



Columbus, June 5 - A light rain during warm up turned into nearly perfect June weather as another outstanding field toed the starting line in downtown Columbus for the “Oldest Race in Columbus” – the 39th annual HOKA One One Columbus 10K presented by RUNOHIO. The race again started and finished at the original site of the former Central High School which is now the Center of Science and Industry (COSI), however the course was slightly changed with completion of the Scioto Mile and Scioto Bike Trail.

Michigan's Alex Russeau took home the top prize money as he won with his 30:39. Columbus' Evan Schwartz (30:55) finished a close second. Perrysburg's Evan Gaynor (31:19) took home the bronze. Dayton's Matt Lemon (31:48) and Portsmouth's Eli Gerlach (32:34) rounded out the top five prize money spots.

Toledo's Samantha Bluske (35:09) held off Dayton's Maura Lemon (35:26) to win the women's gold. Hilliard's Becki Spellman (36:52) captured the bronze while Springboro's master Julie Mercado (36:59) and Ann Arbor's Maggie Priebe (37:27) rounded out the top five.

Perrysburg's Matthew Folk (33:03) won the master crown. Dublin's Thomas Goldsby (34:05) and Lewis Center's Steven Stobert (34:38) took the next two master awards.

{ad}Hilliard's Laura Wetz (38:35) took home the top master award after Mercado finished in the top five.

Powell's Krista Seibert (40:57) finished next.

Columbus' Paul Stoodley (34:38) ran away with the grand master title while Dublin's Joe Patrick (37:30) finished second.

Columbus' Kathy Hayden (43:33) won the women's grand master title while Nancy Kangs (47:59) finished second.

Columbus' Daniel Conner (39:42) and Westerville's Marilyn Hundley (56:18) took home top senior awards.

RUNOHIO signed another two year agreement to be the presenting sponsor for the Columbus 10K. HOKA One One signed on to be the naming sponsor. "The Columbus 10K has always been a special event for me, said RUNOHIO's Matt McGowan. 39 years ago I came home from running the 10,000 meters in the Division III Track and Field National Championships and my younger brother, Jeff, asked me if I would run and go with him to this new race which the Citizen Journal newspaper and the local sport reporters were promoting. The race started at 6pm and the temperature was in the 90's. I was able to win the race. Years later when the race was starting to tail off I got involved and was the race director for 15 years until I asked Jim Jurcevich to take over as race director do to my high school track coaching conflicts. When I saw the race was looking for a title sponsor I decided to step up. I know the costs involved with races, especially in the downtown area. I hope to ensure the success of the race for a long time. The race has always been one of only a few races in the area to offer prize money to the top finishers. Hopefully, you will be able to run or walk next year's 40th annual event and keep the tradition alive."

Jim Jurcevich served as race director since 2009, with Andy Harris taking over race directorship in 2014

last year with help from the Columbus Running Company and RUNOHIO

Results - <http://runohio.com/index.php/results>

□ RUNOHIO photos

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