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Media Contact Information (not for publication):

Kristen Loflin
Media Coordinator
229-886-9360
kloflin@cherryblossom.org

Website: www.cherryblossom.org

Women's 10 Mile World Best Is Shattered and New 10 Mile American Records Set for Men and Women at 52nd Credit Union Cherry Blossom

Americans Taylor Roe and Alex Maier shine with historical performances

April 6, 2025, Washington, DC: Ideal temperatures and cloud coverage set the stage for a record-breaking race day in the men's and women's elite fields at the Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10 Mile (CUCB), as American **Taylor Roe** set the new women's World Best* with a blazing 49:53, which is now also the women's American Record. **Alex Maier** ran a 45:15 to set the new men's American Record.

In the women's race — which started 12 minutes prior to the men's start to avoid men pacing women and to ensure "women's only" status for any records or bests set — Roe pulled away from her competitors early and maintained her commanding lead to earn the title of 2025 USATF 10 Mile National Champion and the overall winner of the CUCB. Roe's world-class performance won her \$30,000 in prize money.

"The plan was to take it out, kind of get the race going, and help push it along. It just so happens that I was not on pace [running faster than planned] and just kind of had to keep going," stated Roe. "I knew I was in the ballpark [of the World Record]. With about a mile to go, my coach told me I was on pace so basically just keep it together."

Finishing in second place overall was **Adane Animew** from Ethiopia with a time of 51:00. Roe and Animew received time bonuses for running sub-52 minutes. She was closely followed by American **Emma Grace Hurley** who finished third overall and second in the USATF 10 Mile Championship in 51:04. U.S. Olympian **Fiona O'Keeffe** was the third American female finisher in 51:49.



American Taylor Roe (l), who set a World Best and American Record for women at the 2025 Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10 Mile with a blistering 49:53 finish, celebrates with fellow American Alex Maier (r), who set a new American men's Record of 45:15.

Despite setting an American Record, Maier finished second overall and second in the USATF 10 Mile National Championships. The champion title goes to **Charles Hicks**, who blazed across the finish line in 45:11 for first place overall. Due to a technicality in the USATF rules, dual citizens are eligible to win the championships but are not eligible to hold an American Record. Therefore, overall champion Hicks, who is a dual citizen of Great Britain and USA, cannot hold the record.

Amy Begley, Director of Long Distance Running Programs for USATF, provided the following explanation:

According to USATF Rule 1 and Rule 261, Charlie Hicks is the USATF 10 Mile Champion and Alex Maier is the American Record Holder.

Rule 1.1b states in Long Distance Running and Race Walking, US citizens who are not eligible to represent the USA in International competition are allowed to participate in any USA National Championship that is not the sole selection event for an International team.

Rule 261.1a defines An American Record, which shall be the best performance in an athletics event made by an individual or relay team such that the individual or each member of the relay team, at the time of the performance, is a citizen of the United States and is eligible to represent the United States in all levels of International competition.

This is the third year in a row that the American Record has been set at the CUCB as the host event for the USATF 10 Mile Championship. **Biya Simbassa** finished third overall and third in the USATF Championships with a time of 45:23. Hicks and Maier received a time bonus for running sub-46 minutes.

Road Runners Club of America (RRCA) prize money totaling \$6,000 was available for the top three male and female RRCA RunPro Camp Alumni. **Aidan Reed** earned \$1500 as the winner of this subset of elite male athletes. No women applied to be eligible.

Here's a compilation of times, prize money and bonuses earned by the elite runners today, organized in order of top 10 overall, followed by the top Americans who also earned prize money:

Top men:

