

I'm not shocked by Wanderers' wobble in form



VIEW FROM THE STAND

WITH
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Given the two recent tragedies to hit the club, and the accompanying stress and emotions, it's hardly surprising that Blues' form has begun to wobble a bit.

Luckily, none of the four sides challenging for the three automatic promotion places have been able to put a run of wins together. Thanks to postponements, and Grimsby and Orient only drawing, Blues remain joint top although Carlisle have a game in hand.

Last Saturday started so well. A leisurely drive down the A40 enjoying the picturesque views followed by a very pleasant lunch stop in a small village just outside Cheltenham.

The match started well. A goal up after 16 minutes and well on top. So much so, that Blues fans were seeing little action at their end of the ground.

Despite all the pressure Wanderers wasted chances to score the vital second goal and Cheltenham came out for the second half looking a different team.

Now all the play was once again at the far end of the ground as Wanderers began to defend deeper and deeper. The match had turned into the proverbial game of two halves and Blues fans were once again watching a game being played over fifty yards away.

Although the team were struggling to hold their lead, no much-needed substitutions were made and the equaliser eventually arrived. This was swiftly followed by a red card for Kevin Betsy and the arrival of Stefan Oakes off the bench, too little too late.

While the officials got more decisions wrong than right all afternoon, to swear and show dissent was asking for trouble. The double trouble came in added time with a late winner for Cheltenham and the loss of what might prove to be a vital point for Wanderers.

Kevin Betsy wasn't the only Wanderer to get his marching orders at Cheltenham. During the half time break a Blues fan stepped onto the very edge of the pitch to kick a ball back to the substitutes who were warming up.

For this heinous crime he was unceremoniously thrown out of the ground by a couple of burly bouncers.

When are clubs who hire so-called event management staff going to train them to treat their customers with some respect and a modicum of intelligence? After all, the natural thing for a fan to do when he sees a ball is to kick it.

Talking of marching orders, congratulations to Andy Worboys on his great 'feet' of walking all the way to Cheltenham to raise money for the Supporters Trust and the Mark Philo Memorial Fund.