

Eastern Young Athletes League – Stevenage – 12th July 2015

Chelmsford's EYAL team visited Stevenage on Sunday, for the fourth fixture of the season – and secured an excellent second place in the match, behind the hosts. The result means that we drop one place in the table, to eighth – BUT just ONE POINT outside of the top six, with one match left!

Once again the result was in large part due to the team spirit, commitment of the athletes, and dedication and hard work of the support team. Phil Sergeant commented afterwards “We showed real club spirit, and second feels like a win to me.”

Both the Boys and Girls U13 teams won their respective categories, to make a substantial contribution to the overall team score. The Boys team saw a remarkable debut by Brooklyn Kabongolo, who won both the High Jump and Long Jump – AND won the 100m B race with the second fastest time of the day! Seb Clatworthy also scored well, winning the 800m and the High Jump B, while Ethan Hunter made it a double for the team in the Long Jump by securing maximum points in the B event.

Amongst the U13 Girls there were wins for Hannah Bolton (800m), Fay Sweeting (1500m), and Hannah Bardo (High Jump) – while Ndidi Okoh weighed in with her usual contribution of points in the High Jump, 200m and Long Jump. Hannah Bolton also won the 200m B race, Martha Smith made it a 1-2 for Chelmsford in the 1500m by winning the B race with the second fastest time behind Faye – and Robyn Bennett had a good day winning both the Shot and Discus B events.

In the U15 age group, the Girls dominated the sprint hurdles, with Amelia Day winning the A race, and Jessica Hopkins recording the fastest time of the day in the B race. Jessica also grabbed second place in the Discus, and third place in the Javelin.

John Boyle was the star of the U15 Boys team – winning both the High Jump and the Javelin – and recording PB's in both! Henry Wood played an excellent support role by winning the B High Jump, and registering his own PB – an improvement of 7cms! Meanwhile, Elliott Cordery strode to a superb victory in the 1500m.

The U17 teams were both very short of numbers, but Andrew Hill and Fluke Ladphanna scored a superb 1-2 in the 400m by winning both the A and B races, and all of the other team members stretched themselves to fill spaces and keep the points rolling in.

The team now go to Luton on 2nd August for the final fixture of the regular season, with a place in the Plate Final (for teams in positions 7-12) all but guaranteed – but with a serious eye on the Top Six Final. A win at Luton, where we will be facing Havering – a point ahead, and currently occupying 4th place in the table – could see us slip into the top six. Ipswich, who are also a point ahead of us in 6th, face Basildon (3rd) on the same day.

Let's hope we can field a full strength team at Luton, on what should be an exciting day!