

Wednesday 5th
April 2023

PRESS HIGHLIGHTS

All the news from Roundwood ahead of this weekend's match action against West Bromwich Albion



Matt Taylor

On facing West Brom...

“A lot of the teams we're playing in the coming weeks are fighting for something, whether that be at the top or bottom end of the table.

“That puts something ‘extra’ on the game for all parties and hopefully means the games will be a little more open.

“West Brom are a fantastic team and will have been up there with the fancied sides at the start of the season. They have an incredible squad of players at their disposal for Championship level and we know how strong they are.

“We've produced some big performances on our home patch this season and we're going to need to do that again to get anything from the game.”



Matt Taylor

On focusing on what the Millers can do in the survival battle...

“The six point deduction is sad for Reading, I feel sorry for their supporters, players and fans but it has now put them in a position where they are close to us in the table.

“We all know how tight it is down there and it is all to play for. We have been in this position as a club before and we're part of seven teams who have a chance to get out of that position.

“We've got all to fight for and all to play for. It's an exciting time, we know what has happened in the past but we are looking to change that and write our own story.

“In one of the meetings last week we had a look at our position after a certain number of games in previous seasons and we're in the best we've been in for a number of years at Championship level.

“So we're heading in the right direction in terms of that, but it is also probably a reflection of how this league is this season, it'll probably need a higher points tally to stay in it.

“That means winning games and scoring goals. We're going to need everyone, including the fans, who I'm sure will be doing their bit from the stands.”

Last Meeting

West Brom 3 v 0 Rotherham

Saturday 17th December 2022

Goals from Jed Wallace, Grady Diangana and Brandon Thomas-Asante secured victory for the Baggies at The Hawthorns.

Last Five Results

WBA

L W W D D

Skipper ruled out for campaign

Baggies skipper Dara O'Shea will miss the rest of the campaign with a knee injury. With midfielder Jayson Molumby also a doubt for Friday.

Matt Taylor

On digging in for a point at Hull...

“We showed signs of resilience and moments of quality in ball-use. We know that we have to do more on the ball, but the comes from the foundations of a good defensive display.

“We were pleased with a clean sheet and that we were able to keep a good team at arms' length.

“Even more so in the fact that we got some reward and recognition for the final 15 minutes, which felt like it went on for an age once Domingos had been sent off.

“There was a lot to like about that performance and hopefully we can back it up with some more.

“Viktor only really had one real save to make, he was well protected by those in front of him and we want that to be the case week in week out.

“He's been one of our best players this season, but there are different ways to win a football match and one of them is through good defending.

“The way the players went about their business and work was very pleasing and we'll need another huge effort this weekend.”

On Domingos Quina 'taking one for the team' against the Tigers

“We actually used the clip of Domingos in the meeting this morning, because it is worth watching again. Domingos was there, Cohen was there and there were another seven of our players there who had sprinted back from an attacking position.

“Dom had actually taken the corner in the first place and this shows that in that moment, they were all in. The data suggested that the players were running at a high speed from box-to-box, unfortunately it was to defend a counter attack and ended up in a red card, but it kept us in the game.”



Taylor provides Ollie Rathbone update...

He is okay, he had his injection at the start of the week and did a bit of training on his own on Monday.

Ollie has done a little bit with the team today and aside from the injection, we're in a similar position to where we were last week, where he had a negative reaction to the injection in terms of pain and symptoms.

I'll wake up tomorrow crossing my fingers hoping that he'll be in a good position to train and if he hasn't reacted in a negative way, he will be in contention for Friday.

He's not played for a little while and probably not done enough training since Swansea to throw back in for 90 minutes.



Matt Taylor Other injury concerns...

Lee Peltier is sore and we'll have to assess him over the next couple of days to see how he is, it's a bit of a race against time for Lee.

Tyler has been a little bit more positive, he's been outside with the physios and done 'straight line' kind of work. He has to open up a little bit more tomorrow to have any chance for Friday or even Monday so we are monitoring them two.

Tom Eaves seems to have recovered from a slight hip problem, Conor Washington is not training at the moment with a knee complaint, which is the same as Cameron Humphreys. Also, Peter Kioso did some training today on the back of the ankle problem which kept him out of the weekend.

Ben Wiles will hopefully re-join the group in some capacity next week, so that is a little bit of positivity amongst the bad news we've got but if we had it any other way, it would be too easy for us.

