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Waddock has insisted that "change in mentality" is required if his side are to be successful this season

Waddock yearns for mentality shift after League Cup defeat

WEALDSTONE manager Gary Waddock insisted that a "change in mentality" is key if his side is to be successful this season after the 3-1 National League Cup defeat to Wolves U21s.

After losing at home to Harrogate Town on Saturday by the same scoreline, Waddock felt that it was time to freshen the team up and give the younger talent a chance to impress in a heavily rotated line-up, leading to questions about how seriously he took the competition.

"We put a lot of younger players on to give them the experience, but we got ourselves into a position where we could have gone on and won the game," Waddock told the club website. "We had a lot of chances in the first half, but I had to give credit to Wolves. They are a team that did really well in the second half, and they came out deserved winners."

"Tonight is a reality check for everybody. We have to change our mentality throughout this football club, and that was evident tonight."

National League clubs par-

FOOTBALL

By Tom Norton
Sports correspondent

ticipating in domestic cups can throw the cat amongst the pigeons due to a lack of squad depth and the priority focus on the league campaign, but Waddock pushed back on the idea that he had loosened his grip on his players ahead of the defeat to Wolves U21s.

Speaking in his post-match interview, the Stones boss said: "I think you could see with the starting line-up that I take every game seriously. I took it seriously, and with the selection it was serious. We got ourselves into a position in the first half where we created a lot of chances and we had a lot of the ball in the final third and a lot of set plays."

"We weren't able to take those chances, and we lost that killer instinct. We scored in the early phase of the second half, and we put ourselves in a good position but came away losing the game. I'm really disappointed with

that, but you have to give credit to Wolves."

Wealdstone travel south on Saturday to face Worthing in the National League after the latter picked up an impressive three points last week in a pulsating 3-2 victory.

"It's going to be a challenging game because they're a good side and there's no doubt about that. They got a great result up at Carlisle, and we're going to play on a pitch that is like 3G. It's going to be difficult for us and a big challenge," said Waddock.

"We have to stand up to the challenge and have a different mentality."

The Stones are yet to taste victory in the National League this season after drawing and losing their opening two fixtures to AFC Fylde and Harrogate Town, respectively.

Waddock has overseen a recruitment drive over the summer, which has led to higher expectations among those senior to him at the club, and a win this weekend will surely ease the pressure on the 64-year-old.



Abdulmalik netted once and registered an assist

Matt Rush stars as Boreham Wood secure dominant win

FOOTBALL

A Matt Rush brace helped Boreham Wood secure their first win of the season as they ran out 3-1 winners at FC Halifax Town, wrote Jack Patmore.

The 25-year-old netted a hat-trick in the 3-3 draw with Tamworth on opening day and he continued his fine start to the campaign with another goal just before the break, tapping home Zak Brunt's delivery.

Although Ben Tollitt brought Halifax level six minutes into the second half, Abdulmalik restored the one-goal cushion with a thunderous strike - his first start since a £1 million bid from Swedish outfit Djurgardens was rejected recently.

Rush got on the scoresheet once again six minutes from time as Abdulmalik turned

provider as he put it on a plate for the ex-Southend United striker who bundled home.

Luke Garrard's side start the defence of their National League Cup crown against Leeds United Under-21's on Tuesday, before they are on the road in the league for the second week running to lock horns with Forest Green Rovers.

Elsewhere in the Enterprize National League, newly-promoted Hornchurch continued their winning start to the campaign with a 2-1 victory at Barrow.

Southend United also picked up another three points as Josh Popoola netted the only goal of the game against Scunthorpe United.

Herne Bay though to next round of the cup

FOOTBALL

HERNE BAY'S stunning second-half comeback, from a two-goal deficit for Broadfields United, saw them reach the next round.

Spurred on by an early goal, the visitors controlled the first half, allowing Bay to bring the ball forward and hitting back on the break.

As early as the 6th-minute a break saw a cross pulled back to the edge of the box, which allowed Lucas Miller to volley into the top-corner.

The lead was then doubled when Bay's error found Miller,

who raced towards Coleman before passing to Jayde Crotty to finish.

Bay followed with a superb run by Rhys Wyborn, before Emmanuel Robe crossed and Joe Taylor flicked on for Jacob Lambert to score.

Two Taylor goals followed, the first a fired volley from and the second seeing him break free to slot past the keeper in emphatic fashion.