stated the raffle and auction take up time. Stuart said Roy was our most positive Social Secretary, he also pointed out the raffles and auctions were good PR for the Club.

Newsletter Editor's Report: Stuart advised of problems with printer [ALP] but the magazine would be out soon. He complimented Peter Bartlett for his emails and that Stefan and Steve are unable to do future magazines. Phil volunteered to be editor but with reservations. Stuart thanked Stefan and Steve for their efforts.

Website Editor's Report: Peter reported discreet advertising had reduced net costs over the last three seasons. Jack Leonard runs Facebook. Twitter has 2000+ followers. Phil complimented Peter for his emails. Thanks were given to Peter by the meeting attendees.

Election of Officers: Matthew Hawthorne was confirmed as Minutes Secretary, seconded by Roy Eagles. Phil O'Connor was seconded for Magazine Editor by Matthew, and Steve Ray by Phil. After discussion, the Committee was voted in en bloc.

Membership Fee: Dave recommended the subscription rates remain unchanged.

Any Other Business:

- Regarding Robbie Dennison's charity, Matthew suggested it be our charity of the year.
- Anna Perks is seeking sponsorship, Peter Bartlett suggested it be a designated portion of the sponsorship deal now in place.
- Dave announced that he and Peter Woodfield were to sponsor Dave Edwards for the Club's 50th anniversary.
- Regarding the 50th anniversary, a change of format was suggested. A raffle pinned to a board and sealed auction would take less time after the dinner. Also, there were fifteen rooms for guests invited via Wolves. The meals are set to cost £42, and it was decided to charge £55 for members and £65 for non-members. There were originally thirty rooms which has now been increased to 40, and £850 had been paid in deposits. A sum of £3500 has been paid to Charlton Athletics' leasing company and 160 patrons are required to avoid the cost of room hire.

Meeting Closed.



A TRIBUTE TO ROY SWINBOURNE



Sadly another true Wolves Legend has passed away since our last newsletter, Roy Swinbourne died on 27 December 2015, aged 86, following a long battle with vascular dementia. Roy was a true Wolves great, whose goals fired the club to their first title back in the 1953-54 season and provided the catalyst for the famous victory over Honved in 1954. Roy made 230 appearances for Wolves, scoring 114 goals between 1945 and 1957 and in 2011 he rightfully took his place in the Wolves Hall of Fame.

Swinbourne began his career at Wath Wanderers, the Yorkshire-based nursery club of Wolverhampton Wanderers. He moved south to join Wolves in 1944 and signed as a professional the following year. He was a typical old-fashioned centre forward, tall with good control, power in either foot and a sublime header of the ball.



After proving himself in the reserve ranks, he made his debut on 17 December 1949 in a 1–1 draw with Fulham. He came to the fore during the 1950–51 season, replacing Jesse Pye in the attack, and finished as top goalscorer with 22 goals. Injuries waylaid him the following year, but in the next campaign, forming what was described as "a potent dual spearhead" with Dennis Wilshaw, he was once again the club's leading scorer with 21 goals.

His tally of 24 in the 1953–54 season was a career best and helped Wolves capture their first ever league championship. It was Swinbourne himself who scored twice in the final game, a 2–0 victory over Spurs that confirmed the title. In 1954 he played in the famous floodlit victory over Honved of Hungary where Wolves came from two goals down at half-time to beat the Hungarian's, legendary Ferenc Puskas and all, 3–2. Swinbourne headed a memorable equaliser and then galloped through a tiring Honved defence to fire home the winner.

His career was halted when he damaged his knee while hurdling over a posse of cameramen on the pitchside at Luton Town's Kenilworth Road ground in November 1955. After trying to return just weeks later, he was forced to undergo surgery on the injury. He was never able to resume his playing career and was forced to announce his retirement in May 1957, from then on Roy worked as a rep for Wolverhampton tyre giant Goodyear, before starting his own successful Midlands-based tyre business.



Another Wolves legend Ron Flowers, who played with Swinbourne, said: "Roy grew up just a village down from me. He was a true gentleman, a perfect bloke and a real good influence to people around him". "On the pitch, he was just the kind of player you wanted on your team, especially away from home when it was time to separate the men from the boys". "He looked back on his career with great pride, as he should have done, playing such a key part in a golden time in Wolves' history".

Football heroes don't come along very often and they don't come any better than Roy Swinbourne.....



In Memory of Stuart Hatwell 1946-2014



In the newsletter in June 2014 we reported the sad death of Stuart Hatwell who was a lifelong Wolves supporter and London Wolves member. His brother Keith has written the tribute printed below in memory of Stuart. He reflects on his memories of following Wolves from their younger day's right through to the later years of travelling to matches to follow their beloved Wanderers.

It's 1954 and Wolverhampton Wanderers have just won League Division One. For a 6 year old Londoner and his big brother there is only one team to support, the Old Gold of Molineux. The local teams of Arsenal and Tottenham held no interest at all. Kitted out in our replica kits purchased by mail order from the Jimmy Mullen Sports shop in Wolverhampton it was over the fields for a kick about, I'll be Billy Wright and you can be Peter Broadbent. So began the roller coaster ride which is part and parcel of being a Wolves supporter.

It was a chance meeting with Dave Slape and Peter Woodfield waiting for our trains after a Crystal Palace game that I first heard of London Wolves. We both signed up and have been members for many years. Although we made our own travel arrangements we really looked forward to the Meet the Players events and newsletters. My brother moved to Chiswick, so a normal home game would see me travelling from Epping on the Central Line to North Acton where he would meet me in his car. Clambering over the seat to get the 'On the Road with Wolves' sticker in the back window we were off on the scenic route up the M40. Heading for the Big Bus garage where we knew we could always park, time for a quick whizz in Sainsburys, a meat slice in Greggs over the hill by the college and then the first site of the Golden Palace. Despite the number of times we did this trip the first site of 'home' always set my heart racing.

After the game it was a quick dash to the car for the 5 o'clock results, a possible stop at the 'all you can eat for a tenner' curry house and then it was the long journey home. Unfortunately our last visit to Molineux in May 2013 saw the boys relegated again and the unedifying sight of the home supporters smashing their own ground up.

Stuart was diagnosed with cancer in August 2013. He managed to get to his last game at Colchester where the seeds of revival were already showing. He set a target to be fit in time for Brentford which was his nearest ground but died in February 2014. He leaves behind his lovely wife Barbara two children and four grandchildren. Thanks to London Wolves he had his photo in the match day programme vs Notts County. He would have been so proud.

As well as Wolves our other love was a small village called Branscombe where we used to holiday when we were young. Stuart purchased a retirement home there and his ashes were interred in the beautiful churchyard. A little part of East Devon will be forever "Gold".

Keith Hatwell

WOLVES' NEWS



The Day John met Roy Hodgson



John Golding, our resident Fireman, and his mate Andy Bateman from Carlisle regularly travel together to England games. Here we can see the boys bumping into Roy Hodgson 300 yards from the England team hotel in Lithuania during the qualification game in October which England won 3-0. John reliably informs me that Andy use to be a big fan of former WWLSC Honorary Life President Derek Dougan.

John Golding was again hogging the limelight after the Wolves U21 side went down 3-1 to Derby in October, here we can see John and Mark Feehan catching up with Paul Simpson now coach at Derby County before the game.



Alfie the Mascot



Congratulations to WWLSC member Pam Tetlow whose grandson Alfie led the team out at Craven Cottage for the 1-0 win against Fulham at the start of the 2014-15 season. Following Tommy's stint at the Orient, Alfie kept up the winning tradition.



Wolves Women

WWLSC continue to sponsor the Wolves Women team. At the time of going to print the team are sitting in 3rd position in the Midlands Division 1 having won 8 and drawn 1 of their 10 games, a great start to the season. Let's wish the ladies the best of luck for the rest of the season, and hope they can continue the good form and finish as Division winners.



We were pleased that Steve Cullis, Anna Perks and Claire Hakeman were just three of our guests who attended the Burger 'n' Ale event at the Bluebrick on the 28th November. During the half-time interval at the MK Dons fixture on the same afternoon London Wolves members Roy Eagles and Mark Feehan presented our special guests with a cheque for £500.

WOLVES' NEWS



Richard Stearman

London Wolves Player of the Season 2014-2015



The London Wolves “Player of the Season” winner for 2014-2015 was Richard Stearman. This year's voting was not as close as in previous years due to the defenders excellent, consistent performances. In every match he put in outstanding performances with his tackling, blocking and general distribution of play. It was a well-deserved accolade. Nouha Dicko came second and workhorse Dave Edwards came third.

Stears' joined Wolves from Leicester in 2008 making 234 appearances and scoring six goals during his time at Molineux. Unfortunately this was to be his last season at Wolves following his transfer to Fulham at the beginning of September. Our presentation by Treasurer Carol, Travel Secretary Peter and Secretary Dave took place at Craven Cottage two days before Richard made his Fulham debut. Everyone at London Wolves would like to thank Stears' for his efforts and wish him all the very best for the future.

Meet the Players 2014

Our thanks go to Kenny Jackett and the players for the latest “Meet the Players” event before the Brentford match on 29th November 2014. This was an opportunity to congratulate the team on promotion from League One and Kevin McDonald for winning the WWLSC player of the year at the end of the 2013-14 season. Bakary Sako was also awarded his player of the season trophy for the previous campaign. Stefan thanked Kenny for agreeing to the event, explaining that WWLSC are Wolves' oldest supporters club. Stefan finally paid tribute to Malcolm Finlayson, who had sadly passed away the day before.

