

# Bowling Reports to 13th July 2022

14 July 2022

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Vilamoura Mixed League</b></p> <p><b>Epsom played against Sutton on Wednesday 13th July 2022 and won away, lost at home &amp; won overall 34 - 31 (4 - 2).</b></p> <p><b>Details: Home: Liz Hind Brian Collis Phil Sims lost 9 - 23 After 9 ends Epsom were 4 - 12 down &amp; 8 - 14 behind after 14 ends. They lost by 14 shots. Away: Penny Payne David Fearn Fred Read won 25 - 8 Epsom led all afternoon. They were 17 - 7 ahead after 14 ends &amp; won by 17 shots. Final Score: Epsom 34 Sutton 31 Epsom 4 points Sutton 2 points</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>East Surrey League - Midweek Triples League</b></p> <p><b>Epsom played away against Croydon MO's on Tuesday 12th July 2022 and won on 1 rink, lost on 2 rinks &amp; lost overall 52 - 57 (2 - 8).</b></p> <p><b>Details: Rink 3: Paul Maskell Mick Cooper Wayne Thornton lost 13 - 27 The scores were level 11 - 11 on the 10th end, but Epsom were outscored 2 - 16 over the remaining ends to lose by 14 shots. Rink 4: David Fearn Stefan Tomm Fred Read won 27 - 10 Epsom led 17 - 7 after 10 ends &amp; outscored Croydon MO's 10 - 3 over the remaining ends to win by 17 shots. Rink 6: Tony Green Frank Thompson Ted Ray lost 12 - 20 The scores were level 8 - 8 after 9 ends, but were outscored 4 - 12 over the remaining ends to lose by 8 shots. Final Score: Epsom 52 Croydon MO's 57 Epsom 2 points Croydon MO's 8 points. Paul Maskell &amp; Tony Green played in their very first competitive match for Epsom Bowling Club in this game.</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chrystie League</b></p> <p><b>Epsom played at home against Leatherhead on Monday 11th July 2022 and won on 1 rink, lost on 1 rink &amp; lost overall 34 - 36 (1 - 3).</b></p> <p><b>Details: Rink: David Bragg John Savill Mick Cooper Fred Read won 20 - 15 After 9 ends Epsom were 5 - 10 down. The scores were level on end 13, but Epsom went behind 10 - 14 on end 15. However, Epsom picked up 2 5's &amp; won by 5 shots. Rink: John Lystor Brian Collis Bob Blaker Wayne Thornton lost 14 - 21 Epsom were 4 - 12 down after 9 ends, but were level 13 - 13 on end 15. Going into the last end the scores were again level, but Epsom dropped 7 shots to lose by 7. Final Score: Epsom 34 Leatherhead 36 Epsom 1 point Leatherhead 3 points.</b></p> <p><b><i>Did you know?</i> Epsom have played Leatherhead 39 times in this league and won 19, lost 20 &amp; there have been 3 games cancelled. Since the league began this was Epsom's 195th game. They have won 114, lost 76. There have been 5 draws &amp; 11 cancellations.</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>East Surrey League - Men</b></p> <p><b>Epsom played at home against Purley Bury on Sunday 10th July 2022 and won on rink, lost on 2 rinks &amp; lost overall 47 - 51 (2 - 8).</b></p> <p><b>Details: Rink 4 David Fearn Bob Blaker Ted Ray Wayne Thornton won 23 - 10 The scores were level 8 - 8 after 11 ends, but Epsom led 15 - 9 on end 15. They finished strongly &amp; won by 13 shots. Rink 5 Stefan Tomm Terry Hoyer Les Owen Peter Miller lost 14 - 20 Epsom were 2- 10 down after 10 ends, but came within 2 shots of Purley Bury on the 20th end (14 - 16). They lost by 6 shots. Rink 6 Derek Martin Brian Collis John Warren Jim Scott lost 10 - 21 Epsom were 3 - 12 down after 10 ends &amp; 8 - 13 behind after 15 ends. They lost by 11 shots. Final Score: Epsom 47 Purley Bury 51 Epsom 2 points Purley Bury 8 points</b></p>

## Epsom and Ewell FC win 2, lose 1 in pre-season friendlies.

14 July 2022

Reports courtesy of Richard Lambert of [www.eefconline.co.uk](http://www.eefconline.co.uk)

**Farnham Town 3-2 Epsom & Ewell** Pre-season Friendly Saturday 2nd July 2022.

The artificial surface at Kings College in Guildford was the place to be to witness the opening match of the Anthony Jupp and Liam Giles era.

Farnham are a Step Five team and they held the balance of the play in the first half, although only broke through in the

third minute of injury time when a near post right wing cross was converted with a sidefooted volley past our keeper. The half time whistle blew immediately after the restart, and both teams changed a number of personnel and in our case, the formation too. This bore fruit within 35 seconds as a smart strike from the left about fifteen yards out put us back on level terms. We then hit the face of the bar with a shot from the left before another shot took a slight deflection and came back off the Farnham post.

Unfortunately a foul just inside the penalty area gave our opponents a spot kick which was converted in the 73rd minute and then two minutes after we had hit the post once again in the 87th minute, Farnham scored a third goal with a fine finish into the top corner from just inside the box.

This third goal was a little harsh on our team, but in the 91st minute we did get a second of our own when our earlier scorer latched on to a fine pass, held off his man and steered the ball under the keeper from an angle about ten yards out for his second of the match. It was the least we deserved, having also hit their woodwork on three occasions during that period!

As always at this stage of the season the performance is more important than the result, but with so many players absent it is hard to say much more than the scoreline was about fair, largely due to Farnham holding a greater balance of play in the first half. Suffice to say our new Management seemed happy enough with the way things went and that's all that really matters at this point. We move on to meet another Step Five team when we visit Hassocks next Saturday.

### **Hassocks 0-1 Epsom & Ewell Pre-season Friendly Saturday 9th July 2022.**

It is generally accepted that the most pretty ground in the area is Arundel's; sitting in the shadow of its imposing castle. However, Hassocks home ground of The Beacon would certainly fit in the tier just below that, and on a gorgeous day that was probably too hot for football an impressive crowd around the 130 mark were present to witness our victory, although once again the support from an Epsom point of view was really low. This was a pity as the performance showed a clear upgrade from the previous week, despite the heat, although admittedly both teams were almost entirely changed at half time, so most players only played one half of the match.

This was an incredibly unusual result. In my forty years as a regular supporter I can only recall a couple of previous occasions where the only goal of a match occurred in the opening minute, but that's exactly what happened in this contest. There were more new faces on show at Hassocks, including another former Epsom player from 15 years ago, although the only goal after just 18 seconds, came from a familiar face as Athan Smith-Joseph collected the ball some thirty yards out and strolled unchallenged to the edge of the penalty area before casually striking the ball into the corner of the net. It's possible that our opponents hadn't realised we were playing three at the back to start the match and lost track of the extra man we had further forward, but either way we caught the hosts cold with this strike.

From that point, the home team had as much of the match as we did and had a couple of really good chances to equalise; firstly in the 38th minute when a deep ball to the left was volleyed across goal only for the Hassocks 10 to strike over the bar from close range, and then in the 79th minute when a free kick to the far post was headed against our crossbar and as the ball bounced down and then up again, it wouldn't come down in time for the incoming striker who headed the loose ball over. Our (currently) unnamed keeper, who was different to last week's, also had a good game and made a couple of solid saves, but the match was largely devoid of real goalmouth action and this was a fairly attritional contest at times, which isn't always a bad thing when you are leading.

