

Thursday 24th
August 2023

PRESS HIGHLIGHTS

All the news from Roundwood ahead of the hosting of
Leicester City at AESSEAL New York Stadium



Matt Taylor

On potential incomings...

“We think we’ve got one agreed and we’re hoping to have him available as soon as we can. Like I’ve said previously, we have offers out elsewhere, but realistically we’re not looking at more than one before the weekend.

“So again, we’re not expecting more than one through the door before the weekend, but I’m hoping we’ll have made progress by the start of next week.

“We know we need to strengthen, I’m pleased with the business we’ve done so far, but the squad is thin on the ground and injuries haven’t helped with that.”



Matt Taylor

On the start to the campaign...

“We’ve lacked a bit of consistency, but that has come in part to not having players available, whether that be due to suspension or injuries.

“I thought in the first half of the Sunderland game, we looked a really good team with a strong starting eleven on the pitch, but we got weaker as the game went on.

“This next week in the transfer window is a big one, because we need to ensure that when these moments come throughout the season that we can be stronger and have better options throughout the campaign.

“We were a little unlucky against Blackburn, we believe we should have had three points from that game.

“Against Sunderland, we need to stay in front a lot longer than we did. So far, each game has took its toll on the squad.

“I know what I want this team to look like and how I want it to function and we haven’t had the chance to do that as of yet. I believe the starting group will be a bit stronger for this weekend because we’ve got Fred [Onyedinma] back from suspension, so we’re getting closer and any more signings will certainly help us. “



Last Meeting

Rotherham 1-4 Leicester City

Tuesday 9th August 2011

The Foxes came from behind to win comfortably in this Carling Cup clash at Don Valley with Paul Gallagher and Jeffrey Schlupp (3) on target.

Recent Results

Leicester City

W W W W

Foxes in the hunt for promotion

Leicester City will be looking to secure an immediate return to the Premier League and have started the campaign positively, winning all four of their games - three in the League and one in the Carabao Cup

Matt Taylor

Taylor on the six-figure investment that has gone into the playing surface at AESSEAL New York Stadium

"I think Dave [Fellowes] has done a fantastic job over a number of seasons with a 'natural' turf pitch but the demands of the level, the league and the amount of games played on our surface over the course of season probably puts us towards needing an element of artificial turf in the pitch.

"We're getting it stitched with some artificial fibres to strengthen the natural grass and that means that it can certainly withstand the pressures and demands which is put on it.

"It helps us in the poorer weather months and it might allow us to train there every now and then if the training ground isn't quite fit enough to train on.

"It is certainly an investment from the club that should last a significant period of time and should allow Dave to keep the training ground where it needs to be and keep producing a fantastic playing surface.

"I don't think we can have any complaints in relation to any of the surfaces which have been provided this season, last season or in any of the previous seasons. The grounds staff have won awards here and the pitches have been excellent.

"We know the importance of it and like we keep talking about, it is investment from the football club and Dave certainly felt it was needed."



Taylor on the 17-pass goal at Sunderland...

"I was so pleased that we scored such a good goal.

"Hindsight is a great thing but I went and spoke to the bench and said that was probably the worst thing that could have happened for us because I knew what mindset that immediately puts you in.

"It gives you a slightly softer approach and you started thinking football and passes first as opposed to getting the ball back, getting pressure on it and defending certain moments.

"We needed to stay ahead in that game for longer than we did.

"We're showing signs that when we're stronger on the pitch, we'll be a stronger team."

"We have to put them under pressure. Our opposition are to be admired in terms of the way they function as a football club, but in terms of what to expect from them, they're only one game into it like we were.

"I hope we'll be much improved from last weekend. I'm sure Blackburn will improve on their first win and their result on Tuesday night.

"It's still difficult because usually, you're sat here talking to yourself, having watched four league games where the Championship really tells you the story and what you're going to go into at the weekend."

Matt Taylor on...

Taylor on team news...

"The six players that we've been missing over the last few weeks are still unavailable. A lot of them are out on the grass doing individual bits, but it would be a big risk to use them without any intense training going in a league game.

"I don't expect any of them to be with us this weekend. There's only really Shane who isn't out on the grass, because he's had an operation.

"It's not too serious [Haks' injury]. He is one our most durable players and his body is his biggest strength.

"The way he plays within his body is a real asset.

"He's great at running in straight lines and breaking the box and it got him another good goal.

"To lose him shortly after that was a big blow. We lost his physicality and his threat.

"Dexter has a bruised foot but he's had that for a number of weeks now. We're monitoring that to keep him fit and available.

"The rest of the group came through it relatively unscathed."