- **Charles Hicks** 45:14, Eugene, OR — **\$6,000** for the overall victory, **\$10,000** for first place among Americans, **\$1,000** time bonus, **\$3,000** for the course record. Total earnings: **\$20,000**
- **Alex Maier** 45:15, Chapel Hill, NC — **\$3,000** for second place overall, **\$5,000** for second American, **\$5,000** for American Record, **\$750** time bonus. Total earnings: **\$13,750**
- **Biya Simbassa** 45:23, Flagstaff, AZ — **\$2,500** for third place overall, **\$2,500** for third American. Total earnings: **\$5,000**.
- **Hillary Bor** 45:30 - **\$1,500** for fourth place overall, **\$1,000** for fourth American. Total earnings: **\$2,500**
- **Wesley Kiptoo** 45:55, Kenya — **\$1,000** for fifth place overall. Total earnings: **\$1,000**.
- **Aidan Reed** 45:48, Boulder, CO — **\$600** for sixth place overall, **\$800** for fifth American, **\$1,500** for first place among RRCA RunPro Camp Alumni. Total earnings: **\$2,900**.
- **Peter Lynch** 45:59, Ireland — **\$500** for seventh place overall..
- **Patrick Dever** 46:05, Great Britian — **\$400** for eighth place overall.
- **Joe Klecker** 46:08, Longmont, CO — **\$300** for ninth place overall and **\$600** for sixth American. Total earnings: **\$900**.

- **Drew Hunter** 46:16, Boulder, CO — **\$200** for 10th place overall and **\$500** for seventh American. Total earnings: **\$700**
- **Daniel Mefsun** 46:18, Flagstaff, AZ — **\$400** for eighth American.
- **Aferwerki Zeru** 47:03, Flagstaff, AZ — **\$300** for ninth American.
- **Joey Berriatua** 47:16, Boulder, CO — **\$200** for 10th American.
- **Andrew Whiting** 48:44, Indianapolis, IN — **\$1,000** for second place among RRCA RunPro Camp Alumni
- **Joseph Minor-Williams** 48:47, Minneapolis, MN — **\$500** for third place among RRCA RunPro Camp Alumni

Top women:

- **Taylor Roe** 49:53, Raleigh, NC — **\$6,000** for the overall victory, **\$10,000** for first place among Americans, **\$5,000** for World Record, **\$5,000** for American Record, **\$1,000** time bonus, **\$3,000** for course record. Total earnings: **\$30,000**
- **Adane Animew** 51:00, Ethiopia— **\$3,000** for second place overall, **\$750** time bonus. Total earnings: **\$3,750**.
- **Emma Grace Hurley** 51:04, Indianapolis, IN — **\$2,500** for third place overall, **\$5,000** for second American. Total earnings: **\$7,500**
- **Fiona O’Keeffe** 51:49, Durham, NC — **\$1,500** for fourth place overall, **\$2,500** for third American. Total earnings: **\$4,000**.
- **Aubrey Frenthway** 51:58, USA — **\$1,000** for fifth place overall, **\$1,000** for fourth American. Total earnings: **\$2,000**.
- **Annie Frisbie** 52:10, Hopkins, MN — **\$600** for sixth place overall, **\$800** for fifth American. Total earnings: **\$1,400**
- **Carrie Elwood** 52:23, Boulder, CO — **\$500** for seventh place overall, **\$600** for sixth American. Total earnings: **\$1,100**
- **Molly Bookmyer** 52:42, Columbus, OH — **\$400** for eighth place overall, **\$500** for seventh American. Total earnings: **\$900**.
- **Emily Venters** 52:55, Salt Lake City, UT — **\$300** for ninth place overall, **\$400** for eighth American. Total earnings: **\$700**.
- **Susanna Sullivan** 53:01, Reston, VA — **\$200** for 10th place overall, **\$300** for ninth American. Total earnings: **\$500**.
- **Amy Davis-Green** 53:36, USA - **\$200** for 10th American.

The elite athletes were followed by approximately 20,000 10 mile finishers, one of whom was **Ben Beach**, the only person to have competed in and completed every Cherry Blossom 10 Mile.

The Credit Union Cherry Blossom 5K presented by ASICS kicked off the running events on Saturday morning. This fan favorite event was recently awarded the designation of Best 5K Race by the 2025 USA Today 10Best Readers' Choice poll, a testament to the event's quick sell out and over 7,000 finishers. This marked the third year that the 5K ran at Freedom Plaza on Saturday before the 10 Mile. Lucite

awards were given to the top five men and women, the top three non-binary runners and the non-binary Master's winner.