Did we deserve the win? Maybe a draw would have been fairer over the 90 minutes, but I also felt we were worth a draw at Farnham Town last week and we didn't get it! Whilst the actual result isn't that important at this time of the season, I felt we saw the match out well and this bodes well for the future when some of our other new names will be appearing to strengthen the competition for a place. All in all though; sunny day, lovely ground and my team won. Why would you want to be anywhere else if you truly are a genuine and loyal Epsom supporter?

### **AFC Uckfield Town 0-2 Epsom & Ewell Pre-season Friendly Tuesday 12th July 2022**

In my last report I referred to the clean sheet secured at Hassocks being our first in a long time and we have now added a second just three days later with a good 2-0 win at Step Five AFC Uckfield Town at the Oaks.

We had visited this ground before, back in 2009 for an F.A. Cup tie when one half of the merged Uckfield club were previously known as Wealden FC, and it remains as picturesque as it was back then. Around 65 people attended on a warm and sticky evening to watch the home team hold the upper hand in early proceedings, but without really looking like they would break through.

However, the pattern of the match changed in our favour in the 21st minute. I wouldn't normally advise the name of an unsigned scorer, but seeing as he did it himself on social media, I can advise that Jahobi Maher collected the ball just over 45 yards out and launched a strike at goal. The keeper stumbled, at which point you knew instantly that it was going in for a spectacular opener.

Confidence grew from that point and we should have made it 2-0 with a great move, but Ricardo Fernandes blazed over from the edge of the penalty area. In response the home side flicked a shot at goal but our keeper was able to deal with it comfortably and we extended our lead in the 42nd minute when new signing Nick Wilson met a long throw with a glancing header across and beyond their keeper from around eight yards out, and only a great save from the home keeper stopped a spectacular third goal after a good move concluded with a superb volley from the edge of the area, but the ball was tipped over the bar.

There were less changes than usual at the break with only three players coming on, bringing the total of subs up to four at that point after one of our players had limped off ten minutes from half time. One of these was our keeper from last year, Kane Charles and he would prove to be very busy in the opening quarter of an hour, making a couple of spectacular saves, although he needed some help in the 49th minute when a defensive header back into our penalty area enabled a home striker to shoot at goal, but Louis Chin was perfectly positioned to head the ball off the line via the crossbar and out to safety!

We made four more changes after an hour and the contest, which had been a bit niggly throughout to this point then flared up again after one of our players crashed into the hoardings near the dugouts which required his replacement, but the home side seemed to run out of ideas a little and the game ended in a fairly comfortable 2-0 win in the end.

## Phil Walker's final pass....

14 July 2022



Richard Lambert pays homage to the late great footballer who played for Epsom and Ewell FC.

[Photo: **Phil Walker pictured running the line at West Street on 24th October 1976 in a Charity Match as a Dennis Waterman XI defeated an Epsom XI 11-10 with the recently deceased Waterman scoring a hat-trick. Over 2,000 were present along with many other famous names like Alan Mullery, Dave Sexton, Tony Gubba and Trevor Lee.**]

**Photo: Gemini Reynolds**

On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022 our club lost one of its most famous names when the death was announced of Philip Leonardus Walker at the tragically young age of 67.

Phil was born in Parsons Green on 29<sup>th</sup> August 1954 and went to Battersea County School in Culvert Road, Battersea where he met another youngster, Trevor Lee. Their stories would of course become inextricably linked, although had Phil been born three days later, he would have been in a different school year and their paths may not have even crossed!

Both of course connected well at a time when it must have been extremely difficult growing up as a young black man in South London, but the pair would become footballing pioneers in arguably the most hostile of environments, the Den; home of Millwall FC.

Although both were very good at football, they went in opposite directions at first. Phil was working in a factory in Acton and got talking to a workmate who was at Wingate F.C. so he went and played with them, scored in his first match and stayed a while.

However, in 1973 he teamed up with Trevor again at Cobham alongside another player in Steve Jones. All three would then sign for Epsom and Ewell in the summer of 1974.



**Saturday 08/02/75 v Hornchurch F.A.Vase - Won 1-0.**

**Back Row: Steve Jones, Ted Yorke, Chris Page, Johnny Eales, Dave Worby, Trevor Lee, Willie Bennett, Dave Ritman**

**Front Row: Tommy Tuite, Trevor Wales, Phil Walker, Pat O'Connell, Alan Webb**

Our club were of course just picking themselves up after years in the doldrums and had just finished as runners-up in the Surrey Senior League, but Manager Pat O'Connell; a former professional himself at Fulham, wanted our club to achieve much more.

Phil joined our club a month after Trevor, due to a holiday in America, and made his debut on Saturday 7th September 1974 when we defeated Chobham 3-0 in a Surrey Senior League Cup tie at West Street, but it was a slow start for the new lad who only made four first team appearances by the December. However, he forced his way into the team as the season progressed and by the end of May we had won the League and Charity Cup double with Phil firmly entrenched in the number 10 shirt.



**Phil scores our only goal in the F.A. Vase win over Hornchurch on 8th February 1975**

**Johnny Eales is the other Epsom player in the photograph and to my knowledge is the only other member of the 12 man squad to have passed away as I write this.**

Of course most supporters will remember that 1974/75 season for our run to Wembley Stadium in the very first FA Vase competition, where Phil was a focal part of the run. He scored the only goal in our Quarter-Final victory over Hornchurch and the winner against Stamford in the first leg of the Semi-Final, which was won 2-1 and essentially earned the trip to Wembley, following our goalless draw in the second leg.



***Trevor Lee and Phil Walker share a moment at the F.A. Vase Final post-match get together at the Cavalier in Wallington on 19th April 1975 with Manager Pat O'Connell and his Assistant Arthur Evans***

***Our boys celebrate with the Surrey Senior League Trophy at West Street on 22nd May 1975***

Although the day at Wembley ended with a 2-1 defeat, our club was on the football map again and in the early part of 1975/76 Millwall Manager Gordon Jago came calling. The new man in charge already knew of our club and ground, having played against us in the early fifties as Captain of Maidstone United in the Corinthian League. Jago actually took four of our players for trials at Cold Blow Lane. Willie Bennett, one of our finest defenders in club history, and Tommy Tuite, who would become our greatest ever goal scorer were also asked to attend along with Trevor and Phil, but ultimately injury hurt Bennett's chances, while Tuite was considered too small at five feet eight, ironically the same height as Kevin Keegan! Both played matches for Millwall in the Football Combination, before returning to leafy Ewell Village.

However, Trevor and Phil were successful and Phil made the last of his 41 appearances for us against Southall and Ealing Borough (who had another non-league success playing in their team by the name of Alan Devonshire) in an F.A. Cup replay. Phil scored 19 goals in that time. Trevor would return for five appearances in 1985/86, but Phil would never wear our colours again.

Both players were due to sign for Millwall on 13th November 1975 live on the main regional news show of day, The Today show; a programme that would become infamous just over a year later for an interview featuring the Sex Pistols, but back then it was very popular. However, only Trevor made the show as Phil had to have x-rays but he would soon sign a two year contract in December 1975. Both made an instant impact on their debut, with Trevor setting up Phil to score the only goal against Mansfield Town at the Cold Blow Lane end at the old Den, and Phil made 35 appearances that season as promotion to Division Three was achieved.

Despite the obvious fact that they were the only black players in the Lions team at a sad time in our distant past when the National Front were regularly acknowledged on television as the fourth main political party, and even before the implementation of the Race Relations Act in 1976 (which expanded on the previous Acts from 1965 and 1968 and properly started to give some real teeth to the subject of discrimination) they became extremely popular at a ground where the word "hostile" was a tag that many of their supporters embellished as a badge of honour. They remain so to this day.



***Promotional photo from Millwall showing Gordon Jago after capturing both Phil and Trevor from Epsom and Ewell FC***

Both players became pioneers for their club, although Phil didn't stay that long. He made 167 appearances for them, with 22 goals before moving on. Whilst there he was honoured for his contributions to sport by the Muhammad Ali Scheme in Brixton, along with Olympic Champion Daley Thompson and World Champion Boxer John Conteh.

