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WEALDSTONE still in third after Eastleigh defeat



Wealdstone are third in the National League despite defeat away at Eastleigh on Tuesday evening

Picture: Action Images

Gould makes it to third round

SNOOKER PLAYER SAILS PAST MCLEOD IN ROUND TWO



Martin Gould Picture: Action Images

MARTIN Gould made it to the third round of the Northern Ireland open with a convincing 4-1 victory over Rory McLeod.

The Pinner snooker star made a break of over 50 in every frame of the match to comfortably win the second round tie and continue his progression in the tournament.

He reached the second round with a 4-0 win over Jamie Clarke to make amends for last week's first round defeat against Ding Junhui in the German Masters qualifiers.

Gould improved as the behind closed doors contest went on and crafted breaks of 61, 85 and 117 in consecutive frames to book his place in the last 64.

The evergreen Gould, also a talented darts player, took a scrappy first frame after racking up 96 points against the world No.92.

But he then started to hit the straps that saw him win the 2016 German Masters as those two half century visits, followed by 117, blew his opponent away at Milton Keynes' Marshall Arena.

Gould reached the second round of the World Championship in June and has endured a bumpy ride since the busy snooker circuit resumed after lockdown. He reached the final of the European Masters in the first full ranking event of the season – losing a 9-8 thriller against three-time world champion Mark Selby – but slumped to a shock first round defeat at the English Open against world No.112 Steven Hallworth.

That result against 14-time ranking event winner Ding then followed but Gould looked back to his best as he took to the table at the second Home Nations event of the campaign.

Stones lose at Eastleigh

By Ryan Gray

CAV Miley and Sam Smart were both on target as Eastleigh beat Wealdstone 2-0 on Tuesday night at the Silverlake Stadium, with the hosts finishing the game with ten men.

The defeat was Stones' first in the league in six matches, with their previous five all resulting in three points, meaning they are still up to third in the table, among the playoff places, despite the loss.

They went close to establishing an early advantage when a loose back pass from Alex Wynter nearly ended up creeping into the Spitfires' net, but goalkeeper Joe McDonnell managed to clamber back in time to clear the ball away from the goal-line at the last second.

At the other end, it was Miley who had Eastleigh's best effort of the first quarter of the game but his shot curled just past the post, with Harry Isted beaten, while Ben House found the side-netting.

Wealdstone forward Danny Parish had the ball in the back of the Eastleigh net with 22 minutes on the clock but his

strike was ruled out for an offside in the build-up.

It took until midway through the second-half for the deadlock to finally be broken, with Miley pouncing on a loose ball in the box to fire home past Isted.

Wealdstone almost replied immediately, with substitute Ross Lafayette making an impact shortly after his arrival, picking out Parish in the box, only for his shot to be blocked en route to goal.

Smart netted a second in stoppage time for the hosts, rounding off a swift counter-attack, moments after they had Michael Green sent off, to seal the National League points for the home side.

Stones will get a chance to bounce back from the defeat when they return to action on Saturday, November 21, when they host Sutton United at the Vale, in a 5.20pm kickoff, which will be televised live on BT Sport.

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