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WEALDSTONE: One win from first round proper Cup tie is 'massively' important to the club

WEALDSTONE boss Gordon Bartlett admits their FA Cup fourth qualifying round tie at home to Bognor Regis Town on Saturday is massively important for the club.

The Stones are one win away from a place in the first round of the competition and the financial incentives are lucrative for a side described by Bartlett as punching above their weight in the National League South.

Bartlett said: "It's massively important for us and I hope we can become the giantkillers if we can get through to the next round.

"There is the possibility of a great prize at the end of it with the financial implications and potential gate receipts. But it also gives us a little bit of prestige as well."

Bognor are fifth in the Ryman Premier Division but Bartlett is taking nothing for granted.

The manager said: "People are saying we're favourites but Bognor have beaten a Conference North and South team to get this far and they're a good footballing side."

Cambridge United midfielder Matt Lowe has completed his one-month loan at the Stones but Bartlett will talk to the League Two

By Simon Mail

club to see if the midfielder can rejoin them again in time for the cup tie.

The Stones made it five consecutive wins after a 2-1 victory at Havant & Waterlooville on Saturday.

Goals from Bradley Hudson-Odoi and Jefferson Louis fired them to victory although Wealdstone had to hold on after Elliott Godfrey was shown a straight red card for a dangerous tackle.

Bartlett said: "Havant are pretty much a full time club and that's what we're trying to aspire to. But now we are above them in the table so it was a very important result.

"It is very evident we are punching above our weight but we will continue to strive to compete with the big boys."

Wealdstone announced a major sponsorship deal which will see Grosvenor Vale renamed the Freebets.co.uk Stadium.

It covers an initial one-year period with the option of another year. The new sponsor first engaged with the Stones after working with the Wealdstone Raider.



Wealdstone host Bognor Regis Town in the fourth qualifying round of the FA Cup on Saturday. Picture: STEVE FOSTER/WEALDSTONE FC

Manager's message: Stay calm

BOROUGH BOSS IS UNPERTURBED AND UPBEAT IN FACE OF RUN OF DEFEATS

HARROW Borough manager Steve Baker insists there is no need to panic despite his side losing their last four matches.

The Reds suffered a 2-0 home defeat to Merstham on Tuesday night and were also beaten 1-0 at Ryman Premier Division leaders Canvey Island on Saturday.

But Baker has every faith in his team and is not concerned about the run leading to any long-term problems.

Baker said: "I'm not overly unhappy with the performances. The disappointing thing is we haven't taken our chances and each goal has been an individual error.

"It's something we have to address but there is a common theme and there is nothing drastically required."

The Boro manager added: "The boys' effort and attitude is first class. It's the same group that did so well last year and the same players which started off this season really well so we don't need to panic."

Their next match does not get any easier on Saturday when they travel to fourth-placed Hampton and Richmond Borough but their manager remains upbeat.

Baker said: "We are not a million miles away but we just need to bounce back quite quickly.

"We just have to keep working hard and then I'm sure the results will soon turn for us."

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