## Birkins, Masopust Win Over Ranney Hill Roxbury Run

ROXBURY – Wade Birkins appears poised to take home the Tiffany & Co. trophy for late summer champion and Alison Masopust is primed to be presented with the red, white and blue bunting that accompanies a second consecutive women's title.

Birkins, 28, of Roxbury tallied his third win in the Roxbury Road Races series since August 11 by posting a 22-minute, 22-second clocking – a 6:03-per-mile – over a 3.7-mile loop that included a trip up the steep incline on Ranney Hill Road and in both directions of South Street.

Randy Watkins, 54, of New Milford, who is leading the point standings at the series for 2018, placed second in 23:46.

Masopust, 34, of Morris was timed in 27:39 to take ninth overall and score her 17<sup>th</sup> victory this year in the women's division. She captured the women's season title in 2017.

The series will resume on Saturday, September 15, at 8:30 a.m. with an 8.7-mile jaunt that will include the Battleswamp Road preserve. Runners can enter through the \$25 season membership or the \$2 weekly waiver.

Youth runners can enter for free by completing a weekly waiver form. The Ed Sandifer 2.4-mile staggered start race is slated for Saturday, September 22, at 8:30 a.m. Runners will take off according to their ability.

The race is named after a former 12-time season champion of the series.

The Roxbury Marathon and Roxbury Half Marathon will be held on Saturday, November 10, at 8:30 a.m. Runners can enter through the link at <u>www.roxburyraces.net</u>.

The second annual Roxbury Thanksgiving Charity Race is scheduled for Thursday, November 22, at 9 a.m.

Runners can enter for \$12.50 through the Ultra-Sign-up link at <u>www.roxburyraces.net</u>.

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

For further information, contact Scott Benjamin, the race director, at ScottBenjaminWCSU2014@gmail.com, (860) 3564-3521 or access <u>www.roxburyraces.net</u>.