

Sheldon, Masopust Rank First On Ranney Hill Course

ROXBURY – Jeff Sheldon, a former two-time season champion, and Alison Masopust, who is atop the female standings this campaign, donned the championship straw fedoras after a 3.7-mile jaunt at the Roxbury Road Runners Club series that included a trek up the steep incline on Ranney Hill Road.

Sheldon, 37, of Southbury who captured the season crown in 2005 and 2010, was first overall in 22-minutes, 17-seconds – a 6:01-per-mile pace.

Five-time defending season champion Ken Merrick, 48, of New Fairfield wore the runner-up carnation boutonniere on Saturday, September 9, with a clocking 23:14 over the rolling loop, which also included trips in both directions along South Street.

Masopust, 33, of Morris was the first female finisher and placed fourth overall in 25:55.

The series will continue on Saturday, September 16, at 8:30 a.m. with the ninth annual 3.0-mile Roxbury Land Trust Run at the River Road preserve. The race will start near the preserve and finish near the end of the driveway at the site.

There will be a \$5 entry fee that can be paid that morning from 7 to 8:20. Proceeds will go to the land trust.

Runners can enter through the club's \$50 season membership or the \$5 weekly waiver.

The series will return to its usual location – the Everett Hurlburt Community Park at 18 Apple Lane – on Saturday, September 23, at 8:30 a.m. with the ninth annual Ed Sandifer staggered-start race over a 2.4-mile loop.

There will be a \$5 entry fee that can be paid that morning from 7 to 8:20, with proceeds being donated to Sandifer, 65, of Newtown, a 12-time season champion at the Roxbury series who completed each Boston Marathon from 1973 through 2009.

The series is sanctioned by the Roxbury Recreation Commission.

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