

Sports post

HAVING followed Wycombe Wanderers since 1955 when I was seven years old, I was amazed at their secretary's recent attack on both supporters or ex-supporters, and also the media.

Surely, it is the governing body of the Wanderers who are on trial for these reasons:

(1) Although we've had success in the early part of the Seventies and of course in the Mid-Fifties, it's unbelievable we have not won the Amateur Cup since the war or recently had much success in the FA Trophy.

(2) Over the past few years Wanderers have let top players go, like Ken Swain, Steve Perrin and Ian Pearson for 'peanuts' and never replaced them, although I'm certain they could have used young players like Dave Russell, once Flackwell Heath, now Slough Town, and Neil and Alan Cordice, whose homes are only about a mile from the ground and, of course, are now with Northampton Town and Norwich City respectively.

(3) Although we have no professional opposition for 18 miles and only Slough Town in non-league football, we have had no youth policy for many, many years. We even had to borrow Flackwell Heath's youth team for the Youth Cup.

What a terrible indictment on our policy. I have an uncle who up to last year managed a top local under-15's team.

When he applied to successive managers for facilities for training and coaching, or even looking at the lads' potential, the only reaction he got was that they were only interested in 'ready-made players.'

I wonder if the management or supporters realise that the average age of the team last season was around 28 years.

No wonder we were nicknamed 'the old Codgers' by some disillusioned supporters and that our average gate of 2,000 plus in 1975 dropped to around 1,000 last season.

The ball is firmly in the court of the officials of the club and that's where it will stay unless they act professionally by taking action on these points I mentioned.

They should also get a top local company to sponsor them and of course use the new lottery to buy top class players and appoint a youth coach. — **R. Warner, 58 Park Lane, Hazlemere, High Wycombe.**