Bakary's Player of the Year award was presented by Mitch, and Joe Feehan presented Kevin with his trophy (additional photos from the event can be seen on the back cover).



SOCIAL NEWS



Social Diary

London Wolves Entertainment Officer Roy Eagles has put together a diary of events since our last newsletter. Roy puts a lot of time and effort into organising these events and the members are treated to some fabulous days out. If you haven't attended any of these functions then just ask the members who do attend to hear about what you're missing. We have more and more special guests including former players who ask to attend these events such is the job that Roy is doing.

Season 2014-2015

Due to the never ending fixture changes I didn't organise much before Christmas. I did organise a Brewery Tour in November but had to cancel due to the Brewer Simon having other commitments.

Banks's Brewery Tour (24th February 2015)



This was re-arranged from the end of November and took place before the midweek home game against Fulham. The tour started at 4:00pm with 18 of the members participating. The tour proved to be very interesting with Simon the Assistant Brewer educating us all on brewing techniques and what goes into making the liquid that makes your legs go all wobbly on a Saturday night. After about an hour came the moment we had all been waiting for, a session in the tasting room with about 30 different beers to choose from. It so happened that it was the birthday of both Paul Coles and Peter Woodfield, not that they needed any excuses to get stuck into as many beers as possible. It was a great couple of hours prior to the game and everybody enjoyed themselves, a massive Thank You to Simon who made the whole event possible.

Bravaccio's End of Season Meal (Saturday 2nd May 2015)

The run in to the final part of the season saw us with only one Saturday fixture, making it very difficult to arrange anything. So it was left to the final weekend of the season to organise an "End of Season" meal. I decided on our old stamping ground Bravaccio's which has proved so successful in the past. Unfortunately restaurant owner and Wolves Legend Steve Bull was off on holiday again, but he kindly left everybody a drink behind the bar. A splendid time was had by all, and as always the meal was to its usual high standard.

SOCIAL NEWS



Welcome to the new 2015-16 Season.

Plans were underway to organise our annual Christmas Lunch in September, then I was notified in October that there was no longer going to be a marquee at the Bluebrick over the festive period, this was a huge blow because numbers would then have to be limited. We were then dealt yet another blow when Sky announced they would be covering the Notts Forest fixture which was then changed from Saturday afternoon to the Friday night. That basically left us with no Saturday fixture in December, this unfortunately meant that our ever popular Christmas bash would sadly have to be cancelled. I had to put my thinking cap on and decided to hold a “Burger and Ale” social event before the home game against MK Dons at the end of November.

Burger 'n' Ale at the Bluebrick (Saturday 28th November 2015)



This was held on Saturday 28th November with limited numbers including the guests, the aim was to give something back to our members who have supported my events over the season. We had enough coppers in our Bluebrick points scheme to give the attendees either a complimentary burger or Fish and Chips. There were 40 people at the event and our special guests included Mike and Barbara Bailey and Clive Corbett who was the editor of Mike’s book, we also had the pleasure of Val Williams who was our beloved Waggy’s partner, and has been a long-time friend of WWLSC.

Wolves Women were represented by their manager Steve Cullis, player/coach Anna Perks and right back and media whizz Claire Hakeman. As a thank you for the great time we had on the Brewery Tour Simon and his partner Trish were also among guests invited along. It was also arranged for Mike and Barbara to sit close to WWLSC members, this was no coincidence as Mike’s new book ‘The Valley Wanderer’ (The Mike Bailey story) was hot off the press the week before. I decided to dedicate the whole event to Mike who signed copies of the book for members and other guests.

It was then off to watch the match, and at half-time there was a presentation by Mark Feehan and Roy Eagles to Wolves Women, a cheque to the value of £500 was handed over as part of London Wolves continuing sponsorship of the ladies team.

After the event had finished I received some kind words and lovely feedback which makes all the hard work worthwhile. It was nice to see a good turnout and to see members drinking under one roof for at least one game a season.

SOCIAL NEWS



It is alleged that Mikey Burrows who does Wolves Player commentary tweeted that Andy Thompson wanted to be invited to Burger 'n' Ale event, that just shows how popular these events have become, with the word passing round the former players that they are the functions to be seen attending at the moment.

It's Not the Christmas Party (Friday 11th December 2015)



Then came the 11th December, this was only to have a dinner with WWLSC members before the match, the turnout was more than expected as it was a Friday night fixture, 20 members attended so we had no room for any former players as the Bluebrick was already fully booked. The evening was dedicated to Peter Woodfield and Dave Slape for all their hard work, week in and week out over the years, and there was just enough coppers from the Bluebrick points scheme left to give them a meal each. I even got Woody up to make a small speech after the meal, even though he was obviously uncomfortable about the whole thing, but it was all good humoured and after a few more alcoholic beverages it was off to watch the footy.

With Sky changing so many fixtures throughout the season it's now becoming increasingly harder to plan ahead, however I will do everything I can to continue getting members together and I already have some interesting ideas for events in 2016.

Finally I would like to thank all members, guests and friends for their continued support of these functions over the season, they are enjoyed by all who attend. It was a fitting way to end 2015 with the team also ending with a three game winning run during the holiday period.

Hoping for your continued support in 2016 and I hope to see you all at our 50th Anniversary Dinner in July.

Thanks again

Roy Eagles
Entertainments Officer

SOCIAL NEWS



London Wolves Summer Walk 2015

This year's London Wolves Summer Walk involved a "Hampstead Heath Ramble" and it was again organised by real ale specialist Captain Jeff Castro. On the agenda was a good walk, a few decent ales and a visit to some of London's most haunted pubs. His planned route was the same one as Ed Miliband followed on his election trial last year, fortunately our day out ended on a higher note than Ed's did on Election Day.

Captain Jeff and his troops gathered at "The Gatehouse" in Highgate at 11:00am, the actual trek itself was due to start at 12:00. The pub itself was rumoured to be haunted by the ghost of Mother Marnes, an old lady murdered for her money inside the original pub, now Wetherspoon's are committing more or less the same offence with the prices they charge.

A hearty breakfast was the order of the morning to fuel up ready for the walking involved between the various hostelrys, and the walk started roughly on time. So it was tin hats on and down to Captain Castro to lead his troops along a pre-planned route that included drinking alcohol, a history lesson and a yomp across Hampstead Heath.

The first port of call was the Spaniards Inn which was allegedly frequented by the infamous Dick Turpin. The Inn was named after two Spanish brothers who killed themselves in a duel after an argument over a woman, no chance of a repeat on this walk, there was too much drinking to get through.

As the walk progressed Captain Jeff did his tour guide duties for those interested, the pubs visited between the talk about ghosts, murders and places of historic relevance included "The Flask", "The Duke of Hamilton", "The Holly Bush Inn" and finally the "William IV". Unfortunately Captain Jeff's guided tour had to end here, he had double booked his day forgetting about tickets purchased for a Fleetwood Mac concert at the O2. However some of the stalwarts decided to soldier on and staggered off to another pub called "The Flask", and it wasn't double vision but another pub of the same name....



MATCH REPORTS



THE HAND OF 'ED'

BLACKBURN 1-2 WOLVES

Saturday 8th August 2015



After the disappointment of losing out on a play-off place on goal difference last season Wolves got off to a dream start by beating promotion rivals Blackburn Rovers 2-1 on their own patch. It was Wolves fourth successive victory at Ewood Park in what turned out to be an entertaining game where both teams created several goal scoring chances.

It was all Rovers in the early stages and they could easily have taken the lead as early as the 2nd minute when Rhodes rattled the outside of Ikeme's right hand post. Wolves remained on the back foot, but this was mainly due to their inability to keep the ball and giving it away all too easily in their own half. Despite several efforts flying around Ikeme's goal Wolves broke away and scored a superb goal against the run of play in the 28th minute, Edwards flicked a long ball into the path of Afobe who as cool as you like flicked the ball past Raya into the net.

The goal settled Wolves with passes now finding their own players, and they were within an inch of increasing their lead when Dicko hit the ball into the side netting following some good build up play. But just as Wolves looked to have gained the upper hand they gifted Rovers an equaliser in the 39th minute, a shot from the edge of the area by Conway looped off the boot of Stearman towards goal, but instead of tipping the ball over the bar Ikeme inadvertently palmed it into his own net.

Just as the action packed half came to an end Wolves regained the lead with a contentious goal, and for once what seemed a poor refereeing decision went in our favour. Good old Duracell Dave clearly put the ball in the net with his hand following a cross by Dicko, but the referee and his bungling linesmen failed to see the "Hand of Ed" and the goal stood.

Wolves started the second-half on the front foot and could have made it 3-1 within two minutes of the restart, Afobe just failed to connect with Iorfa's low cross after the full-back had made a good run forward down the right. Henry went even closer to extending Wolves lead in the 76th minute when his 30 yard shot thundered back off the crossbar.

As the game reached its conclusion Rovers steamed forward and Ikeme made up for his earlier blunder when he tipped Koita's 25 yard shot onto the outside of the post. However, Wolves defence stood solid and held on for the perfect start to the season.

Opinion: Great start against one of the promotion favourites.

Man of the match: Henry

Team Rating: 8/10

Attendance: 16,159

Team: Ikeme, Golbourn, Iorfa, Edwards, Stearman (capt), Hause, Henry (Doherty 90), McDonald, Afobe (Le Fondre 90+1), Dicko (Ojo 84), Coady

Unused Subs: McCarey, van La Parra, Price, Ebanks-Landell

Bookings: Iorfa (57 – foul), Henry (86 – foul), Ojo (90+6 – simulation)

NO FIRST ROUND KNOCK OUT

WOLVES 2-1 NEWPORT COUNTY

Tuesday 11th August 2015
(Capital One Cup 1st Round)

Well for the first time in three years Wolves have managed to overcome a lower league team to progress to the second round of the Cloth Cap Cup, but they still made hard work of it against League 2 side Newport County. Wolves had to come from behind after conceding an early goal before finally ending up 2-1 winners.

