

Summer Race Schedule News

The summer series race schedule has been set and will accompany this newsletter or be in your mailbox soon. I would like to bring to your attention a few changes we have made to the schedule this year. First, we have added two new races to the schedule. One is a trail race and a club member will host the other. For those who remember the Burbank Hospital trail race that was run for a few years several years back the club is bringing the race back. The course has been altered from a seven-mile race to a five-mile course. This course will also serve as the layout we will be using for the fall NMC Overlook 5M Trail Race and 5K Run/Walk. The summer race will be held on July 13th and will begin and end in the parking lot behind the Health Alliance Hospital in Fitchburg. The second race, the Temple 10K on August 10th, will be run in Templeton from the home of Jim Fay. Jim is a longtime club member and at present a member of the board of directors. This will be a 10K loop run through a residential area from Jim's home. I am told that bathing suits should be brought along. This is welcome news after a hot summer run. Absent from the schedule this year is the Mariposa Farm run. With the passing of Bruce Migell it had become problematic to arrange for the run at this site. For those club members who ran the Bev and Ed Whitney 5K this past winter in Hudson the changed course will remain for the summer race as well. Thanks goes to Charlie Herbert for designing a much-improved course. Along with these changes are changes to the club's Grand Prix scoring. To continue to encourage participation in the series we are adjusting how the scoring will be done. For the summer series we will score twelve out of the sixteen races on the schedule. For those running more than the twelve races the twelve best finishes will be scored. We continue to encourage club members to participate in all the races and as an incentive and a way to recognize and reward these members we will be awarding a NMC pullover for full participation in the series. Once a member has earned the NMC apparel each additional series of full participation will be recognized by having the pullover embroidered with a special symbol of recognition. To further encourage participation we will do an end of the series scoring that recognizes the fastest participants by taking the average from their eight highest point totals. Age group scoring will also be included as the series progresses. The winter series will also be similarly modified. Lastly, there are four trail races on the summer series schedule. As well as scoring these races in the overall Grand Prix standings we will be calculating a series within the series. By this I mean that the four races will be scored separately to acknowledge the trail runners in the club. As has

been done in the past all results will be available on the club's website. As always, any and all comments and suggestions are both encouraged and welcomed. Here's to an enjoyable and successful summer of running and racing.