

Sports letters

Fifteen years ago, as the successful manager of Wycombe Wanderers, Brian Lee clearly enjoyed an excellent working relationship with the chairman at that time, the late Jack Smethurst. Mr Lee rightly emphasised the importance of that relationship.

Sadly, during his own tenure of office as chairman, Mr Lee does not appear to have been able to establish a similar rapport with any of the half dozen or so managers who have briefly attempted to take charge. Perhaps this reflects a lack of confidence on his part in those who have succeeded him. He was quoted in the mid-seventies, for example, as having said that we would have to be prepared for a period of mediocrity. Why on earth should we?

Perhaps Mr Lee is not committed as strongly as some to the club's stated objectives. He apparently once said that he is passionately committed to football but not to Wycombe Wanderers. Whatever the reasons, the time has surely come for Mr Lee to relinquish the chairmanship. Perhaps he should resume full-time responsibility for management of the team. He is young enough - after all, Tommy Docherty can give him a year or two!

**M C Ralph, Widmer End,
High Wycombe.**

AS ONE of the Loakes Park faithful, watching what has been happening this season with growing dismay, may I, through your paper, make some observations.

I believe the main problem at the club is with its management at all levels, and this is being reflected on the pitch. Without doubt, Wycombe Wanderers were one of the great amateur clubs in this country, but now we need a massive culture change to ensure its success as a semi-professional football team.

Surely, to survive in the "fifth division", we must have a full-time manager who knows his way around the jungle of non-league football. He should be backed up on the pitch by a nucleus of semi-professional players who should be paid to attend training at the club at least every morning.

The essential qualities of good management are to provide the right resources and then to motivate these resources to achieve success.

In my opinion, Mr Suddaby's inexperience as a football manager has caused him to fail on both counts. He does not appear to have been successful at either keeping the resources he had or being able to attract the right sort of player to the club. More importantly, there seems to be very little motivation within the players who put on the blue shirt at the moment. How many games this season have slipped away in those vital minutes after the manager's half-time pep talk?

Come on, Mr Lee! Now is the time for you and your board to set up the right sort of organisation to provide us with a good semi-professional football club. You can start with the appointment of a full-time professional manager who has a good track record.

Then I am sure Wycombe will support you and give you a financially successful business.

**Brian Walters, Inkerman
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