Wolves got off to a dreadful start when falling behind in the 6th minute, Hause lost cheap possession on the right and Holmes quickly sent over a cross that found Boden all on his lonesome in the six yard area to head past Martinez.

However Wolves supporters didn't have to wait long for an equaliser, ten minutes to be exact. Ojo had a free-kick saved by Day in the Newport goal, but when the ball fell back to the on-loan winger he stroked the ball diagonally across the area and Dicho got the slightest of touches to deflect the ball goal wards into the net via the post. It was pretty much all Wolves for the

rest of the half, and although they created several openings they failed to really test the keeper.



As the hour mark approached Wolves finally got their noses in front. Dicko put Afobe through on goal and just as the number nine was about to pull the trigger he was hauled down by Barrow, Afobe dusted himself down and coolly sent the keeper the wrong way from the resulting penalty. Wolves were well worth the win in the end and despite a late push Newport were unable to break down a resolute home defence.

Opinion: Dare we dream of a Capital One Cup run?

Man of the match: Afobe

Team Rating: 5/10

Attendance: 9,586

Team: Martinez, Golbourne, Iorfa, Price, Ebanks-Landell, Hause, Coady, Afobe (capt) (Le Fondre 67), Dicko, Doherty (van La Parra 67), Ojo

Unused Subs: Ikeme, Stearman, Henry, McDonald, Enobakhare

Bookings: Coady (19 – foul), Iorfa (86 – foul)

A HULLPING HAND

WOLVES 1-1 HULL

Sunday 16th August 2015

Wolves continued their tricky start to the season against a Hull side who were strutting their stuff in the Premier League last season. In the end it was a good old Scottish goalkeeper clanger that handed Wolves a point after Hull had lead at the interval, however the equaliser was no more than the home team deserved over the 90 minutes.

Wolves got off to an absolute flyer and should have been in front within the first 60 seconds. Afobe was clear through when he latched onto a poor backpass by Clucas, but his shot was held up when McGregor got a touch on it and Davies

MATCH REPORTS



booted it off the line. From the resultant corner Elmohamady's poor clearance bounced off Golbourne into the path of Dicho, but the striker wasted another golden opportunity when he blazed over from close range. That set the trend as Wolves continued to squander a host of chances, and they paid the ultimate price when Hull went ahead in the 22nd minute.



It's only the second league game of the season and straight away we're talking about contentious refereeing decisions. From a corner on the right our old friend Andre Marriner awarded Hull a soft penalty when he singled out Hause for a push on Davies in the box. With all the shoving and pushing going on from the corner in question it was difficult to see how Marriner identified Hause as the main offender. Jelavic took full advantage by blasting the penalty right down the middle and giving Hull the lead against the run of play.

Wolves continued to dominate and press forward, but they were missing that final killer touch in front of goal, that was until the 58th minute when they were gifted an equaliser. Dicko sent a high looping ball into the area from the left and McGregor inexplicably let the ball drop through his hands where Henry was on hand to nod the ball into the empty net.

Wolves continued to dominate and Dicko missed a glorious change to put Wolves in front when he nodded Afobe's inch perfect cross wide from just three yards. As the final minutes ticked away Hull probably had their best spell of the game, and could have snatched a winner when Akpom smashed it against the Wolves post from ten yards, but that would have been a total injustice had it gone in.

Opinion: Same old story we need to be more ruthless and kill teams off when we're on top.

Man of the match: McDonald

Team Rating: 7/10

Attendance: 20,062

Team: Martinez, Golbourne, Iorfa,

Edwards, Stearman, Hause, Henry (Ojo 74), Coady, Afobe, Dicko (Le Fondre 90+1), McDonald

Unused Subs: Ikeme, Doherty, van La Parra, Price, Ebanks-Landell

Bookings: None

HOOPS A DAISY

WOLVES 2-3 QPR

Wednesday 19th August 2015

In the first half an hour Wolves sped into a two goal lead playing champagne football of the highest quality. With the rain pouring down it looked like a rout was on the cards as the chances poured down on the QPR goal. But somehow Wolves managed to lose 3-2 in what can only be described as capitulation in the extreme.

Similarly to Sunday Wolves got off to a blistering start, and in the first minute Afobe just failed to get a header on target following a superb left foot cross from Edwards. It was all Wolves and that man Afobe was involved in everything, and in the 17th minute he inevitably opened the scoring. Henry found himself in space out on the right and when his cross came into the box Edwards helped it into the path of Afobe who in one movement brought it down and smashed it in from six yards.



Wolves continued to push forward in relentless fashion and ten minutes later it was 2-0. Henry again found himself in space on the right, and when his cross was headed clear to McDonald on the edge of the area the Scotsman hit a first-time pile driver into the right hand side of the QPR net. Wolves continued to attack looking to build on their two goal lead, but seven minutes before half-time they conceded a poor goal to let QPR back in it, Phillips whipped in a cross from the left and Austin rose between two Wolves defenders to head home from eight yards.

After dominating the play and missing a hatful of chances Wolves suddenly found themselves on the back foot, and in the 52nd minute they paid the ultimate price when QPR levelled. Some shocking Wolves defending down by their own right hand touchline ended with Phillips taking possession of the ball, he was then allowed a free shot from the right hand edge of the area that went through the legs of Hause and past Martinez into the net.

Wolves were totally shell-shocked and with 18 minutes left the self-implosion was complete when QPR scored their third and what turned out to be the winning goal. Phillips was again given the time and space to shoot from about 25 yards, and even though Martinez seemed to have it covered it somehow snuck through his hands and over the line.

Opinion: Who flicked the self-destruct button?

Man of the match: Afobe

Team Rating: 6/10

Attendance: 21,032

Team: Martinez, Golbourne, Iorfa, Edwards, Stearman (capt), Hause, J. Henry (van La Parra 63), Coady, Afobe, Dicko (Le Fondre 45), McDonald

Unused Subs: Ikeme, Doherty, Price, Ebanks-Landell, Ojo

Bookings: Le Fondre (75 - foul), Coady (90+5 - foul)

CARDS THROWN IN

CARDIFF 2-0 WOLVES

Saturday 22nd August 2015

After the dream start against Blackburn on the opening day of the season Wolves performances have gradually been on the decline, and following this game they just about reached the opposite end of the scale with an awful performance against Cardiff. It was a game where Wolves didn't manage one single shot on goal and the tag of pre-season promotion contenders seems light years away.

Even though the rain was bucketing down it was a bright start for Wolves and Edwards shot on the turn was just over the bar in the 3rd minute, unfortunately it all went steadily downhill after that. Wolves had plenty of possession but did little with it and allowed Cardiff to gradually get themselves into the game.

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There was little to write home about in what was developing into an overall poor game, but Wolves had a glorious chance to change the pattern in the 40th minute. A short corner routine on the left ended with Ojo sending over a great cross that found the head of Hause less than two yards out, but he somehow headed over, and boy how expensive that miss turned out to be a few minutes later. Fabio sent a deep cross into the Wolves box and as Ikeme raced off his line like a man chasing a £50 note blowing away in the wind Jones leapt above Stearman, Ebanks-Landell and Ikeme to nod the ball into an empty net.

It didn't get much better in the second-half, even though Wolves had more than their fair share of possession they were null and void of any ideas when it came to creating anything in or around the Cardiff penalty area. Unfortunately for Cardiff the thorn in the Wolves side all afternoon Jones fell awkwardly as he lost possession and was forced off with an ankle injury on the hour mark. Fortunately for the home team his replacement Ameobi took just three minutes to score the second goal and seal the 2-0 win when his shot struck Hause and flew past Ikeme into the net.

After the game the unimpressed Kenny Jackett summed up the team performance when he said "I felt we had a lot of the ball, we dominated the first half but we never really hurt Cardiff. The stats show we did not have a shot on target and that tells its own story". And that was it in a nutshell, what the Wolves Supporters had to endure after giving up their Saturday Night to travel to the rat hole otherwise known as Cardiff.

Opinion: Promotion contenders? Not a chance on this showing.

Man of the match: Edwards

Team Rating: 2/10

Attendance: 14,820

Team: Ikeme, Hause, Iorfa, Edwards, Ebanks-Landell, Stearman (capt), van La Parra, Coady, Afobe, McDonald (Henry 62), Ojo (Dicko 62).

Unused Subs: Martinez, Doherty, Golbourne, Price, Enobakhare
Bookings: Coady (33 – foul)

A CLOSE SHAVE WITH THE OLD BARNET

WOLVES 2-1 BARNET

Tuesday 25th August 2015
(Capital One Cup 2nd Round)

When Wolves beat Newport in the last round it was the first time in three years Wolves had managed to overcome a lower league team in the Cloth Cap Cup. Well Jackett's boys are now on a roll having this time beaten lower league Barnet in the second round.

It turned out to be an easy night for the Wolves as they dominated the majority of the play, and the stall was set in the 3rd minute when they took the lead. Le Fondre intercepted a misplaced ball in the Barnet area, he then unselfishly rolled the ball across the face of goal to Enobakhare who had the simple task of tapping his shot into the empty net from six yards.

Barnet rarely threatened and Ojo had a couple of chances to extend Wolves lead, he wastefully fired over the bar in the 21st minute and then did the same two minutes later after cashing in on a slip by Vilhete. Wolves continued to dominate and created several openings leading up to the half-time break, all of which were spurned, this was highlighted in the 40th minute when Doherty did everything right when lobbing the keeper only to see the ball drop on to the roof of the net.

