



South of England 12 Stage Relays Olympic Park Sunday 2nd April 2023

The Senior men did well in a field containing the top clubs in the South of England in the South of England 12 Stage Relay championships, made up of alternating six long stages and six short stages round the traffic-free roads and paths of the Stratford Olympic Park.

The team were led off with a good run from Ben Davis who brought the team home in 17th place in a fast first leg timed at 22:15.

Luke Chester (16:13), James Stewart (23:32), and Kieran O'Hara (15:51) kept the team in 25th, handing over to Sam Atkins whose 23:11 fifth stage brought the team up to 23rd place, a position that was held onto by Ian Anthony (17:20). Rob Warner dropped a place to 24th after his 23:36 leg, a placing which was maintained by Alex Friend, who clocked 15:50. The squad was completed by Martin Chester 27th (26:43), Gary Atkins (18:13) in 29th with Barry Smith (25:38) in 30th, as John Whitehead's anchor (17:30) brought the squad home to a 31st place finish out of the 60 teams. The team was supported by reserve Tony Collins.

Although Havering's early legs got them off to good start, the strength in depth from the rival clubs saw the team drop down the field but with a thirty-first place finish out of sixty complete teams, the team could be proud of themselves.



