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Epsom and Ewell’s casual defence gives game away

7 October 2026



Epsom & Ewell 0 Corinthian-Casuals 2. Saturday 3 October 2026 – Combined Counties Premier League South

Epsom & Ewell’s difficult home form continued as Corinthian-Casuals left Chalky Lane with all three points following a 2–0 victory in front of a healthy crowd of 322.

The first team news of the afternoon was that skipper Brendan Murphy-McVey had failed a fitness test and was therefore unavailable.

Before kick-off, a minute’s applause was impeccably observed in memory of former Salt Mick Stratford, who recently passed away. Mick made 325 appearances for the club, scoring 18 goals, and was warmly remembered before the action began.

The Salts made a bright start and thought they had taken the lead after just five minutes when the ball found the back of the net. However, the celebrations were cut short as the referee ruled the effort out for a foul.

On 17 minutes Blessing Hombessa broke forward, beat his defender and delivered a dangerous cross into the area, but nobody was able to get on the end of it.

Just a minute later the visitors struck. Lee Quincey found the net to give Corinthian-Casuals an 18th-minute lead.

There was further frustration for Epsom & Ewell shortly before the interval. On 42 minutes they again had the ball in the net, only for the referee to rule the effort out. The decision was that the goalkeeper had one hand on the ball while it was on the ground and had therefore been fouled.

It ensured Corinthian-Casuals took their 1–0 advantage into the half-time break.

After Epsom & Ewell’s improved second-half performance the previous week, there was hope that the Salts could once again raise their game after the interval. Unfortunately, that did not materialise.

One player who certainly continued to battle was Alex Foord, who worked tirelessly in midfield and covered seemingly every inch of the pitch.

Epsom & Ewell’s task became even more difficult in the 52nd minute when Balde Dansoko doubled the visitors’ advantage. Some poor defending gave Casuals the opportunity, while goalkeeper Ben Grummitt was unable to reach the ball before Dansoko made it 2–0.

A minute later Luis Oliveira picked up a yellow card.

Changes followed as Epsom & Ewell attempted to find a route back into the contest. On 73 minutes Jason Bloor replaced Charlie Miller and Toby Young came on for Courtney Levi.

Four minutes later Kionte Waul replaced Harry Murphy, while Luke Miller came on for Oba.

The final change arrived in the 82nd minute when skipper Callum O’Keeffe made way for joint-manager Craig Dundas.

There was to be no late recovery, however, and Corinthian-Casuals saw out the remaining minutes to secure a 2–0 victory.

It was another disappointing performance on home soil, leaving the Salts still searching for their first home points of the campaign despite another excellent attendance.

Epsom & Ewell are back at Chalky Lane next week when Yateley United are the visitors.

Epsom and Ewell FC Media

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