

Wycombe Wanderers had played 210 minutes of FA Cup football against non-league Oxford City before fire scuppered the deciding penalty shoot-out, now FA bosses have ordered a replay and prompted a new row



Fire escape? Blues boss Lawrie Sanchez contemplates penalties before the game is called off

Picture by VIRGINIA COOPER Ref: 99-3375DF28

Price war

WANDERERS have lost the pricing war with Oxford City over next Tuesday's third FA Cup replay after last week's rematch at Adams Park was abandoned because of a fire.

Wanderers wanted fans to only pay £5 across the board for the replay at Oxford United's Manor Ground, but City wanted to charge more.

Yesterday the FA intervened in the row and fixed the prices at £6 standing and £10 for seats with concessions for children and

FOOTBALL By Dave Peters

pensioners.

FA bosses ruled the ill-fated match must go to a third game at Oxford on Tuesday (ko 7.45pm) after the first replay was aborted seconds before the start of a penalty shoot-out.

The teams drew lots to decide the venue and winners City chose to take it to neighbours Oxford United's ground.

Wanderers wanted ticket prices

cut for the game while non-league City, who will have to bear the costs of hiring United's Manor Ground because their own ground is unfit, want to make a profit. They wanted a minimum charge of £8.

City Chairman Mick Woodley said: "We aren't looking to make a killing but we do want to make a profit."

"Wycombe charged our fans £13 so we don't think £8 is unreasonable. We're knocking £5 off what Wycombe charged."

Blues boss Lawrie Sanchez believes that was asking too much

for a third attempt at settling a tie which has not caught the public imagination.

Fewer than 3,000 saw the original game and only 2,500 bothered with the replay.

Blues Secretary Keith Allen said: "The minimum price in the FA Cup is usually £6 but we wanted the FA to waive that because it's a unique situation."

"Both clubs have already had two bites at the financial cherry and both have made a profit. To have a third bite would be unfair."

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