

# **DORKING WANDERERS FC**

## **'B TEAM' MATCHDAY PROGRAMME**

### **VS EPSOM & EWELL**



**SATURDAY 2ND JANUARY**

**3PM KICK OFF**

# GAFFERS NOTES

Hello again and Happy New Year all

Welcome to Meadowbank for our B Team game Vs Epsom & Ewell. We welcome our opponents and their supporters. We hope you enjoy the fixture and best of luck.

We look at today's game as a fantastic opportunity to begin 2023 with such a competitive fixture against top level opposition.

After a disappointing result Vs Godalming Town on Boxing Day, we look forward to bounce back today with a good performance against current league leaders.

Having recently played today's opposition in the Div 1 Cup, we expect a very tough challenge, against a physical and highly aggressive side, which should make for an entertaining game. Nevertheless, we approach the game like any other, as we aim to take control possession of the ball and dominate the tempo of the game early doors.

We appreciate your support today, look forward to seeing you this afternoon, and hope you enjoy the game.

Thanks  
Ruben Gaspa



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# EPSOM & EWELL FC

They were founded in March 1918 as Epsom Juniors Cricket Club and played throughout the summer. In the autumn, Epsom Juniors F.C. came into being and played a handful of games from what is now known as Alexandra Recreation Ground. Competitive football followed as we entered the Surrey Junior League in 1919, and became founder members of the Sutton & District League in 1920.

In 1939 a newly formed team, Epsom Town (no connection to the earlier name) shared the ground with Epsom F.C. However, this arrangement was suspended when war was declared, and Epsom & Ewell folded for the duration. In the meantime, Club Chairman Charles Pettett threw in his lot with Epsom Town in an attempt to boost morale by keeping the football flag flying. It was successful, as that club competed continuously throughout the war years, winning the Surrey Combination in 1939/40, and reaching the Surrey Senior Cup Final in 1944, losing 3-1 to Tooting & Mitcham, at Sandy Lane. After the war, Epsom F.C. restarted, continuing in the London League and reclaimed West Street. Temporary homes were found for Epsom Town while they competed for a season in the newly created Corinthian League, but disbanded in 1946.

Despite a string of managers, most notably ex-Leyton Orient winger Jimmy Smith, and Tony Williams, now famous for his creation of the F.A. Yearbooks, their fortunes did not improve significantly and further relegations were avoided in the early seventies by the benefit of re-election. However in 1973, despite "improving" to finish second from bottom, the Athenian League ran out of patience and cut us loose. This was unfortunate timing as they had just cleared all of our debts, and in addition to a virtually new Committee, former Fulham player Pat O'Connell had taken over as Manager.

By then, they knew that they had been invited to join the expanding Isthmian League for 1977/78, and were placed in the new Division Two. Their first match under floodlights took place against Met Police in August 1977, and the title was clinched the following April, securing a move to Division One. In 1979/80 they won the Southern Combination Cup 7-2 over Hampton on their pitch, where the opposition was blitzed by five goals from Tuite. The following season a new clubhouse opened at West Street, and Epsom finally won the Surrey Senior Cup in 1981, defeating Woking 2-1 at Tooting & Mitcham, although they just missed out on promotion. O'Connell resigned in 1982, being replaced by Adrian Hill and in 1983/84 they clinched a spot in the Premier Division as runners-up, although this time they missed out in the Surrey Senior Cup, defeated 4-0 by Sutton United in the Final at Imber Court.

In the summer of 2016, the club visited France and played a friendly against our twin town Chantilly, which was where the England team had been based before their Euro 2016 campaign. The players were able to meet Roy Hodgson and Gary Neville and performed admirably as ambassadors for the town.

However, in the summer of 2017, they suffered a large player exodus with a substantial number joining local rivals Sutton Common Rovers. Glyn was unable to replace them with enough players of real quality and three-quarters of the season were spent at the foot of the table. His resignation in January 2018 led to the club promoting Coach Neil Grant into the Manager's role and although he managed to get them off the foot of the table, relegation was always likely and was confirmed in mid-April; not a great way to celebrate their Centenary!

The 2020/21 season commenced with another ground move, this time to Leatherhead's Fetcham Grove ground, although another seasonal curtailment left them in seventh place and they remained at Step Six, being transferred to the Southern Combination for the new season. In August 2021, Sam Morgan was relieved of his duties after a slow start to the season. Barry Gartell was placed in interim charge while the club searched for a new manager. Barry and his brother Clive managed to get a good run of form under their belts. Winning 4 and drawing 1.

2022/23 season saw a complete change at the top with Ex Horley Town manager Anthony Jupp coming in as joint manager alongside Ex Croydon manager Liam Giles along with Ex Horley Town Manager and coach Matt Chapman as coach. Meanwhile, the search continues for a new ground back in the Borough.....



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## DORKING WANDERERS 'B'

MANAGER: RUBEN GASPAR



## EPSOM & EWELL FC

MANAGER: ANTHONY JUPP

- 1 Callum Backhurst
- 2 Joshua Wilson
- 3 Freddy Leather
- 4 Silas Donkor
- 5 Reece Tierney
- 6 Tommy Williams
- 7 Cade Casselman
- 8 Jack Bingham
- 9 Hayden Gale
- 10 Luke Williams
- 11 Spike Steggall
- 12 Jude Salmon
- 13 Matthew Hay
- 14 Maddox Holloway
- 15 SebastianvTauta-Caballero
- 16 Beaux Booth
- 17 Jack Saunders
- 18 Mark Soares
- 19 Shomari Nyack-Thomas
- 20 Eddy Angoua
- 21 Ben Aubrey
- 22 Tyrese Johnson
- 23 Romeo Rowe

- 1 Kane Charles (GK)
- 2 Jonny Akoto
- 3 Zach Powell
- 4 Aaron Bogle
- 5 Brad Peters (C)
- 6 Gideon Acheampong
- 7 Ryan Smith
- 8 Nick Wilson
- 9 Gavin Quintyne
- 10 Athan Smith-Jones
- 11 Kevin Moreno Gomez
- 12 Jamie Byntt
- 13 Steve Springet
- 14 Josh Owen
- 15 Josh Alder
- 16 Hakeem Griffith
- 17 Ben King
- 18 Jaevon Dyer
- 19 Tre Towers
- 20 Oliver Thompson
- 21 Ben Bauchop

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