

Williams gets the all-clear to resume career



Play on: Tom Williams has been given the green light to resume his career

DEFENDER Tom Williams has been given the all-clear to resume his Wanderers career after pulling out of last Saturday's match at Chesterfield with chest pains.

The 27-year-old summer signing felt discomfort in the warm-up and was withdrawn from the team after being examined by the home club's doctor.

He was not taken to hospital and watched the match from the substitutes' bench before boarding the team bus home.

Subsequent tests have revealed he was suffering from a viral infection.

Wanderers boss Paul Lambert said: "It's a relief to know that he's OK. He's been checked out and thankfully it's nothing serious."

After a week in which a Sevilla player died from a series of heart attacks and Leicester's Clive Clarke collapsed in the dressing room at half time, Blues were taking no risks.

But even though Williams has been given the all-clear to resume his Adams Park career, the left back is a doubtful starter for Sunday's live on Sky lunchtime clash at home to Brentford (ko 1.30pm).

He has spent the week away from the training ground as he bids to recover from the virus which caused him breathing difficulties.

He is expected to return to training today but Lambert fears the illness will have taken too much out of him to give him a starting berth against the sixth-placed Bees.

Lambert said: "We will see how he is on Friday but the way he plays and the position he plays means that he needs to be totally fit. If he makes a run after five minutes it will take him longer than it normally would to get over it."

At Chesterfield last week, right back Sam Stockley was promoted from the bench to deputise for him but natural left back Craig Woodman looks likely to fill the hole now.

Lambert explained why he was unable to play Woodman in place of Stockley last week.

He said: "There wasn't time. Sam had done the warm-up and Craig hadn't because he wasn't originally in the squad."

"We were only allowed to bring him down from the stands as a substitute because of what happened, but to be fair, Sam did excellently."

Wanderers lost the match 2-0 despite creating a plethora of chances and playing some of their best football of the season.

A minority of supporters turned on Lambert, shouting 'you don't know what you're doing' when he hauled off fans' favourite Matt Bloomfield to replace him with Stefan Oakes.

But the substitution almost paid dividends with the pass of the match for Jermaine Easter, who on any other day would have hit the back of the net instead of the side netting.

Lambert said: "It's disappointing when you hear fans react like that, because you're making the changes to try and make the team win. I know I won't please everyone all the time but I was a bit surprised by the reaction."

"Matt is a big player here, but for me he's trying too hard at the minute. I've spoken to him about it. I've told him not to worry. I did the same the previous week and Oakesy came on and set up the winning goal."