

SPORT

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FOOTBALL: Bartlett calls for quick improvement Bartlett: Stones have underachieved so far

HONEST Wealdstone boss Gordon Bartlett admits his side have underachieved so far this season and has called on his players to take responsibility for improving their form or risk being replaced.

A 1-1 draw at Basingstoke Town on Saturday left the Stones third bottom of the National League South with seven points from 10 games.

Bartlett has maintained throughout the first two months of the season that performances rather than results are the measure of where his side are, but knows they have not been good enough so far.

He said: "We have a chance of achieving better things but we have under achieved. Collectively we have to take responsibility for that."

"On Saturday I felt over 90 minutes the players let themselves and the fans down."

Asked what had disappointed him in the performance against Basingstoke, Bartlett said: "Our ball retention has been poor; our lack of energy and desire was my concern on Saturday. The game was there for the taking."

"We're 10 games in now and there

By Tom Bodell

is a lot more to come. We were down here at this stage last season and I signed one or two to get out of trouble.

"No-one can say they haven't had a chance because everyone has been left out at some point this season. I am sure we have got the players to turn it around."

"Results are better than they were earlier in the season and I am very much performance based."

Bartlett continued: "We have got a far stronger squad at this stage than we had last season but they fact is we are not doing as well as we would all like."

"We have not achieved enough and they have to accept that. We have got to work that little bit harder. If they don't soon they I might have to bring others in."

One player Bartlett has signed recently is Cambridge United's young midfielder Matt Lowe.

He was a second half substitute at Basingstoke after his journey to Hampshire took him four-and-a-half hours due to traffic.

"It was typical of our season," admitted Bartlett.



Gordon Bartlett has ruled out moving for replacements at this stage following a stuttering start. Picture: Steve Foster/Wealdstone FC

Wins send Boro up to third

TWO WINS IN A WEEK MEAN STEVE BAKER'S HARROW AFTER FLYING HIGH

HARROW Borough's incredible start to the Isthmian Premier Division season continued apace this week as they picked up back-to-back victories.

After picking up a 4-2 victory at Needham Market on Saturday, Steve Baker's men then clinched a 1-0 win at Merstham on Tuesday, their fourth league win in succession.

That victory lifts the Reds up to third, just two points behind leaders Grays Athletic after ten games.

A hard-fought win at Moatside was secured thanks to captain Marc Charles-Smith's strike.

The decisive goal arrived after 47 minutes, Lewis Driver flicked on a long ball for Charles-Smith galloped clear of the defence and chipped beyond Merstham goalkeeper Jack Howard.

On Saturday Boro bounced back from the disappointment of their FA Cup defeat with victory in Ipswich.

Driver got the opener after 11 minutes.

In the second half Charles-Smith doubled up with a bullet header before Spencer McCall shot low beyond keeper Shaun Phillips for a third early in the second period.

However, Needham refused to roll over and Kem Izzet and Sam Newson netted.

But Charles-Smith grabbed his second to seal the win.

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If a task is performed in the consciousness that God is my companion then the impossible becomes possible.

a) Month 1
Month 3
Month 6
after 12 months

HARROW
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