

Merrick, Claybrooks Triumph Over Roxbury

4.8-miler

ROXBURY – Ken Merrick and Jennifer Claybrooks took the male and female titles, respectively, at the Roxbury Road Race Series during a 4.8-mile event in which a handful of the entrants stopped along Route 67 to assist an injured colleague.

Merrick, 45, of New Fairfield prevailed in 29-minutes, 55-seconds – a 6:14-per-mile pace – on the out-and-back loop that traveled along part of Judd’s Bridge Road.

Claybrooks, 25, placed 10th overall with a 37:50 clocking.

Runners David McNamara, Eric Koenig, Scott Holmes and Scott Cooney stayed along Route 67 to assist Nelson Azvedo of Southbury, a regular at the series, who collapsed along the side of the road. He was taken by ambulance to Waterbury Hospital and discharged Sunday afternoon, May 24, after undergoing a battery of tests.

He said he hopes to at least be on hand Saturday, May 30, when the series resumes with the first edition of this year’s Roxbury Mile at 8:30 a.m. There will be no entry fee.

That race will start near the end of Apple Lane, just up from the intersection with Rocky Mountain Road, and finish near the end of the parking lot at the Booth Free School on South Street.

The races, which are sanctioned by the Roxbury Recreation Commission, are organized from the Everett Hurlburt Community Park at 18 Apple Lane.

For more information, contact Scott Benjamin, the head director, at ScottBenjaminWCSU2014@gmail.com or (860) 354-3521.