

Birkins, Masopust Prevail Over 6.4-mile Course; Race Series Founder Burley, Land Trust To Be Honored At July 13 Run

ROXBURY – Wade Birkins claimed his fourth victory of the season in the Roxbury Road Races Club series and Alison Masopust tallied her ninth win of the campaign in the women’s division on Saturday, July 6, over a challenging 6.4-mile layout.

Birkins, 29, of Roxbury came through the wire at 41-minutes, 6-seconds – a 6:25-per-mile pace on the loop, which included a trip along Minor Bridge Road.

Henry Netzer, 26, was second overall in 42:34.

Masopust , 35, of Morris placed third overall in 43:12. She has been the season champion in the series the last two years.

The series will resume on Saturday, July 13, at 8:30 a.m. at the preserve on River Road with the 11th annual Roxbury Land Trust race. The event is also the Bill Burley MidSummer Championship, which is named after the former Roxbury resident who started the series in 1977.

The 3.0-mile course will start on River Road and the runners will turnaround near the intersection with South Street and finish at the end of the driveway in the preserve.

A committee, chaired by Janet Levy, the treasurer for the Roxbury Road Races Club series, has agreed for a second successive year to contribute \$500 to the land trust. Also during the post-race ceremony the top finishers will receive medallions designed by runner Dave Harvey, who is a former season champion in the series.

Burley, who now lives in Colorado, was the director of the series from 1977 through 1979. It began as an eight-week summer series modeled after the races he had run in Westport.

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

On Saturday, July 20, at 8:30 a.m. the races will return to the Everett Hurlburt Community Part, the usual site, at 18 Apple Lane for a 5.0-mile run.

There will be no race on Saturday, July 27, in observance of the 52nd annual New Milford Village Fair Day races.

The Roxbury runs are sanctioned by the town's Recreation Commission.

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

(Photos Below)









