

September 1, 2018

Birkins, Masopust Dash To Victory In Roxbury Mile II

ROXBURY – Running at quarter-horse speed that might have qualified them for the All American Futurity in New Mexico – The Land of Enchantment – Wade Birkins and Alison Masopust instead entered the winners circle in Connecticut – the Land of Steady Habits – by annexing their respective divisions of the Roxbury Mile II.

Birkins, 28, of Roxbury was the overall champion covering the route from near the end of Apple Lane to the edge of the parking lot at the Booth Free School on South Street in 5-minutes, 22-seconds.

At Ruidoso Downs on Labor Day the field will be vying for a total purse of \$3 million in the richest quarter-horse race in the world.

Birkins compensation was to be able to say that he scored his second victory of the season in the weekly Roxbury Road Races Club series.

Sam Quigley, 15, also of Roxbury, was second on Saturday, September 1, with a time of 5:35

Masopust posted her 16th triumph of the campaign in the women's division and placed seventh overall with a clocking of 5:59.

There were 65 finishers, including several families as well as members from out of the area who are part of the 169 Towns Society that seek to complete a race in each of Connecticut's municipalities.

The series will resume on Saturday, September 8, at 8:30 a.m. with a 3.7-mile run that will include a trip up and down South Street and a jaunt up the steep incline along Ranney Hill Road.

Runners can enter through the \$25 season membership or the \$2 weekly waiver. Youth runners can compete for free by signing the weekly waiver.

The Roxbury Marathon/Half Marathon will be held on Saturday, November 10 at 8:30 a.m. Registration is available at www.roxburyraces.net.

The second annual Roxbury Thanksgiving Charity Race will be held on Thursday, November 22, at 9 a.m. There will be no race day registration. Runners can center for \$12.50 through the Ultra Sign-Up link at www.roxburyraces.net.

The races, which are sanctioned by the Roxbury Recreation Commission, usually start and finish near the Everett Hurlburt Community Park at 18 Apple Lane.

For further information, contact Scott Benjamin, the race director, at ScottBenjaminWCSU2014@gmail.com, (860) 354-3521 or access www.roxburyraces.net.