

Merrick, Valin Annex Victories At Roxbury

3.52-miler

ROXBURY – Ken Merrick, the three-time defending season champion, and Debby Valin were the respective male and female winners over a rolling, 3.52-mile course at the Roxbury Road Race Series.

Merrick, 46, of New Fairfield covered the loop Saturday, October 3, in 22-minutes, 44-seconds – a 6:19-per-mile pace – to easily finish ahead of runner-up Jon Binzen, who was timed in 24:32. It was Merrick’s seventh win this season in the weekly series.

Valin, 48, of Woodbridge captured her third win this year in the female division and placed 12th overall in 27:59 on the layout, which included a trip up the long hill on Hemlock Road.

The series will resume Saturday, October 10, at 8:30 a.m. with an 11-mile race that will include a trip up Botsford Hill Road. There will be no entry fee.

The Mike Abraham MidAutumn Championship will be held Saturday, November 7, at 8:30 a.m. over a 3.95-mile course that will include a jeep trail. There will be a \$5 entry fee that can be paid that morning from 7 to 8:20 a.m. Proceeds will go to the Roxbury park improvement fund. The race is named after a former assistant director in the series.

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

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