The onslaught continued after the break with Stephens in the Barnet goal single-handedly keeping Wolves at bay, but he could do nothing on the hour mark when Ojo made amends for his first-half misses by extending the lead. Again it was Le Fondre who set up the chance when winning the ball on the right wing before picking out Ojo whose shot from the edge of the area went in off the post.

That goal looked like game set and match with the prospect of a goal fest in the last quarter of the game, but slack defending gave Barnet a lifeline when a corner wasn't cleared and Dembele fired home from close range in the 76th minute. It set up a nervy finale but Wolves hung on to book their ticket into the next round.



Opinion: Middlesbrough will be a different proposition in the next round.

Man of the match: Price

Team Rating: 5/10

Attendance: 7,384

Team: Martinez, Doherty, Deslandes (Iorfa 73), Saville (Rowe 71), Ebanks-Landell (capt), Hause, Wallace, Price, Le Fondre, Enobakhare (Henry 45), Ojo
Unused Subs: Ikeme, Dicko, Afobe, Ronan

Bookings: Enobakhare (3 – over-celebrating), Saville (19 – foul), Deslandes (68 – simulation)

A VALIANT COMEBACK

WOLVES 2-1 CHARLTON

Saturday 29th August 2015

Wolves without a Championship win since the opening game of the season got back to winning ways with a 2-1 win over Charlton at Molineux. But they had to come from behind with Adam Le Fondre scoring the winner in the 85th minute to secure all three points.

It was all Wolves early doors and they came within a whisker of opening the scoring in the third minute, Afobe made a penetrating run into the area and set up Henry whose shot from the edge of the area drifted agonisingly wide. As Wolves pushed forward Henry then turned provider when his cross from the left was headed over by Edwards. Henry seemed intent on torturing Charlton and in the 17th minute he left the full back for dead but Dicko took the pinpoint cross away from the incoming Edwards.

As the half progressed Wolves allowed Charlton to get a foothold into the game, although any goal scoring attempts were restricted to long range efforts. The failure of Wolves to make the pressure pay at the start of the game came back to haunt them at the beginning of the second half when Charlton broke the deadlock, Gudmundsson found himself unmarked

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just inside the area and Ikeme will be disappointed that the strikers low shot went under his body into the net.

Things went from bad to worse when Dicko was stretchered off on the hour mark with a knee injury. But with Charlton in the driving seat Wolves got themselves back in the game just three minutes later with a goal against the run of play, a low right-wing cross by Ojo was stabbed home at the second attempt by Edwards. The goal proved to be the turning point as Wolves stepped up a gear with the crowd getting right behind the team.



Edwards looked to have blown Wolves' chance of winning when he missed an absolute sitter in the 76th minute, the Captain headed over from just two yards following a corner from Henry. Five minutes later it was Le Fondre's turn to shoot over from a couple of yards with the goal gaping, but he made amends five minutes from time when Ojo caused havoc down the right and crossed low into the area where Le Fondre was waiting to tap home the winner.

Opinion: Time to crack on and start racking up a few points.

Man of the match: Henry

Team Rating: 7/10

Attendance: 19,583

Team: Ikeme, Doherty, Golbourne, Edwards (capt), Ebanks-Landell, Hause, Henry, Coady, Afobe (Wallace 88), McDonald (Ojo 62), Dicko (Le Fondre 62)

Unused Subs: Martinez, Iorfa, Price, Enobakhare.

Bookings: None

KICKED INTO TOUCH BY A SILVA WELLINGTON

BOLTON 2-1 WOLVES

Saturday 12th September 2015

Its only six games into the new season and Wolves are already nine points adrift of table toppers Brighton, and they're going to have to play a lot better than the

fayre on offer at Bolton if a promotion challenge is to become a reality. Bolton has always proved to be a bit of a bogey ground for Wolves and the trend continued with a 2-1 defeat against a team sitting in the bottom three before kick-off.

The decision by the Wolves board to sell WWLSC player of the season Richard Stearman to Fulham is bewildering to say the least, and after watching this game that decision could prove a massive own goal come the end of the season. It was an untidy first quarter of an hour from Wolves with the back four looking decidedly uneasy against the Bolton attack. The midfield department weren't much better either, seemingly unable to keep hold of the ball and constantly giving away cheap possession.

Just as Wolves seemed to have weathered the early Bolton storm the young Wolves defence showed their inexperience by conceding a goal that even the hungover overweight Sunday morning centre-half would have been embarrassed to have been associated with. A long ball out from the Bolton keeper evaded Ebanks-Landell, bounced over Golbourne's head and fell to Feeney who was given as much time as you like to swivel and score.

The goal saw Wolves respond with a bit of urgency, and in the 22nd minute Ebanks-Landel who seemed to have forgot he could use his head to clear the ball in his own area suddenly popped up in the Bolton area with a header to bring a fine save from Amos. As Wolves continued to push forward Amos came to the Bolton's rescue again when he tipped over Henry's fiercely struck angled shot from just inside the box.

With half-time just seconds away and Wolves beginning to dominate a moment of madness by Ebanks-Landel allowed Bolton to double their lead, the defender threw himself at the dangerous Wellington Silva inside the penalty area and the referee pointed straight to the spot. Clough stepped up and drilled the penalty low down to Martinez's left hand.

Wolves started the second-half with intent and should have equalised in the 55th minute, Afobe broke clear and cut the ball back inside to Wallace who sliced it wide from 12 yards with the entire goal at his mercy. The pressure finally paid off when Le Fondre was tripped in the box in the 68th minute and the referee gave the second penalty of the game, Afobe



stepped up and sent the keeper the wrong way to get the score back to 2-1.

Wolves continued to create chances, but that final touch in front of goal was again missing like previous games. Edwards was guilty of missing probably the best chance to equalise when he was played in by the impressive Afobe, but his close-range effort only rippled the side netting.

Since the last game against Charlton a fortnight ago there have been a few significant pieces of news from our beloved Molineux. In a nutshell Nouha Dicko is out for the season with knee ligament damage, but most importantly Afobe is still a Wolves player, well at least until January anyway!!

Opinion: An absolutely shocking first-half and schoolboy defending all game.

Man of the match: Afobe

Team Rating: 4/10

Attendance: 14,698

Team: Martinez, Doherty, Golbourne, Edwards (capt), Ebanks-Landell, Hause, Henry, Coady, Afobe, Le Fondre, Wallace (Ojo 61)

Unused Subs: Ikeme, Iorfa, Saville, van La Parra, Byrne, Enobakhare

Bookings: Ebanks-Landell (45+1 – foul)

GULL-LESS

WOLVES 0-0 BRIGHTON

Saturday 19th September 2015

Brighton turned up at Molineux as the only unbeaten team in the Championship and that record remained intact with a goalless draw at Molineux. Brighton had lost only 3 of their previous 24 games against Wolves and that position was never going to change after Conor Coady was sent off and the home side had to play almost half the game with ten men.

With the sun beating down the game started like a game of chess where possession

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was more the order of the day rather than goal scoring chances, in fact Henry had the only effort on goal in the first 20 minutes and that was a speculative long-range drive over the bar.

The first major scoring opportunity fell to Brighton in the 23rd minute when they were awarded a penalty, Golbourne made a clumsy challenge on Murphy in the area and the referee pointed straight to the spot. However, luckily for Wolves Hemed's spot kick wasn't the best you'll ever see and Martinez dived low to his left to save, the keeper then got up quickly to block the rebound from the same player.

Hemed then denied Wolves and made up for his penalty miss when he cleared a shot off his own line in the 33rd minute after Hause had outjumped the Brighton defence and played in Le Fondre. That turned out to be Wolves only goal bound effort of the game as they were forced into a major re-shuffle just four minutes into the second-half when Coady was sent off for a reckless lunge on Rosenior.

Kenny Jackett immediately sacrificed Le Fondre and replaced him with McDonald to try and shore up his midfield, and the substitution seemed to work as Wolves mounted a determined rear-guard action. Brighton failed to make their numerical advantage pay with Martinez dealing with everything that came in his direction, he confidently dealt with all crosses and made routine saves from Lua Lua, Rosenior and Manu.

Wolves, who had gone into the game on the back of a 2-1 defeat in their last match at Bolton kept their first clean sheet of the season to earn a hard-earned point, and considering the average age of the back four was just 22 all bodes well until the return of Danny Bath from injury.

Opinion: Great point against the Championship leaders considering the circumstances.

Man of the match: Martinez

Team Rating: 6/10

Attendance: 20,382

Team: Martinez, Iorfa, Golbourne, Edwards (capt), Ebanks-Landell, Hause, Henry (Doherty 90+1), Coady, Afobe, Le Fondre (McDonald 52), Ojo (Byrne 68)

Unused Subs: Ikeme, van La Parra, Enobakhare, Wallace

Bookings: Iorfa (69 – foul)

Sending's Off: Coady (49 – foul)

CUP OUT

MIDDLESBROUGH 3-0 WOLVES

Tuesday 22nd September 2015
(Capital One Cup 3rd Round)

Wolves haven't won at Middlesbrough since April 1951, that's a total of 23 games, and after Kenny Jackett made nine changes to the team that drew with Brighton just three days earlier that tally inevitably stretched to 24. A die-hard 312 Wolves supporters travelled up to the North East, and to put out the second team in a cup that if you win qualifies you for Europe shows total disrespect to each and every one of those 312 supporters.