To give full details of Phil's professional career and achievements, it is much better to refer you to the clubs for whom he played from this point, as they will all have written their own tributes. Suffice to say though, he signed for Charlton Athletic for £120,000 in the summer of 1979 before having a loan spell at Gillingham.

He then made an unusual career move in those days by going abroad in 1983 when he moved to Hong Kong to play for Eastern AA before moving again, this time to Portugal where he joined Leixoes, Boavista and FC Maia before retiring at the age of 41. He also told me that the best ground he ever played at (excluding Epsom's appearance at Wembley Stadium) was Benfica's old Stadium of Light.

He also did some coaching at Maia in the early 2000s and this was put to good use in recent years when he started to run his own soccer school at Wandle Recreation Centre in Mapleton Road, Wandsworth which continues to this day.

Most people will not know that Phil was actually a member of a very talented family and had a couple of brothers; Dennis who also played regularly for Epsom and Ewell, making 102 appearances and scoring 12 goals, and Larrington (Larry) who was a very well-known actor with roles in Minder, The Bill, Inspector Morse and The Chinese Detective amongst others, yet was versatile enough to also be a member of the Royal Shakespeare Company and was a good friend of comedian Lenny Henry. Also, his nephew Kyle Walker-Peters is of course currently a professional footballer with Southampton.

I was extremely fortunate to meet both Phil and Trevor in 2015 when I noticed that Phil had started following our club on Twitter and dropped him a line to see if he would like to have a chat and he was more than happy to meet up and would bring Trevor along too.

When we met that evening I found two extremely modest people who knew they were breaking down barriers and raising the public's perception at a time when it desperately needed to be, but you got the impression that they saw themselves as simply footballers. I didn't feel the need to ask them the same questions they must have heard hundreds of times about their race, and in all honesty, I'd have probably been able to find out those answers from many other previous interviews. I wanted to concentrate on their time at Epsom and Ewell and I think it must have been quite refreshing for them to answer some different questions. In more recent years the Achtung Millwall podcast interviewed Phil and whilst it obviously concentrates more on his time there, it is well worth a listen too.

I said my goodbyes that evening and they said they would try to get along to an Epsom game one day. Regrettably now Phil will never make that journey, but he will never be forgotten at this club while I am here to pass the baton and remind people of our former greats, of which Phil was certainly one!



**Trevor Lee and Phil Walker in the summer of 2015**

More coverage of our great Epsom and Ewell Football Club on their website <http://www.eefconline.co.uk/>

## Bowling Reports to 8th July 2022

14 July 2022



**Tony Bourne, Martin Harbottle, Les Owen, Joe Cable and Bill Ayling.**

<p><b>Ladies' Friendly Epsom played away at Cheam on Thursday 7th July 2022 &amp; won on 1 rink, lost on 1 rink &amp; lost overall 27 - 33. Details:Rink 4 Penny Payne Christine Summerfield Ruth Baker won 19 - 13Epsom were 0 - 6 down after 4 ends, but won the next 4 ends to go 9 - 6 ahead. Cheam drew level on the next end, but Epsom won the next 5 ends to ahead again 16 - 9. They won by 6 shots.Rink 5 Sandy Cooper Sandie Harvey Mary Green lost 8 - 20 Epsom led 7 - 6 after 10 ends, but lost the next 6 ends to go 7 - 17 down. They lost by 12 shots.Final Score: Epsom 27 Cheam 33</b></p>



**Surrey President v Surrey Past President Bowling Association** Epsom hosted this match on Wednesday 6th July 2022. The President, Martin Harbottle had invited 10 Epsom men to play in this game. Details: Surrey County Bowling Association Result of Surrey President match v SCMPBA played at Epsom Bowling Club on Wednesday 6th July 2022. The Surrey President's team won on 3 rinks, lost on 3 rinks & lost overall 112 - 118. After 10 ends across the 6 rinks the President led 66 - 57, but were behind by 4 shots (100 - 104) after 18 ends. They lost by 6 shots. *NB The Surrey President's team is listed first in each rink.* Rink Team Score 1 Vic Hemmett Brian Collis David Botting Peter Hamilton v Dennis Knight John Hort Alan Harding Bill Ayling 16 - 31 The Surrey President's team was 14 - 15 down after 10 ends & further behind 14 - 22 on end 15. They lost the last 4 ends & lost by 15 shots. 2 Alan Endersby Stephen Danderson/Bob Blaker John Warren Norman Mann \* v Robin Taylor Butch Manning Mick Gray David Candeland 26 - 6 The Surrey President's team led 13 - 2 after 10 ends & 21 - 6 after 18 ends. They won by 19 shots. 3 Richard Greenfield Edward Dear Keith Roberts Martin Harbottle v Mark Medhurst Allen Kellaway Steve Parnham Joe Cable 6 - 29 The President skipping this rink found themselves 0 - 12 down after 7 ends. They were 3 - 25 down after 16 ends & lost by 23 shots. 4 Allen Banks Phil Sims Les Owen Robin Fudge v Colin Clarke Ray Uwins George Hope Trevor Pocock 29 - 18 The Surrey President's team were 19 - 4 ahead after 10 ends & 27 - 14 in the lead on end 18. They won by 11 shots. 5 Stefan Tomm Carl Chadbond Colin Gray Jim Scott v Roger Rashleigh George Watson Colin Homes Graham Dawber 25 - 11 The Surrey President's team led 19 - 4 on end 13 & won by 14 shots. 6 David Tucker Neil Dimmock Graeme Cupit Andrew Turnbull v Terry Franklin John Southwell John Cocoracchio James Mason 11 - 23 The Surrey President's team were 5 - 15 down after 10 ends & 8 - 22 behind on end 18. They lost by 12 shots. \* Highest winning Rink Lost 112 - 118 A huge thanks goes to all the Epsom members who helped make the day successful. Everyone enjoyed the afternoon which concluded with an excellent meal.

**Vilamoura Mixed League** Epsom played Chipstead in their second Vilamoura game on Tuesday 5th July 2022 & won on both rinks & the match 35 - 29 (6 - 0). Details: Home: Liz Hind Phil Sims Brian Collis won 15 - 12 After 9 ends Epsom led 8 - 4 & were further ahead 14 - 7 after 14 ends. They won by 3 shots. Away: Penny Payne John Lystor Fred Read won 20 - 17 Epsom were 4 - 14 down after 8 ends, but won the next 4 ends to go 13 - 14 down. They won the last 4 ends to win by 3 shots. Final Score: Epsom 35 Chipstead 29 Epsom 6 points Chipstead 0 points.  
*Did you know*  
Epsom have played Chipstead 5 times in this league and won 4 & lost 1.

**East Surrey League - Mid Week Triples** Epsom played their second game in this new league at home against Caterham on Tuesday 5th July 2022. They won on 2 rinks, lost on 1 rink & won overall 50 - 33 (8 - 2). Details: Rink 2 Richard Senior Bob Blaker Wayne Thornton lost 14 - 15 Epsom were 4 - 14 down after 12 ends, but won 5 of the remaining ends & lost by just 1 shot. Rink 4 Derek Martin John Hart Jim Scott won 17 - 7 Epsom led 10 - 3 after 10 ends & 13 - 6 after 15 ends. They won by 10 shots. Rink 5 Mick Cooper Frank Thompson Ted Ray won 19 - 11 Epsom led 12 - 4 after 11 ends & 16 - 10 after 15 ends. They won by 8 shots. Final Result: Epsom 50 Caterham 33 Epsom 8 points Caterham 2 points Bob Blaker, Mick Cooper & Ted Ray played in their first game in this Competition.

