

## Kaba Score For the Hornets

Since formation way back in 1881, Watford Football Club has played at just two grounds. Originally playing at Cassio Road during their non-league days, a need for a larger ground became apparent when the club joined the Football League in 1920. The ground was constructed within a year and officially opened for the Third Division South visit of Millwall on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> August 1922.

Vicarage Road in Hertfordshire has been Watford FC's home ever since and has been undergoing redevelopment since demolition work began on the old Rookery "Home" End Stand back in July 1994.

The all-seater stadium currently has a capacity of 17,958 but once all the works are completed in 2011, this will be increased to around 23,000. The 2007-2008 season drew average attendances of 18,750 and the manually operated turnstiles were proving to be an issue as extensive queues would delay supporters from entering the ground until well after kick off.



***Rookery End Stand***

For over 100 years Kaba has been manufacturing security products, including electronic access control, security doors & turnstiles and time recording solutions and providing integrated security solutions for businesses around the world. Kaba have created a range of solutions for market sectors that have distinct security needs due to their individual circumstances

Kaba's Public Access Solutions division provides specific solutions for the controlled entry of visitors to public and leisure facilities which is why Kaba was invited to carry out a detailed site survey at Vicarage Road. After listening carefully to the client's requirements, Kaba proposed and subsequently installed 15 Kentaur Full Height Turnstiles - rendering the Rookery End Stand fully automated.

These robust units are particularly suited to secure large public facilities such as football stadiums where cost effective pedestrian access control is required.

Kentaur turnstiles are compatible with virtually any ticket management system from plain barcode tickets to VIP-passes with biometric features. Equipped with card readers, they provide reliable controlled passage of individuals from one side to the other in the permitted direction and ensure that only one person enters at a time, thus minimising the need for staff supervision.

Thanks to our patented end-point locking system it is impossible for anyone to be trapped in the turnstile during a power failure or attempted unauthorised access.



- Turnstile column and bars made of stainless steel
- Speed of rotation changes to match that of person entering
- Functional, sturdy and weather-proof
- Economical low energy drive system

Glyn Evans, Vicarage Road Security Manager commented, ***“Kaba’s turnstiles have done a superb job. Our supporters are now provided easy and effective access into the ground and a more secure environment in which to relax and enjoy the game”.***

Supporters entering the Rookery End Stand simply present their tickets to the reader on the turnstile. The tickets have individual built-in barcodes that if configured, will be recognised by the reader and grant authorised access. Watford FC is also investigating the possibilities of incorporating a loyalty scheme where any points accrued on the supporters match / season ticket for each attendance can be redeemed at the club shop.

The project has been a resounding success and the possibility of further installations at the West Stand and new East / Family Stand are now being considered.

The name Kaba stands for proven competence in physical access control. We provide innovative high security solutions for the access to government buildings, airports, banks, power plants, stadiums and many other businesses.