For the first half an hour Wolves had more than their fair share of the possession, but then some poor defending gifted the home side the lead in the 37th minute. Ebanks-Landell made a real mess of a cross from the left when his legs looked like a cartoon character in a corkscrew motion, and he was duly punished by Adomah who made no mistake from eight yards. It was the second time in three games that the young defender had made a complete shambles of a clearance and gifted the opposition a goal.

As the first half came to its conclusion Wolves again had more than their fair share of possession, but there was as about as much penetration in the final third of the field as trying to cut a telephone directory in half with a pair of scissors.

Things didn't get much better for Wolves after the break and two Boro' goals in a seven minute spell ended their involvement in the competition for yet another season. The first came in the 57th minute when Adomah crossed from the right-hand side, De Pena threw a dummy that sent three Wolves defenders the wrong way and the unmarked Fabbrini had the simple task of firing past Ikeme from ten yards.

Come the 64th minute and it was 3-0 after more shocking defending, Wolves old boy



George Friend send over a low cross from the left that somehow eluded the seven Wolves defenders occupying the area, the ball fell to Adomah in as much space as you like at the back post and he had all the time he needed to fire home from eight yards.

Opinion: All that way to throw in the towel, it could have been Man United at Old Trafford next round.

Man of the match: Price

Team Rating: 2/10

Attendance: 13,368

Team: Ikeme (capt), Doherty, Deslandes, McDonald, Ebanks-Landell, Iorfa, van La Parra (Le Fondre 60), Price, Enobakhare (Afobe 60), Wallace, Saville (Henry 81)

Unused Subs: Martinez, Golbourne, Rowe, Ojo

Bookings: None

ONLY A POINT AT THE END

PRESTON 1-1 WOLVES

Saturday 26th September 2015

Wolves managed to salvage a point at Preston North End even though the home team ended the game with nine men after Garner and Wright were sent off in the 19th and 81st minutes respectively. Wolves laid siege on the Preston goal in the second half but had to wait until time added on for a Kevin McDonald equaliser.

It was a good positive start by Wolves with some slick passing and keeping the ball well, but it all counted for nothing as Preston scored against the run of play in the 10th minute. Johnson cut inside and his shot from 20 yards took a deflection off Bath and found the bottom left hand corner of the net.

The game looked to have turned in Wolves favour in the 19th minute when Garner was show a straight red card for a high tackle on Bath. Any thoughts that Wolves would take immediate control were soon dismissed as Preston put on the tin hats and circled the wagons around

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their penalty area. Wolves' first real goal attempt came from Henry in the 25th minute, but his shot from 25 yards was well over the bar. In another break five minutes later the ball was put through to Afobe, but Pickford dashed quickly off his line to clear the danger.

Wallace forced the busy Pickford into a smart save at his near post after 50 minutes before the keeper denied him again just afterwards when his 20 yard pile driver was brilliantly tipped round the post. Wolves continued to pile on the pressure, but they were nearly caught on the break in the 66th minute when Huggill had a long range effort saved by Martinez.

Wolves were given yet another boost with 10 minutes left when Wright received a second yellow for fouling Iorfa. Wolves poured forward and Pickford made another breath taking save in the last minute of normal time when he palmed Batth's near post header away. As the game entered the second minute of time added on, and just as it looked like Preston would hold on for all three points, McDonald picked up the ball outside the area and produced a stunning right foot shot from all of 25 yards that sailed into the top right-hand corner of the net.



Opinion: Has got to be classed as two points dropped.

Man of the match: Iorfa

Team Rating: 5/10

Attendance: 13,049

Team: Martinez, Iorfa, Golbourne, McDonald, Batth (capt), Hause, Henry (Byrne 65), Price, Afobe, van La Parra (Le Fondre 45), Wallace (Ojo 65)

Unused Subs: Ikeme, Doherty, Saville, Ebanks-Landell

Bookings: Iorfa (42 – Foul), McDonald (85 – foul)

CAPITAL GAINS

FULHAM 0-3 WOLVES

Tuesday 29th September 2015

Forget all that tosh about Wolves taking advantage of playing against ten men for just under an hour, they were already running the show well before Cairney picked up a red card for a two-footed tackle on Le Fondre. Wolves finished up 3-0 winners and could have easily doubled that score in what was by far their best performance of the season.

Fulham started on the back of thrashing local rivals QPR just four days earlier, but the Wanderers were a totally different prospect as they took control from the first whistle. It was as if Wolves were the home side and they created several chances with Byrne missing the easiest on the half-hour mark when he shot wide from two yards out. Fulham were reduced to ten men in the 35th minute when Cairney was given a straight red for a lunge on Le Fondre, and it might as well have been nine men with waste of space Jamie O'Hara in their line-up.

Wolves finally broke Fulham's resistance in the 56th minute, substitute Ojo cut in from the left and curled a shot goalwards which Le Fondre got the slightest head on the ball to send it in off the far post. Three minutes later the lead was doubled, and it was Ojo who this time hit a hopeful shot at goal which Lonergan somehow allowed to sneak under his body and into the net.



Wolves were now in total control and Fulham were left chasing shadows as the ball zipped between the feet of the Wolves players. The icing was put well and truly on the cake in the 78th minute when Henry smashed a free-kick from the edge of the area straight into the top left-hand corner, a great performance from start to finish.

Opinion: We're going to take some beating if we keep playing like this.

Man of the match: Henry

Team Rating: 9/10

Attendance: 14,838

Team: Martinez, Iorfa, Golbourne, McDonald, Batth (capt), Hause, Henry (Wallace 90+2), Le Fondre (Enobakhare 78), Afobe, Price, Byrne (Ojo 45)

Unused Subs: Ikeme, Ebanks-Landell, Doherty, Saville

Bookings: None

THE MAC ATTACK IS BACK

WOLVES 3-0 HUDDERSFIELD

Saturday 3rd October 2015

Wolves followed on from their demolition of Fulham in midweek with another 3-0 win at home to Huddersfield. Two goals from Benik Afobe and one from man of the match Kevin McDonald earned Wolves their first win over Huddersfield at Molineux since November 1988, a total of 8 games.

The way the game started it looked like that record of Huddersfield not losing at Molineux since 1988 would stand a bit longer, they were the livelier of the two teams and pinned Wolves in their own half. Carayol was giving young Iorfa the run around on the left flank and forced Martinez into a great save in the 6th minute, the winger then setup Bunn following another mazy run, but the striker fired well over the bar from eight yards.

Usually it's Wolves who get punished for not killing off teams, but on this occasion it was Wolves dishing out the punishment with a goal against the run of play in the 23rd minute. The superb McDonald picked up the ball in the centre circle, played a one-two with Henry and then hit a superb 20 yard curler into the bottom right-hand corner of the net. The goal changed the whole complexion of the game as Wolves looked to capitalise on their lead. Steer had to race out of his goal to deny Le Fondre as he surged into the penalty area, and then Afobe was denied by a last ditch tackle by Ward just as he was about to pull the trigger from close range.

The start of the second period was in total contrast to the first with Wolves going straight for the jugular, and they could have put clear space between themselves and Huddersfield in the 53rd minute, but Henry somehow managed to push his header wide from five yards after a cross by Iorfa. Steer then produced a superb one handed save on the hour mark when

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he pushed Afobe's 20-yard drive around the post.



However Afobe didn't have to wait much longer to get on the score sheet, just five minutes later the Wolves pressure finally paid off when Le Fondre latched onto McDonald's ball over the top of the defence and he crossed for Afobe to score from close range.

Two minutes later Le Fondre was through on goal again, but after seemingly been brought down by keeper Steer inside the area was given a yellow card by referee Kavanagh for diving. The score line was given an emphatic look just two minutes from time when Afobe latched onto a long ball from McDonald and held off the challenge of Ward before firing home from six yards.

Opinion: Pity there's an International Break before the next game in two weeks.

Man of the match: McDonald

Team Rating: 7/10

Attendance: 18,166

Team: Martinez, Iorfa, Golbourne, McDonald, Bath (capt), Hause, Henry (Doherty 87), Le Fondre (Edwards 83), Afobe, Price, Ojo (Byrne 61)

Unused Subs: Ikeme, Wallace, Ebanks-Landell, Enobakhare

Bookings: Ojo (30 – foul), Le Fondre (68 – simulation), Price (70 – foul)

SILENCE OF THE RAMS

DERBY 4-2 WOLVES

Sunday 18th October 2015

After two successive 3-0 wins it was back to reality for Wolves as they were well beaten 4-2 at the iPro Stadium by Derby County, with the home side even affording the luxury of a missed penalty. After the 5-0 drubbing at the same ground last season Derby again went on the rampage with Wolves defence making it an easy day for their opponents.



If Wolves were going to try and appease last year's biggest defeat of the season then it couldn't have got off to a worse start. After just three minutes the ball was knocked back to Martin on the edge of the box and he smashed the ball into the top of the net giving Martinez his first touch of the ball, picking it out of the back of the net.

It was all Derby and only a super save by Martinez following another long range pile-driver by Thorne kept the score at 1-0. After 19 minutes of being given the run around Wolves suddenly produced an equaliser out of nowhere. James Henry struck a low corner diagonally across the area, Wallace ran towards the ball and sold the defenders following him the perfect dummy that allowed Afobe to lash in an unstoppable shot from 12 yards.

With that goal came Wolves best spell of pressure, but yet again like in previous games their defence pressed the self-destruct button in the 28th minute. Iorfa made a poor clearance to give Derby possession and when Johnson returned the ball into the box Martinez charged from his goal line like a man possessed, and Martin took full advantage of the Keystone Cops moment by beating the keeper to the ball and nodding home.

