



Essex Cross Country League – Round 1 – One Tree Hill Sat 15th October

The Senior men's team started their Essex Cross Country League title defence with a narrow win at One Tree Hill on Saturday and with three individual wins in the age group races and good team results it was a successful start to the league season

The **Senior Men** have lifted the league title on four consecutive occasions and Saturday's win set them on the way to making this five. They were led home by Ben Davis who claimed a superb second spot with James Stewart's strong run taking third, just in front of Sam Atkins in fourth. Kieran O'Hara was next home in 18th with Under 20 Matt Blacklock marking his first senior Essex League appearance in 30th and Ian Anthony's fine run completed the scoring six in 41st. The rest of the squad was completed by Barry Smith 51st, Luke Chester 53rd, Martin Chester 68th, Louis Berrett 70th and Gary Atkins 84th who all made the top one hundred. Steve Walker was next home 121st just in front of Michael O'Callaghan 124th with Tony Collins in 152nd place..

The **Senior Women** started their season with a runner up spot as Ginte Bailey was first home in sixth, Robyn Matson was 11th and Clare Davies placed 21st and Stephanie Phillips completed the scoring four in 34th of the 117 finishers.

Maddie Barker's first victory in the **Under 17 & Under 20 Women** event led the team to second place as Charlotte Evans finished sixth, with Hannah Evans and Abigail Swan 13th and 15th - all three in their first league races in the U17 age group.

In **Under 13 Girls** race Summer Smith followed up her London Mini Marathon victory with a comfortable win in her first Essex League race, and Emmie Lole placed third, with Jasmine Asmal in ninth with Poppy Vines completing the second placed team in 30th – all also in their first Essex League meetings.

Freddie Rowe was unbeaten in the league last season as an Under 13 and stepped up to the **Under 15 Boys** with another good win as Findlay McLaren was a fine third and Sean Langan fifth, and Daniel Lesser completed the second placed squad in 30th

The **Under 13 Boys** placed third as Liam Battrum was third and Fabio Reina was seventh on his debut, and Sean Mugagga and Ethan Carroll were 18th & 19th. Jayden Wilkinson was not far behind them in 20th with George Rogers 35th & Henry Langford in 44th.

The **Under 17 Men** packed well for a third-place finish as Charlie Burgess, Ryan Carroll, Max Robbins and Toby Johnson filled the 16th to 19th places and Joseph Gray was 27th.

The **Under 15 Girls** placed fifth as Rosie Warner's fourth place was supported Abi Rogers (21st), Grace Tilson (27th) and 31st placed Scarlett Woods.

Round Two is hosted by Orion Harriers at Epping Forest on 12th November.

Round Up

Rob Warner won the M40 event in the English Masters Trial race at Derby, securing selection for the English Masters team in the Home Countries International in Dublin. Warner was well down the pack after the first of the four laps but when others started to tire, he kept his strong pace to come over the finishing line well clear.

Lauren Reed (formerly Deadman), competing for Essex in the Eastern Counties Championships held as part of the Cambridge Town & Gown 10k won the senior race with a time of 34:22, her fastest since 2016!

James Blogg was 72nd in the Great South 10 Mile at Portsmouth, taking four minutes off his best with 58:01.

Essex Cross Country League – Round 1– Results

Senior Men: 2nd Ben Davis 27:02; 3rd James Stewart 27:02; 4th Sam Atkins 27:33; 18th Kieran O’Hara 28:58; 30th Matthew Blacklock U20 30:08; 41st Ian Anthony M40 31:09 (**Team 1st – 98 points**); 51st Barry Smith M40 31:32; 53rd Luke Chester U20 31:50; 68th Martin Chester M50 32:35; 70th Louis Berrett 32:47; 84th Gary Atkins M50 33:44; 121st Steve Walker M50 36:41; 124th Michael O’Calaghan 37:01; 152nd Tony Collins M40 39:38. **Teams:** 1st Havering 98; 2nd Southend 101; 3rd Chelmsford 119. **Veterans Teams (four to score):** 4th Havering 244;

Senior Women: 6th Ginte Bailey 26:49; 11th Robyn Matson 27:30; 21st Clare Davies 29:07; 34th Stephanie Phillips 31:16 (**Team 2nd – 72 points**); **Div. 1 Teams:** 1st Colchester H 56; 2nd Havering 72; 3rd Southend 102

Under 17 Men: 16th Charlie Burgess 25:02; 17th Ryan Carroll 25:29; 18th Max Robbins 25:30; 19th Toby Johnson 25:43 (**Team 3rd – 70 points**); 27th Joseph Gray 29:43 **Teams:** 1st Chelmsford 36; 2nd Southend 67; 3rd Havering 70

Under 17 / Under 20 Women: 1st Maddie Barker U20W 19:11; 6th Charlotte Evans 20:06; 13th Hannah Evans 21:16; 15th Abigail Swan 22:29 (**Team 2nd – 35 points**). **Teams:** 1st Chelmsford 22; 2nd Havering 35; 3rd Colchester & Tendring 48.

Under 15 Boys: 1st – Freddie Rowe 13:29; 3rd Findlay McLaren 14:11; 5th Sean Langan 14:32; 30th Daniel Lesser 16:20 (**Team 2nd - 39 points**); **Teams:** 1st Southend 35; 2nd Havering 39; 3rd Chelmsford 46

Under 15 Girls: 4th Rosie Warner 16:21; 21st Abi Rogers 18:29; 27th Grace Tilson 19:30; 31st Scarlett Woods 20:02 (**Team 5th – 83 points**) **Teams:** 1st Southend 33; 2nd Basildon 55; 3rd Brentwood Beagles 55; .. 5th Havering 83;

Under 13 Boys: 3rd Liam Battrum 11:39; 7th Fabio Reina 12:20; 18th Sean Mugagga 13:26; 19th Ethan Carroll 13:40 (**Team 3rd – 47 points**) 20th Jayden Wilkinson 13:40; 35th George Rogers 15:01; 44th Henry Langford 16:26. **Teams:** 1st Colchester & T 43; 2nd Southend 44; 3rd Havering 47

Under 13 Girls: 1st Summer Smith 12:24; 3rd Emmie Lole 13:26; 9th Jasmine Asmal 13:58 22nd Poppy Vines 15:30 (**Team 2nd – 35 points**). **Teams:** 1st Chelmsford 28; 2nd Havering 35; 3rd Basildon 42.

For action & team photos see Havering AC Facebook Group (members only)