

Neil Lennon annoyed at Hibs' defending during Betfred Cup exit



Neil Lennon was annoyed at his players' defending during last night's Betfred Cup defeat to fellow Championship side Queen of the South at Easter Road.

Hibs totally dominated the first half but only had a Paul Hanlon goal to show for their efforts after both Liam Fontaine and Grant Holt missed great chances.

The second period was a different story however and ex Hibs' striker Stephen Dobbie changed the complexion of the game, scoring once and making another to secure a quarter-final place for the Doonhamers.

Ironically Dobbie played under Lennon at Bolton Athletic and had been linked with a return to Easter Road by supporters on social media.

Speaking immediately after the game, Lennon said: "We only have ourselves to blame. I'm annoyed at the way we defended, we have to be better than that.

"We have to be more resolute than that. If it is not going to go for you at one end, then at least see the game out. I wasn't happy with how my three central defenders played the last 25 minutes."

"We have experienced players, they should know the game by now. Game management needs to be much better than that."

When asked whether the performance posed any questions about his squad, he replied: "Yes, it does, and we are trying to get people in.

“We missed simple chances and haven’t been ruthless enough. The game should have been out of sight. I can’t put the ball in the net for them

“There is a sloppiness about us in the final third at times and I thought a few players who have been excellent so far were off the boil.”

Hibs return to league action on Saturday when they face Dunfermline Athletic at Easter Road.