

SPORT

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EFL vote opens door for Wealdstone promotion



The wait goes on for Wealdstone after English Football League vote

Picture: MontImageMedia

League enters new partnership

NEW DEAL COULD OFFER MERCHANDISING CHANCES



Picture: Bruce Viveash

HARROW Borough FC could soon receive a revenue boost after the Southern League announced a new ticketing partnership with the leading ticketing and merchandise provider in non-league football, Kaizen.

The Southern League say they hope the deal will increase merchandising opportunities for teams, as they look for ways to bring in vital revenue in preparation for the 2020/21 season, whenever that begins.

It is also hoped that the deal will help clubs operate using far less cash.

A statement released by the Southern League on the new deal states: "The purpose of this partnership is to help our member clubs to increase income, reduce cash handling and help to grow fan bases. The league's agreement with Kaizen comes at a crucial time as we look to assist in planning for football's return. Kaizen can help clubs to sell anything they want to their fans."

"The league is strongly advocating that clubs use Kaizen's services next season."

The deal sees Kaizen offering the league's member clubs services at a reduced rate, with half of the fees donated back to the Southern League.

Terry Barratt, chairman of the Southern League, said: "Everyone connected to the Southern League is delighted to be partnering with Kaizen Ticketing. This new agreement will improve and modernise the operations of all clubs who chose to use their services and we would urge them to do so. We view this as a substantive and helpful move forward at a time when it cannot be needed more."

Stones hopes get a boost

By Ryan Gray

WEALDSTONE'S promotion hopes were given a boost this week when League Two voted to end their season, with one side getting relegated.

The National League had been waiting for the National League to vote on whether or not they should curtail their seasons before making any decisions of their own.

With League Two clubs originally voting in favour of curtailment without relegation, top of National League South Wealdstone's chances of being promoted to the National League looked in doubt.

However, now League Two has changed its position and voted to keep relegation, the knock-on effect could see Wealdstone get the chance to take the step up.

The side that will be relegated from League Two has yet to be decided, however, with Stevenage bottom of the league currently, but Macclesfield Town facing a possible points deduction that could see them slip into last place.

The National League are still awaiting certain clarifications before they make a

final decision on relegation and promotions both to the football league and within their own divisions.

One thing to discuss between the EFL and the National League is the issue of next season.

The EFL have stated that for the bottom club from League Two to drop down into the fifth tier they would need assurances about their immediate future, specifically that they will be able to play in the 2020/21 season.

An EFL statement reads: "Under the proposals agreed by Clubs, the 24th placed club in the League Two will be relegated to the National League provided the board receives the necessary assurances that the National League will start season 2020/21 (i.e. the relegated club in League Two has somewhere to play). Due to ongoing disciplinary matters, the final placings cannot yet be confirmed."

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