

Saturday, September 6, 2025

Lipchus Perseveres Over *Battleswamp*

ROXBURY – The course includes paved and dirt roads, a mile-long trail through a land-use preserve and a steep downhill that makes the entrants fear they won't be able to slow down and negotiate the left-hand turn at the bottom.

The 8.7-miler – which includes a trip through the Roxbury Land Trust's Battleswamp Preserve – is not only a challenge, but an adventure.

Jeff Lipchus, 42, of the Sandy Hook section of Newtown scored his eighth win of 2025 at the weekly Roxbury Road Runners Club series over the route. He was timed in 1-hour, 5-minutes, 35-seconds – a 7:32-per-mile pace – at the Saturday, September 6, event.

Chris Deming, 58, of Danbury – a former season champion in the series – placed second in 1:07.49.

Rina McNamara, 47, of Litchfield – a former women's season champion in the series - was the first female finisher and took fourth overall with a 1:10.24 clocking.

For the 2025 campaign, Mike Abraham, 66, of Roxbury, the defending season champion, is leading the point standings. Through 27 races, he has annexed 913 points.

Miriam Acevedo, 48, of New Milford leads the female division and is third overall with 716 markers.

The series will continue on Saturday, September 13, at 8:30 a.m. over a 4.3-mile loop that will include a trip up the hill on High Bridge Road.

Runners can enter through the \$30 season membership. They also can participate by completing the weekly waiver form and paying a \$5 fee. Youth entrants, current and former members of the military and current and former first responders can participate for free after completing the weekly waiver form.

The Roxbury Fall Classic – half-marathon, marathon and 50-kilometer events – is slated for Saturday, November 8. Pre-registration is available at UltraSignup.

The eighth annual 3.1-mile Roxbury Thanksgiving Day Charity Race will be held on Thursday, November 27, at 9 a.m. Pre-registration can be completed via UltraSignup. The cost is \$10 plus a \$3.12 service fee. Race-day registration will be on November 27 and cost \$15 per runner.

The proceeds will go to the Roxbury Scholarship Foundation and the Roxbury Ambulance Association.

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

For more information, contact Scott Benjamin, the race director, at ScottBenjaminWCSU2014@gmail.com, (Voice-mail) (860) 354-3521 or access www.roxburyrace.net or the Roxbury Races Facebook page.