Men:

1. **Zachary Prescott** 15:13, Arlington, VA
2. **Jason Fambrough** 15:40, Mission, KS
3. **Lisandro Berry Gaviria** 15:41, Arlington, VA
4. **William Stappert** 15:52, Baltimore, MD
5. **Paul Loeser** 15:52, Washington, DC

Women:

1. **Julia Fenerty** 17:03, Franklin, MD
2. **Sabrina Zator** 17:39, Arlington, VA
3. **Michelle Navarro** 18:05, Red Bank, NJ
4. **Sophia Maynard** 18:08, Washington, DC
5. **Nilani Duarte** 18:16, Fairfax, VA

Non-binary:

1. **Sean Rankin** 19:14, N. Bethesda, MD
2. **Lane David** 23:26, Arlington, VA
3. **Ls Low** 24:22, Washington, DC

Non-binary Masters:

1. **Sean Rankin** 19:14, N. Bethesda, MD

The Credit Union Cherry Blossom Kids Run presented by Amazon followed the 5K with 600 registered participants. Children, ranging in age from 4 to 10, raced with Stumpy the mascot along a fun down and back course. This is the second year that the Kids Run has been located at Freedom Plaza.

For the past 23 years, Credit Union Miracle Day has been the title sponsor of the Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10 Mile and 5K, adding the Kids Run to its portfolio when the event debuted in 2016. ASICS was the presenting sponsor of this year's 5K, and Amazon presented the Kids Run. Wegmans has been the presenting sponsor of the Health and Fitness expo for four years. The Credit Union Miracle Day's partnership with CUCB organizers and charitable runners has generated over \$12 million for the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. This year's fundraising effort totaled \$460,000, which included \$190,000 from runners, the highest amount raised by participants ever.

** 10 Miles is not a recognized distance for records by World Athletics, which is why this is a World Best rather than a World Record.*

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About Credit Union Cherry Blossom:

The Credit Union Cherry Blossom, organized by Cherry Blossom, Inc., a 501(c)(3) chapter of the Road Runners Club of America, is known as “The Runner’s Rite of Spring®” in the Nation’s Capital. The staging area for the 10 Mile is on the Washington Monument Grounds and the course passes in sight of all of the major Washington, D.C. Memorials. The 5K begins at Freedom Plaza and proceeds down Pennsylvania Ave. to the U.S. Capitol building, tracing the route of Presidential Inaugurations. The event serves as a fundraiser for the Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals, a consortium of 170 premier children’s hospitals across North America. About one-third of the funds raised support Washington, D.C.’s own Children’s National (“Children’s Hospital”). The event also provides a \$6,000 purse for recent “graduates” of the Road Runners Club of America’s “RunPro Camp,” a program to teach top recently-graduated U.S. collegiate distance runners about life as a professional runner.

Credit Union Miracle Day, Inc., a consortium of credit unions and credit union suppliers, is the title sponsor of the Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10 Mile, 5K and Kids Run. Presenting sponsors include ASICS, the presenting sponsor of Saturday’s 5K, Wegmans, presenting sponsor of the Health and Fitness Expo held in conjunction with packet pick-up, and Amazon, presenting sponsor of the Kid’s Run; supporting sponsors include Valera, Embassy of Japan, DrinkMore Water, TruStage, Outside+, Potomac River Running, Gatorade Endurance, Suburban Solutions Moving, Select Event Group, and United Lifestyle Brands.

The 10 Mile is sanctioned by [USA Track & Field](#) and the [Road Runners Club of America](#). It is a proud member of the [PRRO Circuit](#). The 5K was voted the Best 5K in the country by *USA Today* polls in 2023 and 2025. To learn more, visit <https://www.cherryblossom.org/>.

About Credit Union Miracle Day:

Credit Union Miracle Day is a partnership of over 100 credit unions, CUSOs and partner organizations united to sponsor the Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10 Mile & 5K benefitting Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals nationwide and promoting the difference credit unions make in their communities.

About America's Credit Unions:

Credit unions are financial cooperatives that provide consumers choices for financial services such as checking accounts, investments and loans of all kinds including mortgages. Funds are federally insured, but unlike banks, there are no stockholders at credit unions. Earnings are returned to member-owners in the form of lower loan rates, higher savings rates, low or no-fee products and services. The credit union philosophy of placing members’ needs first is why more than 142 million Americans do their banking at a credit union.