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1963/4

OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

WATERSHEDDINGS - OLDHAM



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OLDHAM v. DEWSBURY

SATURDAY, 28th DECEMBER, 1963

at Watersheddings, Oldham

Kick-off 2-30 p.m.



SEASON — 1963-64

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME - 4d.

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WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

It is a refreshing change to have a match at Watersheddings, since our last home match was on the 23rd of November against Rochdale Hornets. In the interim we have played two matches, both away from home, against Barrow and Bramley, and were defeated on both occasions. Our players are to be congratulated on going so long without defeat in the leagues. We now hope to resume a winning way, as we cannot afford many more slip ups in this hurly burly of second division football. We have got to get promotion this season and secure more attractive visitors to Watersheddings. The only chance we have this season of meeting first division teams at Watersheddings, are in the luck of the Challenge Cup draws, or to finish in the first four of the Regional League and so take part in the play-offs. To finish in the first four means more matches to play, and the extended employment of our players. The first division clubs play 30 league matches and the second division 26 matches. It is just the luck of the fixture formula that has decreed we meet no first division club in the regional league, and the only advantage gained is that we should, with luck, finish in the first four, having to meet only second division clubs to arrive there. Football is a funny business to be in and luck plays an important part, for freedom from injury to star players is essential if you are to have the chance to achieve something.

OUR VISITORS

Today we welcome infrequent visitors to Watersheddings, in the Dewsbury Club. The last time they visited Watersheddings was in season 1959-60, when we achieved the double over them. Today's match is a second division one and no doubt will have a bearing on the promotion chances of both clubs. Our visitors are placed fourth in the league, having played 13 matches, won 10, lost 2, and drawn 1, scoring 152 points against 180. At a glance at the league table, the chances of promotion lie between Oldham, Leigh, Barrow and Dewsbury, but then anything can happen. The Dewsbury Club appear to have got a very enthusiastic bunch of players, who play with the spirit to win, hence their long delayed entry of again being one of the leading clubs in the game. Our team will have to give of its best today, as as recently as last Saturday our opponents overcame Leeds at Headingley.

THE GAME

Our letter to the Rugby League complaining of the decline of our game, both from a playing and attendance point has created a controversy which we hope is for the general good. All agree that there is something wrong, and that our game today is lacking of the star personalities which always attracted the crowds. Where there used to be several, we can honestly say in our opinion that there is only one today, and we give this compliment to Tom Vollenhoven of St. Helens.

We had better football when we had the tap penalty in operation, but at a meeting of the International Board, they could not agree on the re-introduction of same. We consider that we are tied to play OUR game without the tap penalty, but only at international level, therefore, what may suit the French, Australian and New Zealand public may not suit the English supporters. Let us try something that is better than what we have got. Some club representatives consider that the play-the-ball rule is responsible for most of the negative play today. We believe that experiments must be considered to find a suitable alternative.

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- 8—BOTT
- 9—McINTYRE
- 10—WILSON
- 11—MAJOR
- 12—ROBINSON
- 13—PARKER

Referee:
Mr. M. COATES
of Pudsey

DEWSBURY
(Red, Amber and Black)

- 1—HIRST
- 2—OSBORNE
- 3—HARVEY
- 4—HUTCHINSON
- 5—BYROM
- 6—FIRTH
- 7—NEWALL
- 8—WALKER
- 9—SMITH
- 10—TAYLOR
- 11—LOWE
- 12—RUSHWORTH
- 13—JONES

Touch Judges:
W. Unsworth, Ashton-in-Mak'd (Yell.)
Mr. R. Syers, Warrington (Crimson)

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Presentation

Birthday

INJURED PLAYERS

As this programme is printed before our match at Leigh (Boxing Day) we hope that Malcolm Price has come through his first senior team ordeal since his injury in August 1962.

Vin Nestor will be out of the game a few weeks longer with a dislocated thumb, but we hope to have the services of Trevor Simms (pulled muscles) early in the New Year, also John Donovan hopes to resume active football after a succession of injuries.

THE FINAL TEST

Whilst we must congratulate the Great Britain team on their victory over Australia on Saturday, 30th November, there must be a tinge of regret for the manner in which the game was played, and the aftermath of adverse criticism of the referee of the match. No referee is perfect and never will be, and the referee of this final test had an unenviable task in this game after the non-too-good 'relations' of the previous two matches. But there it is, the referee does not stop them from playing football, it is the spirit of the players, who adapt the game as a win at all costs. We consider that Mr. Clay performed a difficult task very well indeed. We have no room for squealers upon the result of the game, whilst we always like our team to win, there comes a time when defeat must come along, and it is in the spirit of sportsmanship that we congratulate the victors. Would it not be good for some of the squealing critics to read that immortal poem of Rudyard Kipling, 'If', more important the paragraph which commences "If you can meet with triumph and disaster". All like to be considered sportsmen, so let us all live up to it.