**Surrey Area 3 Top 4 - Epsom 'B'** After getting a walk over against Horley Epsom 'B' made the short distance to Epsom Park to play in the second round on Tuesday 5th July 2022. They lost 24 - 25. lost 24 - 25 David Fearn David Bragg Keith Roberts Andrew Turnbull lost 24 - 25 David Fearn played in his first game in this Competition.  
*Did you know*  
This Competition only allows 1 Surrey County Badged player to be in the rink. Epsom have won the area final twice: -2006 Winners - Martin Harbottle, Ted Ray, Pat Buckley & Peter Miller 2014 Winners - Brian Kenyon, Andrew Turnbull, John Warren & John Huxford.

**Chrystie League**Epsom played at home against Bookham on Monday 4th July 2022 and won on 1 rink, lost on 1 rink & won overall 41 - 24 (3 - 1).Details:Rink 4 Derek Martin John Savill John Lystor Fred Read won 29 - 9Epsom led 12 - 7 after 10 ends & won the next 7 ends to go ahead 29 - 7. They won by 20 shots.Rink 5 Mick Cooper Hayden Thornton Frank Thompson Wayne Thornton lost 12 - 15Epsom led 4 - 1 after 4 ends, but lost the next 4 ends to go 4 - 7 down. They were 9 - 13 down on end 14 & lost by 3 shots.Final Score: Epsom 41 Bookham 24 Epsom 3 points Bookham 1 point.

*Did you know*

Epsom have played Bookham 39 times in this league and won 23, lost 15 & drawn 1.This was Epsom's 5th game in the Chrystie League this season. They have won 4 & lost 1.Epsom have won 8 of the last 10 games against Bookham.

**Men - East Surrey League**Epsom Men played away against Old Coulsdon on Saturday 2nd July 2022 and lost on all 3 rinks & the match 42 - 63 (0 - 10).Details:Rink 1 Derek Martin Keith Roberts John Warren Jim Scott lost 13 - 22Epsom were 8 - 12 down after 10 ends & 10 - 19 behind after 18 ends. They lost by 9 shots.Rink 2 David Fearn Ted Ray Andrew Turnbull Wayne Thornton lost 16 - 17Epsom took the lead 10 - 9 on end 11 & led 15 - 12 on end 16. They lost the next 4 ends to go behind 15 - 17. They scored 1 shot on the final end to lose by 1 shot.Rink 3 David Bragg Bob Blaker Les Owen Peter Miller lost 13 - 24Epsom were 9 - 13 down on end 13 & lost by 11 shots.Final Score: Epsom 42 Old Coulsdon 63 Epsom 0 points Old Coulsdon 10 points.

*Did you know*

Epsom have played Old Coulsdon 41 times in this League & won 14, lost 26 and there has been 1 drawn match.In 2021 Epsom beat Old Coulsdon at home 10 - 0 which was the first time that Epsom had taken all points in a game against Old Coulsdon.Epsom played their very first ESL match in 1987 against Old Coulsdon. Epsom lost 70 - 82 (1 - 5). Of our current members Graham Pilbrow played in this game.

**Ladies - East Surrey League**Epsom Ladies played away against Old Coulsdon on Saturday 2nd July 2022 and drew on 1 rink, lost on 1 rink & lost overall 36 - 41 (½ - 3½)Details:Rink 4 Janet Newman Sue Skinner Frances Suttonwood Mary Green lost 17 - 22Epsom were 5 - 17 down after 10 ends, but outscored Old Coulsdon 12 - 5 over the remaining ends. They lost by 5 shots.Rink 5 Sandy Cooper Liz Hind Trish Southgate Sandie Harvey drew 19 - 19Epsom led 17 - 10 on end 16, but were outscored 2 - 9 over the remaining ends to allow Old Coulsdon to tie the rink.Final Score: Epsom 36 Old Coulsdon 41 Epsom ½ point Old Coulsdon 3½ points

*Did you know*

Epsom first played Old Coulsdon in 1998 and have played 24 times, won 9, lost 15.This season Epsom Ladies have played 4 League matches, won 2 & lost 2.Epsom Ladies have won the League 3 times - 2005/2006 & 2019.



Surrey President's Team v SCMPBA

## Farnham Town 3-2 Epsom & Ewell

14 July 2022



Pre-season Friendly Saturday 2nd July 2022. Report Source: [www.eefconline.co.uk](http://www.eefconline.co.uk). Reporter: Richard Lambert

New era kicks off with narrow defeat. The artificial surface at Kings College in Guildford was the place to be to witness the opening match of the Anthony Jupp and Liam Giles era, although rather disappointingly out of our regular supporters, only two Committee members, plus myself and my boy Nathan were there to witness it in an attendance of 15.

Pre-season friendlies are not for everyone though and of course many players take the field who will never make the first team squad, so maybe some supporters aren't that concerned! Obviously, due to the time of the season with many players not signed up and the recent departures of Luke Miller and Tommy Smith, I won't be releasing any names here, except to say that many players were away this week and that out of the twenty-two players present, of whom twenty had a run out, there were only three players on the field who finished the season with us. There were also two former Epsom players on show.

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The half time whistle blew immediately after the restart, and both teams changed a number of personnel and in our case, the formation too. This bore fruit within 35 seconds as a smart strike from the left about fifteen yards out put us back on level terms. We then hit the face of the bar with a shot from the left before another shot took a slight deflection and came back off the Farnham post.

Unfortunately a foul just inside the penalty area gave our opponents a spot kick which was converted in the 73rd minute and then two minutes after we had hit the post once again in the 87th minute, Farnham scored a third goal with a fine finish into the top corner from just inside the box.

This third goal was a little harsh on our team, but in the 91st minute we did get a second of our own when our earlier scorer latched on to a fine pass, held off his man and steered the ball under the keeper from an angle about ten yards out for his second of the match. It was the least we deserved, having also hit their woodwork on three occasions during that period!

As always at this stage of the season the performance is more important than the result, but with so many players absent it is hard to say much more than the scoreline was about fair, largely due to Farnham holding a greater balance of play in the first half. Suffice to say our new Management seemed happy enough with the way things went and that's all that really matters at this point. We move on to meet another Step Five team when we visit Hassocks next Saturday.

## Bowling reports

14 July 2022

### Men - East Surrey League - Division 1 League Match

Epsom Men played against Chipstead on Saturday 25th June 2022 and won on 1 rink, lost on 2 rinks & lost overall 59 - 68 (2 - 8).

Details:

Rink 3 David Fearn Bob Blaker Andrew Turnbull Wayne Thornton lost 18 - 25

Epsom were 8 - 15 down after 10 ends & 12 - 20 behind after 15 ends. They lost by 7 shots.

Rink 4 John Wellard Keith Roberts John Warren Peter Miller lost 19 - 23

Epsom were 10 - 13 down after 10 ends & 16 - 22 behind after 18 ends. They lost by 4 shots.

Rink 5 David Bragg Terry Hoye Les Owen Jim Scott won 22 - 20

The scores were level 12 - 12 after 14 ends, but Epsom went behind 17 - 20 on end 18. They won the last 3 ends picking up 5 shots to win by 2.

Final Score: Epsom 59 Chipstead 68 Epsom 2 points Chipstead 8 points

### Did you know?

Epsom have played Chipstead 29 times, won 11, lost 16 & drawn 2. Epsom have won 6 of the last 8 games.

### East Surrey League - Top Club

Epsom played Croydon MO's in the ESL Top Club on Wednesday 22nd June 2022 & won both singles, Pairs & lost the Triples & Fours. They won 3 - 2.

