

LEE Valley Lions' dismal start to the new season continued as a lack of players through injury and work commitments played havoc once again.

The team was only able to ice two lines on Saturday against local rivals the Romford Spitfires as they went down 5-7.

And the situation got even worse for the away game at Solent on Sunday.

Defenceman Ruslanas Jegovorras sustained a shoulder injury and two other players were unable to make the trip, so the Lions had to cancel the game and concede a 5-0 loss.

Romford had a good compliment of skaters and iced a full three lines, which again took its toll on the weakened Lions team over the course of the game. But the first period was an evenly matched affair.

After some good openings Ashley Curtin fired the Lions in front on 16:50, which is how it remained for the rest of the first period.

At the start of the second, two goals saw the visitors edge in front.

The third period was all about goals as both teams scored freely, adding excitement to an already closely-fought match. In the end the final result could be blamed on tired legs again as the Lions were skating every other shift.

But it was close and Romford were on the back foot as the Lions scored three unanswered goals in a two-minute blitz.

Stas Prokofiev and Romanas Fedotovas, Freddie Trimble all got on the score-sheet to give the Lions a 4-3 lead.

But Romford came back strong and in the end the hosts had to be content with a consolation effort from Prokofiev.

And following the disappointing defeat at Solent the next day, Lee Valley will now aim to bounce back at home to the Basingstoke Buffalo on Saturday.

**For more details:**  
[leevalleylions.co.uk](http://leevalleylions.co.uk)

