**British and English road Relay Championship.**

Sutton Park Saturday 9th April 2022

It had been 3 long years since the last ERRA Spring road relay, but Sutton Park was bathed in sunshine for the return of the 12 and 6 stage road relays.

With all the 3 areas now hosting a Young Athlete 5 K it was the Under 17 race that began the days racing.

Northern winner Joshua Bievins had another excellent race to win by 3 seconds from Wirral A.C. duo of Ethan Brady-Jones, 15.34 with Ti Jones 3rd 15.46.

Wirral dominated the team event, winning Gold and Silver to follow on from their Gold at the Northern event.

The Under 17 women’s race proved another success for Northern Clubs with Emillia Platt, moving up from her Silver at the Northern to Gold at Sutton Park.

Her winning time of 18.01 over the testing Sutton Park course was 54 seconds ahead of Kingston upon Hull athlete Tabitha Ford .

East Cheshire took the winning team medal with same three women who won Silver at Birkenhead Park. Emillia Platt, Aliesha Smith, 4th, and Imogen Gush, 6th.

The only Northern success in the under 15 age group was Keighley & Craven athlete Archie Peaker who was 3rd in a time of 17.05

**Women’s 6 stage**

Salford Harriers were 3rd at Birkenhead Park, and had 4 of that team in their line up at Sutton Park. However it was one of the additions that really set them up for a superb day.

Winning bronze medal in the Northern Relay is a good result, but then to add the 2022 Northern Cross Country champion to your team for the National really is a statement of intent. Eleanor Bolton did not disappoint on that crucial 1st leg. Fastest long leg of the day, by 9 seconds she stormed along the Sutton Park course to finish 59 seconds ahead of the 2nd team. Salford with 2 of the top 3 fastest times in both the long and short legs were never headed and won by almost 4 minutes. Fellow Northern club Liverpool Harriers were 5th, just ahead of Hallamshire.

Salford won both the English and the British Championship.

**Men’s 12 Stage**

 A rare bad day for Northern Athletics champions Leeds City.

First leg runner Joshua Mitchell 18th fastest time in the Northern had an asthma attack on that first leg and did well to finish in 49th place. This however was too much of a handicap for Leeds especially against such quality clubs as the ERRA event attracts. They consistently improved throughout the race but finished as first Northern Club but in 5th place, followed by Salford 9th and Hallamshire 12th.