Details:

Singles: Ted Ray won 21 - 14

The scores were level 9 - 9 after 10 ends, but Ted led 15 - 12 after 15 ends. He scored 2 3's on ends 17 & 18 to win by 7 shots.

Two Wood: Bob Blaker won 14 - 9

Bob led 7 - 4 after 10 ends & 11 - 7 after 15 ends. He scored 2 singles on ends 19 & 20 to win by 5 shots.

Pairs: John Wellard Peter Miller won 18 - 16

John & Peter led 9 - 5 after 10 ends, but the scores were level 12 - 12 on end 15. They won by 2 shots.

Triples: Mick Cooper Stefan Tomm Les Owen lost 16 - 21

The scores were level 13 - 13 after 11 ends, but Epsom lost by 5 shots.

Fours: David Fearn Phil Sims Andrew Turnbull Jim Scott lost 21 - 23

Epsom were 4 - 17 down after 11 ends, but came back well to go ahead 21 - 20 on the penultimate ends. They dropped 3 shots on the final end to lose by 2 shots.

Final Score: Epsom 3 Croydon MO'Ss 2.

John Wellard, Mick Cooper & David Fearn played in their very first ESL Top 11 match,

Did you know?

In 1997 the East Surrey League started a Top 10 Competition. This was changed to a Top 11 Competition in 2018 bringing this in line with the BE Competition.

Epsom have played 47 matches since 1997, won 28 & lost 19 in the Top 10 & in the Top 11 have played 6 games, won 3 & lost 3.

Epsom have lost in 3 Top 10 Finals - 2000/2003/2006 all to Shirley Park. They won the Competition in 2008 beating Warlingham Park 71 - 70 after winning the pairs & triples & losing the singles & fours.

Of our current playing members the following played in that final - Ted Ray, Stefan Tomm, John Hart, Graham Pilbrow, Les Owen, Martin Harbottle, Terry Hoye, & Peter Miller.

Peter Miller holds the record of 43 appearances in this Competition (Top 10 & Top 11).

### **Surrey Area 3 Top 4**

Epsom 'B' Men played at home against Cheam on Sunday 26th June 2022 and lost 15 - 22.

Details

Rink 4 John Wellard Mick Cooper Bob Blaker Wayne Thornton lost 15 - 22

The scores were level 6 - 6 after 9 ends, but Epsom led 10 - 8 on end 12. They lost the next 5 ends to go behind 10 - 19. They lost by 7 shots.

John Wellard & Wayne Thornton played in their first game in this Competition.

### **Chrystie League**

Epsom played away against Brockham on Monday 20th June 2022 and won on 1 rink, lost on 1 rink & won overall 35 - 27 (3 - 1).

Details:

Rink 2 David Fearn John Savill Mick Cooper Bob Blaker lost 15 - 16

Epsom led 8 - 4 after 9 ends & going into the last end they led 15 - 14, but dropped 2 shots to lose by 1.

Rink 4 Derek Martin John Lystor Phil Sims Fred Read won 20 - 11

Epsom led 9 - 3 after 9 ends & 14 - 11 after 14 ends. They won the last 4 ends to win by 9 shots.

Final Score: Epsom 35 Brockham 27 Epsom 3 points Brockham 1 point

Did you know?

Epsom have played Brockham 39 times, won 24, lost 14, drawn 1 & 2 games have been cancelled.

In 2021 Epsom won both games home & away.

### **Past Times**

Epsom played Sutton in the Past Times Competition on Friday 24th June 2022. They lost at home & away losing overall 30 - 39.

Details:

Home: Derek Martin Ted Ray Keith Roberts Andrew Turnbull lost 17 - 20

Epsom were 5 - 8 down after 9 ends & 14 - 16 behind after 16 ends. They lost by 3 shots.

Away: David Bragg Bob Blaker Les Owen Jim Scott lost 13 - 19

Epsom went behind 4 - 14 after 10 ends & 12 - 15 behind on end 15. They lost by 6 shot.

Final Score: Epsom 30 Sutton 'A' 39

Did you know?

This Competition started as the Times Herald Competition which ran from 1966 to 2001.

In 2002 it was replaced with the Past Times Competition. Epsom won the Times Herald Competition in 1975 (they beat Mellows Park 35 - 34) & lost in 3 finals (1980, 1987 & 1990). Epsom were finalists in the Past Times Competition in 2010. Graham Pilbrow holds the record for number of appearances - 62.

### **Sutton & District Bowling Association - St Raphael Pairs**

Epsom played at home against Cheam Fields on Sunday 26th June 2022 and lost 17 - 22.

Details:

Rink 3 Penny Payne David Fearn lost 17 - 22

Despite losing this game this was an excellent performance against last years champions. With 2 ends to go Penny & David were 10 - 22 down, but finished with 5 shots on end 20 & 2 shots on the last end to lose by 5 shots. Well done both.

### **Sutton & District Bowling Association - Carol Shannon Triples**

Epsom played Carshalton at home on Thursday 23rd June 2022 & won 26 - 2.

Details: Trish Southgate Ruth Baker Mary Green won 26 - 2

Our finalists in this Competition in 2021 got off to an excellent start in the 2022 Competition. They dominated the game winning 14 of the 16 ends played.

Final Score: Epsom 26 Carshalton 2

**On Wednesday 6th July Epsom Bowling Club are hosting** a match between Surrey County President and Surrey County Past Presidents Association. This is a 6 rink game starting at 2pm. Bar facilities will be available and bacon rolls for players, guests and visitors. Come along and see what bowls is all about and savour some good competition. Lets hope the weather is kind. **All are welcome.**

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## **Arthur Upwood's final bow**

14 July 2022

**It is with sadness that Epsom Bowling Club have reported the death of a longstanding member, player and dedicated servant Arthur Upwood. The following is taken from an obituary that has been posted on the club website epsombowlingclub.co.uk**

**Sadly Arthur Upwood passed away on Tuesday 21st June 2022.**

**Arthur was Club Treasurer for 14 years & finally stood down in 2012. He had been a Club Vice President also. Arthur subsequently volunteered to look after the Membership Details in 2016. He transferred to Social Membership in 2020.**

**During his playing career he won Pairs 2001, Triples 1990/2016, Windeler Cup 2010, and was runner up in Triples 1994/2008, Fours 1999/2006/2012/2013, Mixed Pairs 1999/2005, The Windeler Cup 1999/2006/13.**

**Arthur also was a member of the squad which won the Chrystie League in 2004, appearing 44 times in total in this competition and played in 1 East Surrey League match.**

**He will be sorely missed.**

**Our sympathies go out to his family and friends.**

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## **Bowling Match reports**

14 July 2022

**Men - East Surrey League**

Epsom Men played their second home match in the ESL against Ashtead on Saturday 18th June 2022 and won on 1 rink, lost on 2 rinks & won overall 64 - 54 (6 - 4).

Details:

Rink 1 David Fearn Bob Blaker Andrew Turnbull Wayne Thornton lost 14 - 19

Epsom led 11 - 8 after 14 ends, but lost the next 3 ends to go 11 - 17 down. They lost by 5 shots.

Rink 2 David Bragg Terry Hoye Les Owen Jim Scott won 33 - 16

Epsom led 18 - 7 after 10 ends & 26 - 15 after 15 ends. They won by 17 shots.

Rink 3 John Wellard Ted Ray Keith Roberts Peter Miller lost 17 - 19

Epsom were 6 - 17 down after 14 ends, but won 6 of the remaining ends to lose by 2 shots.

Final Score: Epsom 64 Ashtead 54 Epsom 6 points Ashtead 4 points.

Did you know?

Epsom have played Ashtead 30 times in the ESL, won 24, lost 5 & drawn 1. The best win came in 2015 when Epsom won 116 - 55 (4 rinks).

