

Wanderers fans rage against Morecambe fixture change

To the Editor or whom it may concern,

I would like to submit the following letter in answer to why the fixture change for Morecambe is so inherently wrong for all those associated with WWFC.

The principle is wrong, when Wasps were invited to be our tenants there were certain conditions made, one of those was that WWFC took priority of fixtures, 3pm on a Saturday afternoon being the enshrined kick off time for weekend fixtures.

When the constitution was changed the current 500 members of the club were ensured that WWFC fixtures would always take priority.

The fixture clash has been known since July, why were there

SOME Wycombe Wanderers' fans have reacted angrily to the news that Blues have moved their home tie with Morecambe to a Friday night to accommodate a Wasps Heineken Cup fixture.

Wanderers were due to play Morcambe on December 15, but moved the game to Friday, December 14, ko 5.30 to bail out tenants Wasps, who made a scheduling blunder for their match with Clermont Aubevergne.

The news prompted a few angry letters to the Bucks Free Press (abridged versions published below, see our website to read the full letters):

no efforts to re-arrange prior to a contract being signed with Sky?

This is not about not being able to go to the game this is about a fundamental rights that we hold as owners of the ground and a football club. The sooner some people wake up to this the better.

Kind regards
Name and address supplied.

Dear Mr Hayes

I am utterly appalled at the decision to change the Morecambe home game to Friday night.

This will be first home game I will have missed for about three years.

I am disgusted that wasps get priority over Adams Park fixtures, when Adams Park is the home of

Wycombe Wanderers Football Club,

I feel this sets a precedent.

Why can't Wasps play on Friday night?

If they can't, because of Sky TV, why can't we kick off Saturday at 12:00.

It worked a couple of weeks ago with Hull v Ipswich then Hull Rugby league match.

Yours Sincerely,
Paul Burfield Season Ticket Holder.

Do these fans have a point or are they making a mountain out of a molehill?

Tell us what you think at
www.bucksfreepress.co.uk/sport

BAKER'S BLUES

WITH IAN BAKER

Morecambe unwise

Last year I had the pleasure of attending Wycombe's second round FA Cup surrender at Edgeley Park, Stockport. A terrible match played in front of a sparse crowd, it just was not football. The match of course was played on a Friday night thanks to Sale Sharks, who groundshare with Stockport.

I remember feeling so angry that Wycombe fans were forced to travel so far on a Friday night for what was one of our biggest matches of the season. This is the reason I feel so sorry for Morecambe supporters.

A 450 mile round trip on a Friday night just before Christmas is just not fair on our visitors. If it was Wycombe, as supporters, we would rightly kick up a fuss.

As you can gather I am angry that the club have decided to move the Morecambe match in December thanks to an error made by Wasps. On this evidence, it appears that Wycombe are so desperate to keep Wasps on side that they would do anything to help them. Wasps made the error so Wycombe supporters and Morecambe supporters should not be the ones that suffer thanks to it.

A precedent has now been set. If Wycombe are finding it difficult to say no to Wasps, what happens if Wasps suggest to Wycombe that a particular Wasps game should be switched to a Saturday? Maybe it would be financially beneficial to both parties. But a nightmare for Wycombe supporters.

Although frustrated, I can see why Wycombe have agreed to Wasps' request and hope that it is a one-off.

My anger at the decision was nothing compared to my mood when I saw the club's press release on the matter. The club must have hired the best PR team in the business with what they produced – an article pointing out all the positives concerning Friday night football. Do they really think their fans are stupid?

What riled me most was Steve Hayes' quote: "We have canvassed the views of many supporters and the majority agree." That's funny given that the two Trusts were consulted and told the club of their objections. I know of only a few supporters in favour of the decision. How do you quantify that statement, Mr Hayes?

Ian Baker is on the board of the Supporters Trust. For details about the Trust and how to join see www.wwst.org.



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Wycombe's wounded animals bid to bite back

BLUES will bare their teeth against Grimsby tomorrow as they look to draw a line under defeat at Peterborough last week.

They have a record of bouncing back from defeat and manager Paul Lambert has told his team to do it again.

He said: "When you're a wounded animal you tend to come out with the bit between your teeth.

"You have to bounce back really quickly when you lose and we've done that this season."

Wycombe have already followed defeats to Chesterfield and Barnet with victories over Brentford and Notts County and now need to make it three in a row.

Lambert said: "You can't let it

get on top of you. Whether you win lose or draw, you have to put it aside and get on with the next one.

"Grimsby will be different to Peterborough.

"Peterborough are one of the best teams in the division and are expected to be up there, but Grimsby will have their own problems that we'll have to contain.

"We've had them watched a few times and know it will be a tough game. But we're at home so the onus is on us to try and win it.

"We'll have to make the running, but we're playing well enough to go and win."

Defender Will Antwi could be back on the bench after playing the Reserves in midweek.



Pick me up: Wanderers want to show their bouncebackability against Grimsby tomorrow

Picture supplied

Grimsby 'too soon' for Easter

JERMAINE Easter has returned from Wales to Wycombe but won't be considered tomorrow.

Paul Lambert said: "It will be too soon. I haven't had a chance to speak to him since he's been away so the situation is just the same."

Plymouth are out the equation now, but Lambert admits there has been other interest.

He said: "We've had a couple of calls about him since he's been on international duty. They've asked what the situation was but not come back and said what they're looking for. I'm not interested in a loan."

Brown and Ryan return to haunt their former employers

BLUES legends Keith Ryan and Steve Brown were back at Adams Park this week to guide their new team to victory.

QPR Reserves shaded Wycombe's Reserves 1-0 in a Pontins Holiday Combination fixture on Tuesday evening.

The good news for Blues fans is that defender Will Antwi came through another game unscathed as he fights his way to fitness after being sidelined since January.

The home team dominated for

Wycombe Reserves

long spells of the game, but were undone when a defensive error gifted Rangers their winner midway through the first half.

Derek Duncan might have given Wycombe the lead after two minutes, drawing a save from visiting keeper Jake Cole.

Duncan had another chance from a free-kick after Cole had handled outside his error but

failed to clear the wall.

And Blues paid a heavy price after 15 minutes, when Lewis Christon gave the ball away to Kieron St. Aimie.

The QPR forward ran from inside his own half to finish past Przemyslaw Kazimierzczak.

Duncan had a chance to equalise before the interval, heading wide from Matthew Phillips' cross.

Reuben Reid came into the game more in the second period as the home side pushed for an equaliser

and had a great chance to score it after 70 minutes.

Antwi won the ball before feeding Duncan, and his cross to the back post found Reid arriving at pace, but the on-loan Plymouth man could only head over the bar.

Calum Botham and Scott Shulton might also have levelled it for Blues before the end, but Rangers held on for the victory.

Wycombe Reserves are next in action on October 23 when they travel to Millwall.

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