MEMBERS' CHRISTMAS DRAW

May we offer best thanks to our members and their friends, our Supporters Club and the Pools Organisation agents, for their splendid effort in making the Christmas Draw such a success. There is evidently a lot of enthusiasm in the Club yet.

May we offer our sincere thanks also to the undermentioned, who contributed prizes to the Draw :-

Mr. C. Schofield, Primrose Bank.
Mr. & Mrs. P. Higgins, Summit Inn, Royton
Mr. Jack Errock.
Mr. E. Rodgers, 51 Queens Road, Oldham.
Mr. E. Brindle, 722 Ripponden Road, Oldham
Mr. G. Gore, 477 Tandle Hill Road, Royton
Mr. H. Jones, 155 Huddersfield Road, Oldham
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Mr. H. Gartside, 7 Ashton Road, Oldham
Mr. F. Lumsden, Cowgate Farm, Low Crompton Road, Royton
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FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES AND SCORERS

Up to and including Saturday, 21st December, 1963

Player	A	G	T	P	Player	A	G	T	P
Dyson	20	69	2	144	Rae	6		4	12
Lord	21		5	15	Donovan	3			
Noon	11	6	6	30	Simms T.	16		15	45
Nestor	21		5	15	Smethurst	19		9	27
Elliott	9		5	15	Cheshire	1			
Davies	1				Wilson	13		1	3
Pycroft	21		10	30	Sims G.	7		5	15
Lloyd	1				Major	16			
McIntyre	19		5	15	Platt	6			
Robinson	22		4	12	Crowther	5		2	6
Bott	22		2	6	Taylor	2			
Parker	21		5	15	Whitehead	1			
					Gaskell	1			

SECOND DIVISION LEAGUE TABLE

Up to and including Saturday, 21st December, 1963

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Oldham	14	12	1	1	286	97	25
Leigh	14	11	1	2	293	117	23
Barrow	14	11	0	3	244	147	22
Dewsbury	13	10	1	2	143	109	21
Doncaster	14	6	1	7	152	180	13
Bramley	11	6	0	5	159	139	12
Blackpool	12	6	0	6	170	152	12
Rochdale	13	6	0	7	132	157	12
Batley	15	6	0	9	147	183	12
York	15	5	0	10	169	173	10
Liverpool	14	5	0	09	132	178	10
Salford	14	4	0	10	122	216	8
Whitehaven	12	3	0	9	67	193	6
Bradford	13	1	0	12	109	284	2

FIXTURES & SCORES SEASON 1963/64

Date	Club	Grd.	Time	F. A.	Date	Club	Grd.	Time	F. A.
Aug. 17	Rochdale (Charity)	home	3.0	29-13	Dec. 7	Bramley (2)	away	2.30	0-9
24	Rochdale (2)	away	3.0	20-7	14	Bradford (2)	home	2.30	
27	Leigh (2) (Tue.)	home	7.0	6-6	21	Rochdale (R)	away	2.30	
31	Batley (2)	home	3.0	44-7	26	Leigh (2)	away	2.30	
Sept. 2	Liverpool (2)	away	6.30	20-9	23	Dewsbury (2)	home	2.30	
7	Widnes (L. C.)	home	6.30	10-5	Jan. 4	Blackpool (R)	home	2.30	
14	York (2)	away	3.0	7-4	11	Bradford (2)	away	2.30	
16	Blackpool (R)	away	6.0	24-10	18	Whitehaven (2)	home	2.30	
18	Whitehaven	home	6.30	35-4	25	Salford (2)	home	3.0	
21	Barrow (2)	home	3.0	35-8	Feb. 1	Dewsbury (2)	away	3.0	
28	Blackpool (2)	away	3.0	22-6	8	(1st Rd. R.L. Cup)			
30	Leigh	away	7.0	0-10	15	Leigh (R)	away	3.0	
Oct. 5	Australia	home	3.0	4-12	22	Blackpool (2)	home	3.0	
12	Doncaster (2)	home	3.0	45-13	29	(2nd Rd. R.L. Cup)			
19	Barrow (2)	away	3.0	21-15	Mar. 7	Batley (2)	away	3.0	
26	Rochdale (R)	home	3.0	13-4	14	(3rd Rd. R.L. Cup)			
Nov. 2	Doncaster (2)	away	3.0	12-6	21	Barrow (R)	home	3.0	
9	York (2)	home	2.30	15-0	27	Liverpool (2)	home	3.0	
16	Whitehaven (2)	away	2.30	19-0	28	Leigh (R)	home	3.0	
23	Rochdale (2)	home	2.30	18-7	30	Salford (2)	away	3.0	
30	Barrow (R)	away	2.30	9-15	Apr. 11	Bramley (2)	home	7.0	