

Groton Town Forest Trail Races

13 Oct 2013

What a beautiful day for the 16th annual Town Forest Trail Race! Temps in the 60's with light clouds offered ideal running weather. 87 signed on to tackle the 9.5 mile trail- 78 actually ran. For the 3.4 race- 79 registered, 73 showed up and 71 crossed the finish line. Unfortunately, a twisted ankle thwarted the finish for one runner and one very loyal friend.

Total participation ;151 runners, a little less than last year due to a conflict with a big trail run out in western Mass.

The 9.5 mile race was won by Steve O'Brien of Clinton, MA with a time of 55:56, which is not his best on this course but gave him the first prize of an apple and a bottle of wine crafted especially for the GTFTR. The top female on the 9.5 course was Robin Schulman of Maynard, MA with a time 1:19:07, also earning a pie and bottle of wine. Despite the great running weather no records were set this year. At age 67, Walter Perkins of Webster MA was our oldest 9.5 runner this year coming in at an impressive 1:35:20. Emma Ordemann of Groton Mass, at 18 years old was our youngest runner of the 9.5 coming in at 1:31:33.

The 3.4 race was won by Kris Depew from Acton, Ma with at time of 21:47. The first female was Jessica McGarty of Brighton MA with a time of 27:19. We had one record set on the 3.4 mile course this year with 9 year old Malcolm Thornton beating his brother Nicolas Thornton's record for the 5-9 year old with a time of 28:51. Our youngest runners were 7 year olds Jordan Strauss of West Groton and Jack Whiteman of Westford. Our oldest finisher this year was the lovely Rita LeBella at age 62 coming in at 36:20. Rita has rarely missed the Groton Town Forest Trail Race and took home a bottle of wine as her reward.

Proceeds from the Groton Town Forest Trail Races go to the Groton Trails Committee which maintains and maps 100 trails in Groton. Registration and post race reception are held at the Groton Senior Center which generously allows the use of their facility. The race is held in October every year in the first or second week.