

Blues face two of the relegated trio in the first month

WYCOMBE Wanderers will face two of the three clubs who were relegated from Division One in the first month of the season.

The Blues travel to relegated Grimsby on the August Bank Holiday Monday before entertaining Sheffield Wednesday in what should be a sell-out clash at the newly-named Wanderers' stadium on Saturday August 30.

After the Wednesday clash, they then face two tough away games with a September 6 visit to Division Three champions Rushden and Diamonds followed by a

trip to beaten play-off finalists QPR seven days later.

Blues boss Lawrie Sanchez fancies Wednesday, Grimsby and QPR all to be challenging for promotion so he is delighted to have been given a home start to the season, against Stockport County on August 9.

And he is looking for the Blues to end their nine-year wait for an opening-day win by getting off to a flyer against the Edgeley Park side.

And with games away to Blackpool and at home to

Chesterfield to follow before the going gets tougher with the Grimsby, Wednesday, QPR and Rushden schedule, he is looking to have points in the bag.

He said: "We need to start picking up points early and we know we need to improve on what we did last year."

The programme continues with a visit from bitter rivals Colchester United on Tuesday, September 16, after the League listened to Blues' request not to play the Layer Road rivals at the end of the season after previous visits were marred

by crowd trouble.

Wanderers' fans can plan a Boxing Day out at the seaside, when Wanderers will visit the other relegated club, Brighton, but the most popular away trip comes on January 31 when The Chairboys travel to the 40,000-capacity Hillsborough Stadium to take on Sheffield Wednesday.

Wycombe are fortunate that their two longest trips, to newly-promoted Hartlepool on October 25 and to Plymouth on April 10, are both on Saturday.

But Blues fans do face

midweek away trips to Tranmere on September 30, Bristol City on March 2 and Colchester on March 16.

The fixture list has thrown up a big problem for groundshare tenants Wasps though.

They will have to move their home match against Harlequins, scheduled for St Valentines Day, because it clashes with Wanderers' home game against Luton.

● Fans have until July 4 to buy season tickets at the discounted Early Bird prices.

● Former Blue Jason Cousins has left Aldershot and joined Harlow.