# Match Pack: Watford v Rotherham United

20 January 23

# By Media Team

## **Match Info**

- Watford v Rotherham United
- Sky Bet Championship
- Vicarage Road Stadium
- Saturday January 21, 3pm KO

#### **Officials**

Referee: David Webb

Assistant Referees: Lee Venamore & George Byrne

Fourth Official: David Rock

## Opposition

The Millers travel down to Vicarage Road as they look to build on their 4-0 victory against Blackburn Rovers last weekend. They currently sit 19th in the Sky Bet Championship on 30 points. Their win last week is their only victory in the last five matches after defeats to Millwall, Huddersfield Town and West Bromwich Albion.

Last week they implemented a high press which made Blackburn struggle to play out from the back, a bold strategy that we may see implemented again against the Golden Boys.

### **Stats Buzz**

- The Hornets have won their last two league games without conceding a goal they last won three games in a row while keeping a clean sheet in each victory back in December 2015 in the Premier League.
- Rotherham United ended a run of six league games without a win last time out by beating Blackburn Rovers 4-0 - their biggest league victory since a win over Reading in August by the same score line.
- Watford are unbeaten in nine league matches against Rotherham United (W6 D3) since losing 2-1 at Vicarage Road in February 2003.

For a full statistical breakdown, check out Stats Buzz: Rotherham United In Numbers.

### **Team News**

While Leandro Bacuna returns to the Hornets' matchday squad, Hamza Choudhury is expected to feature for the full 90 minutes. For more information on Watford's team news, click <u>HERE</u>.

For the visitors, defenders Grant Hall and Sean Morrison will be assessed ahead of the match at Vicarage Road, with the latter expected to take part after playing a full 90 minutes against Blackburn Rovers.

# What Are They Saying?

## Slaven Bilić, Watford Head Coach:

"[Rotherham United] changed their shape [against Blackburn Rovers]; I saw that game and they came out all guns blazing and they had that British mentality that I like. They were absolutely full of positive thinking, on the front foot, pressing high and they fully deserved to beat Blackburn 4-0

"They got a bit of luck of course, but when they are more or less brave for the majority of the time, somehow you get luck on your side. It will be a very difficult game again, but we are ready and we are also confident in our abilities."

## Matt Taylor, Rotherham United Manager:

"Your Blackburns, Watfords and Sheffield Uniteds are fantastic games of football to play in. The quality is there for all to see and that is why they are near the top of this league.

"The individual players that they have got and the squad strength is astronomical. It is incredible to look at. They've got a bit of youth and energy in there."

## Head-to-Head

#### Overall:

Won: 14 Drawn: 8 Lost: 6

# **Last Six:**

September 2022: Rotherham United 1-1 Watford (Championship)
March 2021: Rotherham United 1-4 Watford (Championship)
December 2020: Watford 2-0 Rotherham United (Championship)
February 2015: Watford 3-0 Rotherham United (Championship)
August 2014: Rotherham United 0-2 Watford (Championship)
April 2005: Rotherham United 0-1 Watford (Championship)

### Golden Flashback

Goals from Francisco Sierralta, Ismaïla Sarr, Ken Sema and Dan Gosling secured a memorable 4-1 victory over the Millers back in 2021.

https://www.watfordfc.com/news/2023/january/20/match-pack-watford-v-rotherham-united