

Wycombe frozen out once again

WYCOMBE Wanderers were out of luck yet again on Saturday in the Berks and Bucks Senior Cup. Having waited a month to play their game in the last round at Slough due to weather, the Blues were hit by the frost again when the Chesham ground was declared unfit for play.

A severe overnight frost on Friday was the reason for the postponement, although a decision was delayed until the referee's inspection at 1.30 p.m. This kept many Wycombe supporters in the dark and those who made the journey to the Meadow were disappointed.

Wanderers were told there would be an inspection at noon, but due to the delay of one and a half hours they were unable to put the verdict on their ansafone service until about 1.45 p.m.

Wycombe have been plagued by postponed games in the County Cup this year and the latest delay again raises the question of whether Senior Cup matches should be played in mid-week. This was the fourth Saturday lost in five weeks, which adds up to a considerable loss of income.

Thankfully, the Blues have been able to arrange some Isthmian League matches before they return to Chesham for the Berks and Bucks Semi-final. Tonight

(Tuesday) they travel to Woking while on Saturday they stage their first home league game since December 3. This will be against Tilbury.

Next Tuesday (February 28), Wanderers are again at home, this time entertaining Maidenhead United in the second round of the Hitachi Isthmian League Cup. On Saturday March 4, the Blues are away to Chesham in the re-arranged Berks and Bucks Senior Cup semi-final while on March 7, they meet Croydon for a home league match.

These home Isthmian games are long overdue and Wycombe will be hoping that their supporters return in numbers. At least the Loakes Park pitch will be in great shape after such a long period of inactivity.

REMARKABLE

Wanderers' visit to Kingfield tonight will be their first league outing since January 7 when they won 2-1 at Tooting and Mitcham. Woking's pitch is reputedly in good condition and providing there is no change in

the weather, the game should definitely be on.

This has been a remarkable season for the Surrey club. They started disastrously and sunk to the foot of the table until Fred Callaghan took over as manager. He immediately trimmed the squad by getting rid of some ten players.

Callaghan managed to tempt Laurie Churchill from Wycombe to become his coach and the results have improved no end. On Saturday Woking went down 2-1 at Dagenham but that was only their third defeat in 13 matches.

Wanderers will be facing two of their former colleagues in Dave Alexander and Derek Cotterill, who are both playing in midfield. Big Frank Parsons, who joined from Staines this season, is the goalkeeper while former England Amateur International Mick Preston lends plenty of height to the back four along side Malcolm Whatford.

Steve Cosham and Alan Morton have both been among the goals but Cosham is doubtful for tonight's game after needing stitches in a leg injury on Saturday.

Wanderers hope to be at full strength and are likely to field the side that won so convincingly at Slough last Tuesday.