

LAMBERT BLASTS THE REF

BOSS Paul Lambert slammed referee Darren Deadman as he suffered his first defeat in charge of Wycombe Wanderers.

The Blues boss was furious that his on-loan Chelsea midfielder was sent off for two challenges in the space of five first half minutes during the Chairboys 1-0 defeat at Notts County on Saturday.

The 19-year-old was booked for tugging at David Pipe's shirt and then yellow-carded for a second time and sent up the tunnel for a lunge on Andy Parkinson just in front of the dugouts.

Lambert felt the officials over-reacted.

The former Scotland international midfielder said: "I've never seen in my life someone get sent off for making two challenges.

"If you are telling me that his first challenge is a bookable offence then I think it is wrong. He was sent off for something I didn't think was a sending off.

"And it doesn't stop there because he will now be suspended and our squad is not big enough."

Lambert was even more annoyed in the second half when the Cambridgeshire offi-

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cial broke up a dangerous Wycombe break-away just as they were threatening a second half equaliser.

Wycombe had a numerical advantage and substitute Jonny Dixon was advancing towards goal when the referee stopped play for a Notts player to get attention and restarted with a drop ball.

Lambert fumed: "Unless that player's head is rolling off there was no need to stop the game.

"He let the game go for about 30 seconds before stopping it."

But although he was unhappy with the officials he was delighted with his team after they were reduced to ten men.

He said: "I thought we were the better team in the second half. We were terrific when we went down to ten men. If they give that effort throughout the season then we have got a real chance.

"We showed plenty of fight and good qualities but we never got the break we needed."