

# SPORT

Read the latest sports news at  
[harrowtimes.co.uk/sport](http://harrowtimes.co.uk/sport)

## FOOTBALL: Successive away trips bring points



Wealdstone boss Stuart Maynard. Image: Jon Taffel

# Stones boss Maynard drawing on positives

WEALDSTONE head coach Stuart Maynard praised his side's ability to control the tempo of their Vanarama National League draw with Eastleigh despite rueing a couple of missed chances.

The Stones travelled to Hampshire looking for a second successive win but couldn't break down a stubborn Eastleigh defensive unit as it ended goalless.

When asked whether he felt his team should have won, Maynard said: "Yeah, definitely.

"I thought we started a little bit on the back foot, but fair play to them, they came out and passed the ball really well for about 10 minutes, but once we got to grips with it, we controlled the game.

By Tom Norton

"I think we had most of the ball and the best chances".

Asked how pleased he was with the start to the season, Maynard gave an upbeat response, adding: "Yeah delighted to pick up four points from the opening two games.

"A home win and a point on the road at a place which is tough to come to, yeah we're delighted."

Maynard did, however, have some concerns about player behaviour after his side picked up several bookings at Eastleigh.

It came after a week of spotlight on player conduct to protect officials from abuse in the football

pyramid, but Maynard defended his side's handling of the referee on the day.

"We've told our lads to not even speak to the ref," he added.

"We've got our captain who is one of the designated people to speak to them and we've got Alex Dyer, another senior lad and they're the only two who can speak to them."

Maynard then went on to praise the officials and reinforced the importance of respecting them to uphold the values of the game.

"I think we should respect the refs," he said.

"It's a really tough job to do. I thought the ref was excellent today. The fourth official and both linesman – I thought they were all excel-

lent today, but just throwing yellow cards about like it's confetti is not the way to really control it."

Stones picked up another point on the road in midweek after a frustrating 1-1 draw at Bromley.

Tahvon Campbell gave them an early lead inside five minutes at Hayes Lane and had a good chance to double their advantage before the break.

Olufela Olomola could have extended the lead either side of the break, but Saul Kader levelled for the hosts with 20 minutes remaining as it ended all square.

Maynard's men return to Grosvenor Vale to play host to AFC Fylde in the first-ever meeting between the two clubs on Saturday.

## Borough leave it very late to bag point

HARROW salvaged a point with the last kick of the game at Dorchester Town on Saturday, writes Brian Walter.

Jordan Berry made one change from the starting line-up against Totton, with Richie Mbele coming in for the unwell Stefan Powell.

But on six minutes a Boro corner was caught by home keeper Lloyd Thomas, who launched a kick downfield and saw it break for a teammate, with a deep cross met by Shaquille Gwengwe to head past Tyler Tobin.

Boro responded well and levelled on 17 minutes as Lonit Talla cut in from the left and found Excellence Muhemba close to the penalty spot to curl a low shot to the keeper's left and into the net. Talla was pulling the strings in the centre of the park, with Reece Mitchell and Muhemba both constant threats out wide once again.

Boro had a goal disallowed for offside on 45 minutes, before Leighton Thomas was sent off in stoppage time when reacting angrily to a foul by Barsa Mirtahmasebi.

The visitors began the second half well, but on 55 minutes a high ball forward from the right was allowed to bounce a couple of times and Gwengwe went down. to win a penalty, which he converted himself.

Dorchester's 10 men then looked to shut up shop as Boro looked like a brand new team, with passes going astray.

Boro had two gilt-edged chances to equalise late on but Troy Walters shot weakly from close range after a knockdown from Muhemba, before David Nyarko charged down an attempted clearance from Thomas, collected the loose ball and tried to find Muhemba, but saw the pass cut out.

Eight minutes of stoppage time was announced and Thomas went down in the fifth, which led to another delay as he received treatment.

But Boro got their reward right at the death when the ball crossed to the back post from the left and Muhemba, despite having a defender close by, managed to control it and roll into the path of Mitchell, who crashed his shot into the net from 12 yards.

\*Harrow slumped to a 4-1 home defeat against Walton & Hershaw at Earlsmead in midweek.

The visitors netted twice in three minutes late in the first half, but Reece Mitchell hit back on 77 minutes to give Borough hope.

Walton converted an 89th-minute penalty, though, and struck again in stoppage time.

Harrow head to Basingstoke Town on Saturday.