**Men's Friendly**

Epsom played at home against Wallington on Thursday 16th June 2022 & won on all 3 rinks & the match 57 - 35. Wallington turned up with one player short so the game was 2 Triples & 1 pair. All rinks played 18 ends.

Details:

Rink 1 Richard Senior Ted Ray John Hart won 17 - 14

Epsom led 8 - 6 after 9 ends & 15 - 12 after 14 ends. They won by 3 shots.

Rink 2 Mick Cooper Wayne Thornton won 24 - 10

Epsom led 13 - 6 after 9 ends & won 6 of the remaining ends to win by 14 shots.

Rink 3 Les Owen Bob Blaker Fred Read won 16 - 11

The scores were level 9 - 9 after 12 ends and Epsom went on to win by 5 shots.

Final Score: Epsom 57 Wallington 35

Did you know?

This friendly fixture was introduced in 2017. Since then there have been 4 matches with Epsom winning all 4. The game in 2019 was cancelled.

**Men's Friendly**

Epsom played at home against Chessington on Wednesday 15th June 2022 & won on 2 rinks, lost on 1 rink & won overall 44 - 38.

Details:

Rink 1 Derek Martin Geoff Purrott Fred Read won 21 - 14

Epsom started slowly finding themselves 1 - 7 down after 7 ends. They won the next 2 ends to go ahead 11 - 7. They went on to win by 7 shots.

Rink 2 John Lystor Richard Senior John Hart lost 10 - 12

The scores were level 7 - 7 after 12 ends, but were leading 3 ends later 10 - 7. They lost the last 4 ends to lose by 2 shots.

Rink 3 Brian Kenyon Mick Cooper Frank Thompson won 13 - 12

Epsom led 9 - 3 after 10 ends, but the scores were level 9 - 9 on end 13. Going into the last end the scores were level again, but Epsom scored 1 shot to win the rink by 1.

Final Score: Epsom 44 Chessington 38

Did you know?

Epsom first played Chessington in 1993. Since then the Clubs have met 30 times with Epsom winning 25, losing 5 & 1 game has been cancelled. Epsom last lost against Chessington in 2007.

**Ladies' Friendly**

Epsom played at home against Purley on Tuesday 14th June 2022 & drew on 1 rink, lost on 1 rink and lost overall 19 - 25. Rink 1 played a triples & rink 2 played a rink (with Purley 1 player short).

Details:

Rink 1 Liz Hind Sandy Cooper Sandie Harvey drew 10 - 10

After 8 ends Epsom led 9 - 2. Purley came back well to draw the rink (15 ends played).

Rink 3 Sue Needham Janet Newman Christine Summerfield Ruth Baker lost 9 - 15

Epsom were 4 - 13 down after 11 ends, won the remaining ends, but lost by 6 shots. (15 ends played).

Final Score: Epsom 19 Purley 25.

Did you know?

The first recorded Ladies' friendly match against Purley was in 2008. Since then there have been 9 matches with Epsom winning 3 & losing 6. 4 matches have been cancelled in this period.

**Chrystie League**

Epsom played their second game this season in the Chrystie League at home against Pippbrook on Monday 13th June

2022 and won on 1 rink, lost on 1 rink & won overall 35 - 21 (3 - 1).

Details:

Rink 2: Brian Kenyon John Savill Phil Sims Fred Read lost 11 - 13

Epsom were level 6 - 6 after 10 ends & still level 2 ends later. However, they then went behind & lost by 2 shots.

Rink 3: John Lystor David Bragg John Wellard Peter Miller won 24 - 8

Epsom led 10 - 4 after 9 ends & 20 - 6 ahead after 14 ends. They won by 16 shots.

Final Score: Epsom 35 Pippbrook 21 Epsom 3 points Pippbrook 1 point

Peter Miller played in his first Chrystie league match.

Did you know?

Epsom have played Pippbrook 39 times in this league, won 23, lost 15, drawn 1 & 2 games have been cancelled.

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## Steve Cauthen joins ITV Racing for Cazoo Jubilee Derby

14 July 2022



**Image: Edward Whitaker (racingpost.com/photos)**

Legendary American Jockey Steve Cauthen has announced he will join ITV Racing to cover the Platinum Jubilee Derby in Epsom. Cauthen, born in Kentucky to a horse-trainer father, began his racing career in the USA before moving to the UK, where restrictions on Jockey weight are more relaxed.

He has enjoyed an extremely successful career, being the only Jockey to have won both the Kentucky Derby (1978) and the Epsom Derby (1985, 1987), he was even named Sport's illustrated Sportperson of the Year in 1978, after becoming the youngest jockey to win the coveted U.S. Triple Crown.

Cauthen will be broadcasting in the UK for the first time ever, he's more than familiar with Epsom and will be surely be warmly welcomed back by the racing community.

Joining Steve Cauthen on the podium will be Ed Chamberlain, triple Derby-winning jockey Johnny Murtagh and former jockey, Jason Weaver. They also be joined by ITV Royal correspondent, Katie Nicholl.

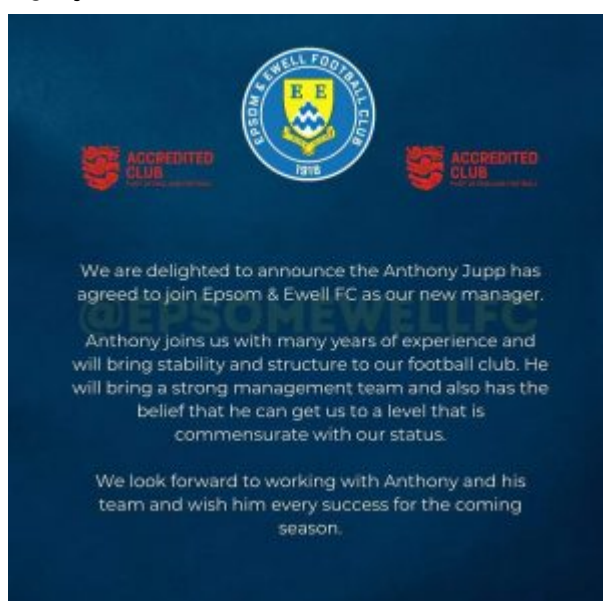
*"Having won the Derby on both Slip Anchor and Reference Point, Epsom is a special place for me and to be presenting there for ITV on the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend will be extraordinary," said Cauthen.*

**READ MORE: Epsom Downs Racecourse: Brian Finch appointed New Chair**

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## Epsom & Ewell F.C. announce Anthony Jupp as new manager

14 July 2022



Epsom & Ewell F.C. have announced that Anthony Jupp will become their new head coach, following the departure of Jamie Byatt. Jupp was formally the manager of Horley Town F.C.

Epsom & Ewell finished in 6th place in the Southern Combination League this season, and no doubt be looking to strengthen their squad over the summer.

Anthony will assume this position immediately, as Epsom & Ewell F.C. look to take on their pre-season friendlies...

Epsom & Ewell Times would like to congratulate Anthony wholeheartedly, as we all look forward to watching Epsom & Ewell F.C. again next season.

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## Epsom Derby: Queen's horse pulled out of race

14 July 2022



**The Queen's racehorse Reach For The Moon has been pulled out of the Classic after failing to recover from an injury in time. The horse was injured late last year.**

The horse, trained by father-son duo John and Thady Gosden and ridden by Frankie Dettori, was the 3rd favourite.

The colt was tipped as one of the favourites to win on June 4th after finishing first at the Solario Stakes at Sandown Park last August. He later sustained an injury that was not thought serious enough to rule him out of the Epsom Derby, this was apparently not the case.

John Gosden told the Racing Post he would not contest the Classic at Epsom.

*"Following a setback last autumn, Reach For The Moon has been given all the time and care he requires in his training programme,"* said Gosden.