There was more disarray in the Wolves defence in the second minute of time added on when Bath brought down Ince in the area handing Derby a penalty. Martin stepped up hoping to complete his hat-trick but Martinez redeemed himself for his previous howler by pushing the spot-kick round the post. However his superb save was to no avail, following yet more careless defending from the resultant corner the ball was bundled home by Johnson at the far post.

It was all Derby again after the break, and they effectively put the game out of Wolves reach in the 57th minute when Russell made it 4-1 following some pinball

football in the area. As with the game last season it became another damage limitation exercise for Wolves, and they effectively killed off the game with Derby more and happy to take the points without putting in too much effort.

Wolves grabbed another goal out of nowhere in the 63rd minute when substitute Ojo teed up Le Fondre with a header, and the on-loan striker hooked the ball past Carson from six yards. But that was a token stand of defiance and Kenny Jackett must be seriously considering whether the players who gained promotion two years ago are good enough to play in the Championship.

Opinion: Never in it and totally outplayed.

Man of the match: Henry

Team Rating: 2/10

Attendance: 29,063

Team: Martinez, Iorfa, Golbourne, Price (Coady 61), Bath (Capt), Hause, Henry, McDonald, Le Fondre (Enobakhare 82), Afobe, Wallace (Ojo 61)

Unused Subs: Ikeme, Doherty, van La Parra, Byrne

Bookings: Bath (45+1 – foul), Enobakhare (86 – foul)

BACK TO THE FUTURE TOO

WOLVES 0-2 BRENTFORD

Tuesday 21st October 2015

Thirty years ago a film called "Back to the Future II" was released which depicted two characters called Marty McFly and a screwball doctor called Doc Brown visiting the future in a DeLorian car. The date they visited in this flying car was 21st October 2015, otherwise known as "Back to the Future Day".

When the film was released Wolves had just been promoted from the old 3rd Division. If Kenny Jackett and Jez Moxey had borrowed the mad doctor's DeLorian to travel to exactly the same day in the future they could have also made a film about their travels, except their film would have been called "Back to the Drawing Board II".

Thousands of film buffs throughout the country sat at home to watch the film on terrestrial TV from their armchairs, I wouldn't mind betting that nearly 18,000 Wolves fans wish they had done exactly the same after watching the rubbish served up by their beloved Wanderers team.

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Brentford, who themselves haven't set the Championship on fire this season were the visitors to Molineux but they still went back down the M40 with a comfortable 2-0 win. If anything the Wolves showing was even worse than the one at Derby on Sunday, in fact it brought back memories of some of the dire performances which came with two consecutive relegations in 2012 and 2013.

Right from the off you could tell it was going to be one of those nights with passes going astray and a general lack of interest throughout the team. You would have thought that Brentford were the home team as they pinned Wolves into their own third of the field, and they finally took advantage of their dominance when taking the lead in the 17th minute. Judge who was running the show in midfield had as much time as you want to chip the ball into the area to the unmarked Djuricin and his volley went through the legs of Batth and past Martinez into the net.

Wolves tried to rally but without any effect, unable to string two passes together it made viewing more of a horror show than entertainment for their fans, and they were rightfully booed off at half-time by their suffering supporters. The half-time cuppa failed to alter the pattern of play as the torture continued after the break, so manager Kenny Jackett decided to try and inject some kind of life into his team by taking off Ojo and Henry and sending on Price and van La Parra in a double change.

The substitutions at least brought a response from the players and the crowd responded. Wolves enjoyed more of the possession, but too many mistakes were still being made and too many passes going astray. Wolves still had their finger on the self-destruct button and the inconsistent Martinez nearly gifted Brentford a goal in the 69th minute when he miscontrolled the ball on the goal line, but luckily for the keeper he managed to collect it at the second attempt.

Wolves really should have made Brentford pay for that let-off six minutes later with their best chance of the entire game. Le Fondre's shot from the edge of the six-yard box was deflected into the path of Afobe, but with the goal at his mercy he shanked the ball high over the bar, and with it went Wolves hopes of taking anything from the game.

With two minutes left Brentford sealed the win when Hofmann raced onto a through ball into the box and rounded Martinez before sliding the ball into the empty net. The supporters vented their anger at the players at full-time with the boos ringing in their ears, Wolves need to get back to basics sooner rather than later because if they don't the season could be over by the time we all sit down for our Christmas dinner.

Opinion: It doesn't get any worse than that, an absolutely shocking performance.

Man of the match: Not one of them deserve a mention.

Team Rating: 1/10

Attendance: 18,167

Team: *Martinez, Iorfa (Doherty 78), Golbourne, Coady, Batth (Capt), Hause, Henry (van La Parra 53), McDonald, Le Fondre, Afobe, Ojo (Price 53)*

Unused Subs: *Ikeme, Wallace, Byrne, Enobakhare*

Bookings: Le Fondre (36 – foul), Iorfa (66 – foul)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS

WOLVES 1-3 MIDDLESBROUGH

Saturday 24th October 2015



It's now three defeats on the spin as Wolves season is in danger of going into freefall. However the overall performance was a massive improvement to the previous one at home against Brentford which can only be described as an embarrassment.

After the 3-0 defeat to Boro' in the Cloth Cap Cup just a month ago the Wolves

performance for 70 minutes was in total contrast to the one that night, but a clinical Boro' side made Wolves pay for a host of missed chances as they scored three times in the last 20 minutes to record a 3-1 win.

It was Boro' who made the early running, and only a superb save from Martinez kept the scores level when a Kalas pile driver from 25 yards was tipped over the bar by the on-loan keeper. Just seconds later Kalas found himself in his own area and almost gifted Wolves a goal, he lost possession to Byrne in the danger area only for the young forward to fluff his lines and shoot weakly into the side netting.

As the game progressed Wolves got more and more into the game and in the 22nd minute they went in front following some superb build up play. McDonald started the move with an inch perfect pass that found Golbourne overlapping on the left, just as the full-back reached the goal line he sent over a perfect cross that was met by Edwards who dived full length to bullet a header from the edge of the six yard area into the net.

Wolves continued to press forward and unlike the previous game went off at half-time to a chorus of cheers rather than boos. It was all Wolves as they continued to pressure the Boro' defence after the break, and only desperate defending stopped Wolves increasing their lead. Afobe was twice denied in the space of a few minutes, firstly from a great challenge by Friend and then a last ditch block by Ayala.

Wolves will still be wondering how it wasn't 2-0 in the 66th minute when Henry hit a low shot from ten yards that was destined for the bottom right hand corner of the net, somehow Konstantopoulos managed to get a hand on it and push it wide. That turned out to be the turning point of the game as five minutes later Boro' were level, after defending superbly for 70 minutes Fabbrini was suddenly given too much time and space 20 yards from goal and he let fly with a low shot that beat Martinez at his near post.

With seven minutes left Wolves were dealt a killer blow when the referee awarded a penalty after Byrne had tripped Friend in the area, Leadbitter stepped up to smash the spot kick past Martinez and give Boro' a 2-1 lead. Wolves immediately responded with both Price and Edwards going close to an equaliser as Jackett's troops pushed forward. However Downing put the final nail

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in the Wolves coffin when he smashed in a free-kick from 20 yards in time added on

Opinion: Defence needs urgent overhaul.

Man of the match: Afobe

Team Rating: 5/10

Attendance: 22,006

Team: *Martinez, Doherty, Golbourne, Edwards, Bath (capt), Hause (Price 52), Byrne (Ojo 84), Coady, Afobe, Coady, van La Parra (Henry 61)*

Unused Subs: *Ikeme, Wallace, Deslandes, Le Fondre*

Bookings: Afobe (10 – foul), Coady (35 – foul)

THEY THINK ITS ALL OJO, IT IS NOW !!!

BIRMINGHAM 0-2 WOLVES

Saturday 31st October 2015

After three successive defeats including the last two at home Kenny Jackett decided that the emergency loan signing of a centre half was the order of the day. He brought in Mike Williamson from Newcastle in the hope that his experience could help put a stop to the shambolic Wanderers defending, not only shown in the previous three games but to be honest through most of the season. Super “Iron Mike” showed what an experienced head and leadership qualities are worth with a man of the match performance.



Iron Mike barked the orders right from the kick off, marshalling his defence and showing just what a bit of class can bring to a team low on confidence. Brum started the brighter of the two teams but it was Wolves who opened the scoring in the 12th minute. When the ball was lifted into the box local donkey Paul Robinson allowed the ball to bounce over his head and Afobe latched onto it in a flash only to see the ball blocked by Kuszczak, but Duracell Dave was on hand to slot the rebound into the empty net.

Wolves almost doubled their lead when Byrne set off on a surging run and then let fly with a spectacular effort that flew inches wide. It was all Wolves and Henry fired in yet another effort from the edge of the box that Kuszczak just managed to hang onto down low to his right. Wolves went into the break a goal to the good with their supporters having a party, having a laugh at the expense of the Brum supporters scattered all over the ground in small sections between the thousands of empty seats.

Wolves carried on where they left off after half-time with Afobe back to his menacing best, and after a breakaway deep into the Brum half he laid the ball into the path of McDonald whose shot forced Kuszczak into a terrific save. Brum simply couldn't match Wolves pace and Martinez became a spectator for long spells as the defence also easily dealt with the infrequent attacks mounted by their opponents.

Wolves put the icing on the cake and made sure of the three points with six minutes remaining when scouse loanee Ojo let fly with a low left footed shot from the edge of the area that whistled through a packed defence and into the bottom left-hand corner of the net. The game finished 2-0 and it was as comfortable a win you could expect to see in a derby game. In the end the stats showed that Iron Mike and his defence restricted Brum to just ONE shot on target which begs the question why last year's player of the year Richard Stearman was sold to Fulham just five league games into the season.

