

# LEE HITS OUT AFTER LATE CANCELLATION

W Y C O M B E Wanderers played no football on their end of season tour to Tunisia last week and chairman Brian Lee is unhappy about it.

The Isthmian League champions,

who had hoped to arrange two matches on their trip to North Africa at least finalised arrangements to play one fixture.

This was against Second Division club Sportive Moktar. But to the disappointment and astonishment of the 24 strong tour party, this was

called off only 12 hours before the kick-off.

No alternative game was arranged by the Tunisian club's officials — Wanderers, so to speak, were left high and dry.

## Cancellation

This did not please Mr Lee who commented: "It was totally irresponsible for them to cancel a match against foreign opposition, having travelled all that way,

without arranging an alternative.

"It was against the esprit de corps of sport, and something that wouldn't happen in this country," he added.

The reason for the late cancellation was the Moktar could not raise a team in what is the closing stages of the Tunisian season, with honours at stake.

"The whole point of a football tour is to pit one's ability against the unknown talents of different host countries in sometimes adverse conditions," explained Mr Lee.

"There was no hiding the disappointment of the 14 players and ten officials in not being able to play against a club from the 1970 World Cup finalists.

"It was the first time in 15 years of continuing touring that we have been let down in this manner, having previously played Hadjuk Split and Panathinaikos.

"Fortunately very hot weather and the news from Wycombe about the rains reinforced the thought that something good always comes out of adversity."

A party of 14 golfers visited and played on the course at El Kantoni, the venue for last month's Tunisian Open. The 'Tunisian Trophy' was won by Mr Lee himself.

If Mr Lee was the bandit on the golf course, commercial manager Mike Phillips encountered real bandits when they stole his wrist watch.

## Camel-racing

Amazingly after several visits to the police station, the watch was returned intact leaving the villains in jail.

This, in addition to news of Fulham failing to gain promotion and the intense sun, were all too much for this touring debutant.

Water-skiing, camel racing and a table tennis competition won by Andy Harman completed the holiday before the final night, when holidaying former club captain John Delaney joined the committee for dinner.

This coincided with Wycombe receiving the Isthmian Championship Trophy at the League dinner in London.

With tongue in cheek, the Wanderers sent a tele-message — "Been accepted for the Tunisian Alliance, have a good night!" This was read out at the dinner.

As Mr Lee commented: "After our experiences there is no way that we would want supporters to travel to Nabuel or Hammanet, never mind Scarborough or Gateshead!"