*"We had planned to run him in the Dante Stakes at York next week. However, in the best interests of the horse, we have decided that this race is coming too soon for him."*

*"Consequently, he will not run in the Derby and will be pointed towards Royal Ascot."*

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## Midhurst & Easebourne 2 - 1 Epsom & Ewell, Southern Combination League - Division One Playoff Semi-Final

14 July 2022



**Reporter: Richard Langley, Photos by Gemma Jarman**

**Report Source: [eefconline.co.uk](http://eefconline.co.uk)**

A poor start leads to a premature season's end

After three very tight meetings between ourselves and Midhurst & Easebourne this season, this Playoff Semi-Final always threatened to follow a similar path and over the ninety minutes we witnessed another even contest. Unfortunately, a poor opening twenty minutes left us 2-0 down and we were never able to recover, eventually losing by the same score as we had just four days previously in the Division One Cup Final. Both teams appeared to be at full strength for this match, although for us that meant once again that Player/Manager Jamie Byatt was unable to take the field. At the back, Gideon Acheampong was able to start and upfront Mario Qurassaca made his first start. As a result, Jerry Antwi and Mo Cisse started on the bench, although both would enter the playing arena later.

For those who noted my gladiatorial reference to an arena here, it is largely because of the way these two teams squared up following the conclusion of the aforementioned Cup Final, and if I'm honest I expected more fireworks here. However, Referee Paul Saunders was totally on top of this match and ensured that hardly any extra-curricular activity took place this time. We had an early free-kick from which Ricardo Fernandes gave Josh Bird some early catching practice, but were behind in the sixth minute when Lewis Hamilton drove through our static defence and slotted the ball past Sheikh Ceesay from close range.



This was an awful start and it got worse in the 22nd minute when a deep ball in was met by a looping header towards goal, but somehow Liam Dreckmann was able to reach it first to force the ball in from close range. We didn't know it for certain at the time, but the damage was already done, although we fought back well from this point and made it a much more even contest for the remainder of the afternoon. A corner was flicked onto the far post where Tyreke Leslie struck at goal from a narrow angle, but Bird was equal to the shot and turned it around the post. Next to try was Mike Hill with a long-range strike that Bird clawed away from under pressure from Qurassaca, although our striker was flagged offside, so it wouldn't have counted as he was definitely in Bird's line of sight. Then in the 39th minute, we pulled a goal back and it was a bit of a strange one really as a ball over the top fell kindly for Qurassaca who then failed to control it, but as a result of this, Bird came out of goal only to then realise that he wasn't going to get there in time and Qurassaca then nodded the ball over him and it bounced over the line and up into the roof of the net from eighteen yards. He had a half-chance to score another as a deep cross was headed over at full stretch, but as the halftime whistle went, it looked like we had finally got going and there was still plenty of time to go to salvage this.

An early Hill header in the opening minute was covered easily by Bird but the majority of this half would be spent in midfield as the home side kept us largely subdued. In the Cup match they had negated our threat on the wings by putting two men on them; a trick Roffey had also used against us back in March, but in this second half both Luke Miller and Athan Smith-Joseph seemed to play deeper, which meant that our service to Qurassaca was extremely limited and he too then dropped further back leaving us with no one upfront. Midhurst then cut us apart on the hour with a deep ball over on the left that was volleyed across goal but fortunately with no one there to meet it.

Unfortunately, we were then forced into a couple of substitutions as Hill departed, but also Brad Peters who appeared to suffer a recurrence of the injury he picked up at Mile Oak seven days previously. They were replaced by Cisse and Antwi respectively. Miller's shot was then blocked by a defender before Bird clawed away another deep delivery. We had a little incident when Dreckmann squared up to Ceesay who pushed back and I thought that the award of a yellow card for both was a little harsh on our keeper. Ceesay then made an important save after our defender missed a ball in from the left, but our man was out quickly to smother the ball which squirted out for a corner, which was then headed over by Marcus Bedford. Josh Uzun entered the fray with five minutes left as we made an attacking substitution, but five minutes from time Acheampong then dragged Bedford back as he threatened to get through and picked up a yellow card that could have been red, had he committed the offence a little closer to goal instead of back on the halfway line.

As time ran out we had a bit of good pressure and Fernandes' low shot from outside the penalty area was powerful enough, but wide, and Smith-Joseph had the last meaningful attempt on goal in the fourth of seven minutes of injury time, but Bird was able to make the easy save.

And this summed up the match and to a certain extent the season. We were never really able to hurt our opponents enough in this match and you just felt that a fully fit Byatt would have been the difference in many of these matches this season. As I look back at the stats I can see that he scored thirty-one goals in twenty-eight appearances, of which we lost just six, but the unseen statistic here is that he was unable to take the field in thirteen matches and we lost six of those too. Without him, we just weren't the same and at the age of forty, it will be interesting to see whether he retains the tag of Player/Manager next season or whether we have seen the last of him as a player.

So Midhurst & Easebourne progress to a playoff final at home to Shoreham, who defeated Seaford Town 2-0 on their own pitch, while we now face another season in Sussex at Step Six, our fifth season at that level. There are worse places to play football without a doubt, but it feels somewhat underwhelming that a team this good has fallen away so badly this season, finishing with four straight losses. For sure it has been a horrible end to the season if you are an Epsom fan and no, there is no time left to bounce back.

**Epsom & Ewell: Sheikh Ceesay, Gideon Acheampong, Louis Chin, Brad Peters (c), Steve Springett, Luke Miller, Athan Smith-Joseph, Ricardo Fernandes, Mario Qurassaca, Mike Hill, Tyreke Leslie**

**Subs: Mo Cisse for Hill (64), Jerry Antwi for Peters (64), Josh Uzun for Chin (85)**

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## Match Report: Midhurst & Easebourne 2 - 1 Epsom & Ewell, Southern Combination Cup Final

14 July 2022



**Reporter: Richard Langley, Photos by Gemma Jarman**

**Report Source: eefconline.co.uk**

### **Salts fall in the final seconds**

After two very even contests already this season, it was no surprise that this third meeting at the neutral venue of Alfold FC produced another close encounter. Unfortunately for our boys, a 96th-minute goal from James Liddiard came too late to reply to and we had to accept defeat by two goals to one.

With a very important playoff match coming up against the same opposition on Saturday, I wondered how the teams would line up, but both went as strong as they could. Brad Peters was good to go at the back after limping off on Saturday at Mile Oak, while Mike Hill was back in the starting line up as was Mo Cisse. Kofi Quartey and Josh Uzun found themselves on the bench alongside the fit-again Gideon Acheampong.

And we got off to a flyer. Athan Smith-Joseph broke through the middle and had time to steady himself before slotting the ball low to the right of Midhurst keeper Josh Bird to open the scoring in the fourth minute.

The opposition sent a dangerous free-kick through our six-yard area and out the other side, but this was to be a game of few actual chances. Midhurst nearly got back on level terms after a low ball in from the left was well blocked and then kicked away by Sheikh Ceesay just before the half-hour mark before Hill and Liam Dreckmann picked up a yellow card each for an episode of handbags. This was typical of much of the first half as a niggly match was played out, aided and abetted by a referee who wanted to stop play every few minutes, although he also missed Hill getting clattered on the side of the head. Then when Hill was kicked up in the air by Harry Giles he received a lecture, but no card.

It was apparent though that our opponents were beginning to gain the upper hand in the match and they deservedly drew level in the 39th minute with an acrobatic overhead kick from Marcus Bedford from close range that gave Ceesay no chance.

At the half, Hill was replaced by Acheampong with Louis Chin moving into midfield and despite the loss of our gifted playmaker, our team began to tick a little better as a result. Ricardo Fernandes made a good run on the left only for his cross to be palmed away by Bird just ahead of Tyreke Leslie before Luke Miller tried his luck in the 69th minute with a powerful strike from a very narrow-angle, but he was also off target.