Opinion: Just shows how important a role experienced players play.

Man of the match: Williamson

Team Rating: 8/10

Attendance: 18,946

Team: *Martinez, Iorfa, Golbourne, Edwards, Bath (capt), Williamson, Henry (Doherty 89), Coady, Afobe (Holt 80), McDonald, Byrne (Ojo 74)*

Unused Subs: *Ikeme, Price, Graham, Le Fondre*

Bookings: McDonald (58 – foul)

BEATEN BY NOT SUCH AN OLD KODJIA

BRISTOL CITY 1-0 WOLVES

Tuesday 3rd November 2015

After the superb result against local rivals Birmingham in front of the Sky Sports cameras on Saturday Wolves fans could



have been forgiven for thinking that their team might have just turned the corner, and to be fair they started brightly against a Bristol City side who had only won one of their last ten games.

Wolves had lots of early possession and there was lots of neat interchanges, however they never really threatened the Bristol goalkeeper or created any worthwhile goal scoring chances. In fact the only half chance fell to Williamson whose goal bound shot from the edge of the area deflected off a defender and bounced to safety. As the half progressed Wolves fell into the same old routine of playing too deep and leaving Benik Afobe a lone figure up front.

Bristol who were thrashed in their previous game against Fulham weren't much better either and as half-time approached the Wolves supporters must have been hoping that the second half might bring some of the spirit showed at Brum on Saturday. But just as the fans headed for the bar Wolves gave away a dreadful goal that should have been avoided. Just like the away games at Cardiff, Bolton and Derby they conceded right on the break following a total lack of concentration, Kodjia found it all too easy when getting his head on a cross from the right to direct the ball past Martinez.

Kenny Jackett wasted no time in changing the formation after the break with Le Fondre and Holt replacing Byrne and the unlucky Afobe respectively, and within two minutes of the restart the change nearly paid dividends. Le Fondre made a great run into the area and then set up a shot for McDonald that ended with the goalkeeper parrying the ball to Edwards who tapped it into the empty net, unfortunately for Wolves the Welshman had just wandered offside.

As the second-half progressed it became a dreadful affair with Wolves seeming to have a lethargic approach to everything they did, passes going astray and players unable to lift the tempo in an effort to turn the game around. Apart from a weak

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headed effort from Edwards Wolves failed to make any other worthwhile attempt at goal.

The whole night was summed up in the final seconds as Wolves threw everybody up front in search of an equaliser. Holt won a free-kick on the right, but for whatever reason Golbourne knocked the ball short to McDonald with all his team mates waiting for the cross in the area, when the ball finally fell to Henry he almost put it in to orbit. Wolves did have a good penalty shout turned down in the last few seconds of time added on when Doherty was upended, but it was all too little too late.

Opinion: Now that's what you call after the Lord Mayor's Show.

Man of the match: Batth

Team Rating: 3/10

Attendance: 15,517

Team: *Martinez, Iorfa, Golbourne, Edwards, Batth (capt), Williamson, Henry, Coady (Doherty 78), Afobe (Le Fondre 45), McDonald, Byrne (Holt 45)*

Unused Subs: *Ikeme, Price, Ojo, Graham*

Bookings: None

IRON MIKE PUNCHES HIS WEIGHT

WOLVES 0-0 BURNLEY

Saturday 7th November 2015

The arrival of Iron Mike Williamson on loan from Newcastle has brought a physical presence and organisation to a Wolves defence that had forgotten what it was like to keep a clean sheet. Following the departure of Richard Stearman and a string of unfortunate injuries to other central defenders Iron Mike has brought with him a wealth of experience which has already helped steady a defensive ship lacking both stability and confidence.

Burnley were the visitors to Molineux and having won five of their previous six matches looked on paper a daunting task for a Wanderers team having won only one of their last five games. Throughout the 90 minutes defences were on top with neither team able to break the deadlock, the game finished goalless, but it was Wolves who could have easily taken all three points after an impressive second-half display.

It was in-form Burnley who made the brighter start, but for all their pressure they were restricted to a couple of long range efforts from Arfield and Gray that were easily gathered by Martinez. Wolves



looked lethargic for the first 25 minutes, failing to test Heaton in the Burnley goal, but then Afobe showed a moment of brilliance to nearly open the scoring out of nothing. The striker chased a long pass down the right and in two touches knocked the ball past Duff and then smashed in a great shot from a tight angle that had the Burnley keeper looking for the end of his fingers after just managing to tip the ball over the bar.

Afobe's effort seemed to lift the whole team, and after going in at half-time holding the upper hand Wolves continued with the same spirit at the start of the second-half. Just after the hour mark Wolves best chance of the game fell to Afobe when the ball was deflected nicely into his path, but his usually deadly finishing deserted him as he rifled the ball wide from 12 yards. Wolves continued to push forward but to no avail, Edwards, Afobe and Henry all had half-chances but none of them troubling Heaton, and in the end both teams cancelled each other and had to settle for a point a piece.

Opinion: Good response following a poor performance at Bristol.

Man of the match: Williamson

Team Rating: 6/10

Attendance: 20,684

Team: *Martinez (Ikeme 57), Iorfa, Golbourne, Edwards, Batth (capt), Williamson, Henry, Price, Afobe, McDonald, Ojo (Byrne 57)*

Unused Subs: *Doherty, Wallace, Coady, LeFondre, Holt*

Bookings: Ojo (52 - simulation), McDonald (88 - dissent)

NEARLY TOP DRAWER

IPSWICH 2-2 WOLVES

Saturday 21st November 2015

This game summed up all the inconsistencies of Wolves season. Superb for quarter of an hour before giving away a poor goal. Overrun for the next twenty minutes before scoring a goal against the run of play

themselves. After hauling themselves back into it they conceded yet another sloppy goal just after half-time. Got themselves level for a second time with an equaliser 15 minutes to go, upped their game again and could have won in the end. There you have it Wolves season in a nutshell.

Unlike recent sluggish starts to a game Wolves were up and at it from the off against Ipswich with debutant Jordan Graham making an impressive contribution on the left wing. The youngster had an early shot saved by Gerken and then sent over an inch perfect cross that Price just sliced over the bar. However all Wolves early pressure and good work was undone in the 16th minute when they conceded a poor goal against the run of play. When a ball from the left came into the Wolves area it somehow ended at the feet of Douglas who had the time and space to pick his spot and score with the outside of his right boot.

From being in total command Wolves were now on the back foot and they had a massive let-off in the 26th minute when Pitman was left in acres of space just six yards out, but luckily he headed wide with the goal at his mercy. Then out of the blue Wolves turned the tables on Ipswich when they themselves scored against the run of play seven minutes before the break, Graham's far-post corner was knocked back across the six yard box by Williamson and Henry turned the ball in from two yards.

The half-time break did nothing for the momentum Wolves had gained after their equaliser, because after just nine minutes of the second-half they conceded yet another shocking goal. Pitman chased a ball down the right and Iron Mike, faultless since his move from Newcastle, allowed the striker to scoop the ball back across the area, Ikeme was caught in two minds what to do and Murphy said thank you very much at the back post.

The game followed the same pattern until Le Fondre entered the stage in the 65th minute. He proved to be a breath of fresh air when he joined Afobe up front, and was instrumental in Wolves equaliser with 15 minutes to go. The striker turned provider when his cross was headed home by Afobe who ghosted in between two defenders. The goal set up a frantic finale with Wolves again in the ascendancy and they nearly snatched a win when Henry's cross found Afobe, but he just failed to get the contact needed to trouble Gerken.

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McDonald then had one final chance in the dying seconds but ballooned the ball high over the bar.



Opinion: Some consistency required or forget promotion.

Man of the match: Price

Team Rating: 6/10

Attendance: 19,227

Team: Ikeme, Iorfa, Golbourne, Edwards (Le Fondre 65), Bath (capt), Williamson, Henry, Price, Afobe, McDonald, Graham (Ojo 77)

Unused Subs: Flatt, Doherty, Coady, Byrne, Holt

Bookings: Henry (11 – foul), Le Fondre (90+4 – foul)

DRAWFUL

WOLVES 0-0 MK DONS

Saturday 28th November 2015

Wolves' manager Kenny Jackett must be wondering how his team didn't take all three points in a game they dominated from start to finish. It's now only two points out of twelve after they failed to convert one of the many chances created against MK Dons at Molineux. Wolves goals for column seems to have hit the buffers at the moment and this coincides with goal machine Benik Afobe again failing to hit the target, he has now managed just one goal in the last seven games.

The first of many chances that went begging fell to Henry in 15th minute when he shot wide from just outside the area after winning possession from Poyet. Wolves laid siege on the Dons goal and Graham, Afobe and Henry all had chances to put Wolves in front but were thwarted by either poor finishing or the heroics of Dons keeper David Martin.

The best chance of the half fell to Afobe right on the stroke of half-time, he took Henry's pass in his stride and lifted the ball over the bar from eight yards with the goal gaping. That miss summed up the first-half in a nutshell, a half during which the visitors failed to register a single shot on goal, such was Wolves dominance.

The second-half continued where the first-half left off with Wolves back on the attack, Afobe threatened again on the break in the 55th minute but Martin produced yet another good save to deny the striker. Five minutes later Iorfa produced a great run to cut through the Dons defence but McDonald's finishing was poor as he failed to hit the target.

