 After topping the Premier Division 1st XI table for a large part of the season, Reigate Priory stumbled in the last few games, ending in second place, 19 points behind Weybridge.

       After nine wins in the first 12 games, the Priory could manage only two wins in its last six games, losing to both Weybridge and Sutton (for the second time).

       The Priory failed to score four runs in the last over of what proved to be an Even Draw with Ashtead (both sides scoring 304) and were lucky to gain an unlikely tie against East Molesey when the home side lost its last eight wickets for 20 runs, Reigate’s Michael Munday spinning his way to 6-10.

       The Priory certainly had the bowling attack to win the title. For the fourth time in five years left-arm spinner Luke Beaven topped the league wicket-takers with 43 wickets at an average 16.24. Leg-spinner Munday was in second place with 40 wickets at 16.93 and medium-pacer Will Hodson in fifth place with 34 wickets at 18.41. Add in Richard Stevens, who like a fine wine only gets better with age (23 wickets at 17.45), and there’s a top bowling attack.

       It was the batting that let the side down. While Richie Oliver scored 631 runs at 37.12 and Andy Delmont scored 601 runs at 50.08, skipper Chris Murtagh scored 405 runs at 31.15 and thereafter the number of runs scored and the averages attained, dwindled.

       Still, second place was an excellent season for the Llamas and the side undoubtedly will be looking to challenge for the title again…next season.