We had a flashpoint in the 71st minute when Bird was out quickly to clear a through ball just ahead of Fernandes and on his way back to goal he patted our man on the head, which Fernandes clearly didn't like and his reaction earned him a yellow card after the obligatory ten-man scuffle had settled down. Meanwhile, Bird wasn't even spoken to!

In the 76th minute Mario Qurassaca made his debut, coming on for Leslie as we began to threaten a little more. Cisse struck well from 25 yards and was inches wide of the post with Bird unsure and scrambling, although at the other end we were then caught out by a deep ball from the right, only for substitute Will Essai to blaze over from a decent position about twelve yards out.

Then in the 89th minute we had a golden opportunity as a Peters pass rebounded kindly for Qurassaca who was through on goal as a result, but after riding a challenge he then dragged his shot just beyond Bird's right hand post from twelve yards with the other side of the goal looking like the better option.

Uzun came on for Cisse as we approached injury time, presumably ahead of what was looking like a sure-fire penalty shootout, but Midhurst had one more card to play and a low near post strike was kept out by Ceesay, but only for a corner. From the delivery James Liddiard rose highest to meet the ball, glancing it in from close range in the sixth minute of injury time. Ceesay was appealing for a foul and it did appear that he may well have been held back, but the offence wasn't spotted and seconds after the restart the match was over.

Having spoken to a number of people after the match, no one could work out exactly why we played as much as six minutes extra time, but this was almost forgotten as upon the final whistle there was a big scuffle between the players which seemed to go on for quite a while and when the smoke cleared and everyone had calmed down Jerry Antwi had received a red card. I don't believe this will keep him out of Saturday's rematch in Midhurst, but it would definitely rule him out of any playoff Final should we get there.

Did we deserve to lose this cup final? No, we didn't, but equally, it could be argued that we didn't do enough to win it either, although we did improve in the second half. It was a tight match that just didn't go our way. Maybe on Saturday, the positions will be reversed, but one thing appears certain. It should be another close match!

**Epsom & Ewell: Sheikh Ceesay, Louis Chin, Jerry Antwi, Brad Peters (c), Steve Springett, Mo Cisse, Athan Smith-Joseph, Ricardo Fernandes, Tyreke Leslie, Mike Hill, Luke Miller**

**Subs: Gideon Acheampong for Hill (HT), Mario Qurassaca for Leslie (76), Josh Uzun for Cisse (89)**

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## **Match Report: Epsom & Ewell 1 - 2 Dorking Wanderers Reserve, Southern Combination League - Division One**

14 July 2022



**Reporter: Richard Lambert, Photos by Gemma Jarman**

**Report source: eefconline.co.uk**

With our aspirations of the title mathematically disappearing on Saturday, our hopes of a home playoff match took a massive knock with a 2-1 home defeat against Dorking Wanderers Reserves who became the second club to record a “double” over us in the process. Results elsewhere meant that we dropped back below our opponents, but more significantly in terms of playoffs we also slipped behind Seaford Town and even a win at Mile Oak on Saturday will not guarantee us a home match in the post-season lottery, with a trip to Seaford now looking the most likely outcome.

Worse still, this great club I have supported loyally for forty years and which used to be such an inclusive and friendly, family community outfit, but nowadays only pays lip service to those attributes, showed a complete and utter lack of class in refusing to hold a minute’s silence for former Scottish Amateur International player Gerry O’Rourke, who made 43 appearances for us in 1976/77, scoring twelve goals, and had passed away eight days previously. No reason was provided for the refusal and in my time here nobody has ever knowingly been denied a minute’s silence, be it player, official or long-term supporter.

Following our win at Arundel on Saturday both Tommy Smith and Athan Smith-Joseph were unable to go in this match and this was unfortunate as I’m certain that both would have made a difference in this encounter. The visitors opened up by putting a decent chance wide in the opening minutes while Mike Hill struck at goal from distance but without troubling Barnett in the visitor’s goal. Then we had the further misfortune as Manager Jamie Byatt limped off, clearly frustrated and annoyed in the 20th minute.

We had shaded possession to this point, but without providing much of a real threat. Ricardo Fernandes did well on the right-wing to deliver a ball across goal but there was no one there except for Hill at the back post, and his delivery back in was then miscued by Fernandes as he tried a spectacular volley.

We went behind in the 34th minute when George Membrillera received the ball about ten yards out and turned his defender far too easily, rolling the ball back across Sheikh Ceesay for the opening goal. Things became worse when Nabeel Ghannam struck at goal from at least twenty yards out just before half time and the ball sailed over Ceesay’s head and into the net for a second goal, although our keeper redeemed himself with a good save from Conan Torpey who had broken through on goal moments later. Unfortunately, almost the final act of the first half was the departure of Hill into the dressing room as he was struggling with his breathing after putting in two tremendous shifts for us in the last week. His reappearance for the playoff matches will be absolutely crucial to our hopes.

With no Byatt and no Hill, it was always going to be an uphill shift for our boys in the second half, but they made a decent fist of it. Daryl Spiers came on for his debut after joining from Horley Town in relief of Tre Towers and we nearly pulled one back through another sub, Tyreke Leslie after a corner reached him at the far post, but his shot was blocked by Barnett’s legs. Minutes later Luke Miller struck at goal, only for the ball to strike Kofi Quartey and deflect just wide of the post. It could have gone anywhere!

Josh Uzun was next to the show, and he reached a ball ahead of Barnett, but the keeper stood his ground and he had to pass back out and the danger was cleared. The visitors were being pushed further back though, with Quartey causing his defender a lot of problems and Miller attacking from the left and in the 66th minute, his run was ended abruptly by a defender in the penalty area. However, Uzun’s spot-kick was a really poor one by his standards, straight at the keeper and without any real power and Barnett was actually down to save before the ball got there. This was probably why he was unable to hold on to it, but we were unable to get the loose ball in and the danger was cleared again.

Next to try was Fernandes after Quartey was brought down, but his free-kick from twenty yards just dipped over the bar, clipping the netting on its way down. Then Miller struck at goal, but it was just going wide before Leslie got ahead to the ball, but couldn’t get it on target despite being only a few yards out.

The visitors were picking up yellow cards on a regular basis, three of them for delaying restarts, or in Nathan Hawkins’ case, simply throwing the ball away over the fence! We were piling on the pressure and Spiers sent a header wide from a deep Louis Chin free-kick before Spiers found Quartey in a good position, only for our man to lob the ball well over the bar.

We finally opened our account in the 89th minute when a deep Spiers ball in was flicked on to Quartey at the far post and his volley sent the ball back across goal and in off the far post. There was still time to save a point, but when the ball fell to Leslie at the far post with the keeper committed, he missed the target from close range! We kept pushing and Miller sent another dangerous ball in left-footed, only for Quartey to miss the ball which was then cleared.

By the end of a frustrating ninety minutes, it is fair to say that we definitely deserved something from this match, but when you look at the league table, you will see that a point makes no real difference to our situation. We needed all three and we failed to get them and will now almost certainly have to travel larger distances if we are to gain promotion now. It isn’t beyond us, assuming we can get some of our injured players back and the good news for us is that we don’t have to

meet our local Dorking rivals again this season. It was about the only bit of good news though.

**Epsom & Ewell: Sheikh Ceesay, Louis Chin, Jerry Antwi, Brad Peters (c), Steve Springett, Tre Towers, Luke Miller, Mike Hill, Jamie Byatt, Josh Uzun, Ricardo Fernandes**

**Subs: Tyreke Leslie for Byatt (20) Kofi Quartey for Hill (45), Daryl Spiers for Towers (49)**