Despite continuing to enjoy all the possession Wolves couldn't break the Dons rear-guard and further chances for Bath, Henry and Ojo all failed to find the back of the Dons net, meaning Wolves had to play out their second successive goalless draw at home that extends their poor recent run to one win in eight matches.

Opinion: Time to get the shooting boots on and start converting some of these chances.

Man of the match: Henry

Team Rating: 4/10

Attendance: 19,814

Team: Ikeme, Iorfa, Golbourne, Edwards (Le Fondre 64), Bath (capt), Williamson, Henry, Price, Afobe, McDonald, Graham (Ojo 64)

Unused Subs: Flatt, Doherty, Coady, Byrne, Holt

Bookings: None

RUN OF THE MILLERS

ROTHERHAM 1-2 WOLVES

Saturday 5th December 2015

After a winless November Wolves got back to winning ways in the first league game of December. Two first half goals from James Henry and Danny Bath was enough to give Kenny Jackett's boys all three points against Rotherham. After a decent first-half Wolves failed to register a single attempt on target after the break, but easily held on for the three points.

Wolves looked confident from the off and in their first major attack in the 5th minute they went in front. Some great build up play ended with Graham crossing from the left and Henry getting in front of Toffolo to plant a header into the far corner. Wolves continued to dominate and Henry should have made it 2-0 just a few minutes later, but his mishit shot from 10 yards was straight into the arms of Camp. Wolves again went close when Graham's corner found Bath, but his goal bound header was somehow saved by Camp and then scrambled off the line.



Against the run of play Rotherham found themselves on level terms after 18 minutes, Wolves missed several chances to clear the ball and Smallwood drilled a shot that took a deflection off Newell and found the back of the visitors net. That goal seemed to open up the game, and Wolves responded with an effort by Edwards that Camp easily held onto, just after that McDonald then flashed a shot just wide of the keeper's right-hand post. United also had their moments with Frecklington's volley whistling just wide of the post after a slight deflection.

With both teams ready for their half-time cuppa Wolves went back in front with a set piece straight from the training ground. Graham sent over an inch-perfect cross from a corner and Bath ghosted in at the back post to plant his header firmly into the net from six yards.

In a second-half of few clear-cut chances, Le Fondre probably had Wolves best effort just after the restart when some good work by Henry ended with a superb cross that the striker headed just wide. Rotherham's best chance to equalise came in the 57th minute as Toffolo broke down the left and pulled the ball back for Ward who skied his effort over the bar from close range.

With time running out Rotherham pushed forward in search of an equaliser, but as much as they had the lion's share of the possession they rarely threatened the Wolves goal. In the end Wolves held on for the win and unbelievably to within 5 points of the play-off places, showing how close the Championship is again.

Opinion: With two home games coming up time to start putting a few wins on the board.

Man of the match: Henry

Team Rating: 7/10

Attendance: 9,759

Team: Ikeme, Iorfa, Golbourne, Edwards, Bath (capt), Ebanks-Landell, Henry, Price, Le Fondre (Afobe 77), McDonald (Coady 86), Graham (Byrne 90+1)

Unused Subs: McCarey, Doherty, Wallace, Holt

Bookings: McDonald (84 – foul)

TRAVEL DETAILS



Provisional travel arrangements for matches during February and March are:-

Home Matches

Meeting place: Station concourse outside main ticket office, at least 20 minutes before train departure.

Fare : To be advised.

Sat 13/2/16 v Preston

- ◆ Outward - Depart Euston 09:43 Arrive Wolverhampton 11:37
- ◆ Return - Depart Wolverhampton 18:45 Arrive Euston 20:55

Sat 27/2/16 v Derby

(k/o 12:30)

- ◆ Outward - Depart Euston 08:43 Arrive Wolverhampton 10:37
- ◆ Return - Depart Wolverhampton 15:45 Arrive Euston 17:33

Tue 8/3/16 v Bristol City

- ◆ Outward - Depart Euston 13:43 Arrive Wolverhampton 15:37
- ◆ Return - Depart Wolverhampton 22:45 Arrive Euston 01:15

Sun 13/3/16 v Birmingham

(k/o 13:15)

- ◆ Outward - Depart Euston 08:50 Arrive Wolverhampton 11:13
- ◆ Return - Depart Wolverhampton 16:45 Arrive Euston 18:38

Away Matches

Sat 6/2/16 v Reading

Reading railway station is situated just over three miles away from the Madejski Stadium. Probably the easiest way to get to the ground is to catch the F1 'Football Special' bus, which leaves just down from the Railway Station on Station Hill (as you exit the station from the main entrance turn right). The bus service starts at 1pm for Saturday afternoon games. It's recommended that you join the bus queue no later than 45 minutes before kick off as all football traffic goes down the same dual carriageway to the stadium. The fare is £5 return for adults and £3 for children and normally takes about fifteen minutes to get to the ground. You should also have the correct fare as the drivers do not give out change.

Sat 20/2/16 v Huddersfield

- ◆ Outward - Depart Kings Cross 09:03 Arrive Leeds 11:25
- Depart Leeds 11:36 Arrive Huddersfield 11:55
- ◆ Return - Depart Huddersfield 17:31 Arrive Wakefield Westgate 18:09
- Depart Wakefield Westgate 18:18 Arrive Kings Cross 20:28

Tue 23/2/16 v Brentford

The nearest railway station is Brentford. This is around a five minute walk away from the ground. This station is on the London Waterloo to Reading line, which normally has services running every 15 minutes. To get from the station to the ground, exit onto Station Road. Take the first right into Orchard Road, right again into Windmill Road and then first left into Hamilton Road which leads into New Road and the ground. The nearest Underground Station to the ground is South Ealing, which is on the Piccadilly Line. The tube station is around a 15 minute walk from the ground, down Ealing Road. Turn right out of the station and go straight down Ealing Road, and then cross the A4. Otherwise as you come out of the station cross over to the other side of Ealing Road and catch a number 65 bus down to the ground.

Fri 4/3/16 v Middlesbrough (k/o 19:45 on Sky)

No Official club trip arranged. Any member wanting to go to this game please contact the Travel Secretary.

Sat 19/3/16 v Burnley

- ◆ Outward - Depart Euston 09:00 Arrive Manchester Piccadilly 11:07
Walk/Bus to Manchester Victoria Depart Manchester Victoria 11:56
Arrive Burnley Manchester Road 12:47
- ◆ Return - Depart Burnley Manchester Road 17:14 Arrive Preston 17:48
Depart Preston 17:58 Arrive Euston 20:19

TRAVEL SECRETARY - PETER WOODIFIELD

94 FARNHAM CLOSE RAINHAM KENT ME8 8NS
Telephone - 01634 363704 E-mail - peteraw@globalnet.co.uk

50th DINNER



London Wolves 50th Anniversary Dinner



Forget the Summer Olympics in Rio in August and the Euro 2016 Football Championship Finals in France in June, the event to be at this Summer is the WWLSC Golden Anniversary Dinner on Saturday 16th July 2016.

Founded in 1966, with our first organised travel being to the home win over Plymouth at Molineux, we will celebrate our first half century at the end of the 2015-16 season with a 50th Anniversary Dinner in South East London. We are, of course, sharing the event with former players and executives associated with the Wolves from these last 50 years, so there will also be plenty of opportunities for autographs and photographs.

Our 50th Anniversary Dinner is at 6:45pm for 7:30pm in the Charlton Athletic North Stand Suite, The Valley, Floyd Road, London SE7 8B. The dinner will be held in the North Stand (to the left of the Millennium Suite where the 40th and 45th events were held) to accommodate our increased numbers.

The mouth-watering menu has been confirmed as follows:

- *Smoked Barbary Duck salad, baby watercress and orange salad, sherry vinegar dressing.*
- *Braised shank of Welsh lamb with grain mustard mashed potato, honey glazed root vegetables and a rosemary jus.*
- *Cream filled profiteroles topped with a warm chocolate sauce, and dipped strawberries.*

A Vegetarian option shown below is also available but **MUST** be ordered in advance.

- *Cream of parsnip soup with mixed pearl vegetables.*
- *tomato, basil and mozzarella filled gnocchi with red pepper coulis topped with baby cress & pesto/roast butternut squash and sweet potato curry with coconut and cardoman rice + naan bread.*

The membership at the AGM finalised the pricing at £55 per head for member tickets and £65 per head for non-members. To reserve tickets a non-returnable deposit is required of £20 per ticket, balances of bookings will need to be paid in full before the end of the season. You can reserve your tickets for the 2016 event of the year at the following website address <http://www.londonwolves.com/50form.html> or use the order form on the inside back page of this newsletter.

There is ample parking at the Valley and Charlton Railway station is just 5 minutes' walk (trains from London Bridge).

50th DINNER



LONDON WOLVES Golden Anniversary Dinner



Saturday 16th July 2016

Booking Form

Please complete the form and send it with your cheque for the deposit amount made payable to WWLSC to

Stuart Earl, WWLSC, 21 Watton Road, Great Cressingham, Norfolk IP25 6NQ

Ticket prices are £55 per member and £65 per non-member. A limited number of double rooms are available at a special rate of £100 per night including breakfast

Please note that all deposits are non-refundable

Please enter the number of member tickets and the number of non-member tickets you wish to reserve. A deposit of £20/ticket is required. Please also say how many hotel room reservations are required at a deposit of £30 per room.

• Member tickets x £20	Non-member tickets x £20	Hotel rooms x £30	Total deposit
Qty	Qty	Qty	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	£ <input type="text"/>

• Your Name

First Name	Last Name	Your E-mail address
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

• Telephone number

Address

Post Code _____

Any Special Requirements _____

MEET THE PLAYERS

