

## **MINNESOTA MASTERS 15K TAC CHAMPIONSHIP**

### **September 15, Braemar, Edina**

Weatherwise, this was one of the worst days in the twelve-year history of the Masters 15K. The temperature didn't get much above 70o, but the dewpoint didn't get much below it. A stiff breeze that seemed always to be in the runners' faces didn't help much, either.

The conditions were reflected in relatively slow times. Last year our runners set two U.S. age-group records, three single-age records, and 16 Minnesota single-age records. This year we settled for five Minnesota single-age records, indicated by the boxes in the results below.

Nevertheless, there was some good racing out there. The women's race was unusually tight – especially for a masters-only race, but even for any race over 10K. Debbie Janey, defending champions Linda Schissel, and Jo Vos took out the pace fast, taking advantage of the downhill first mile to get there under 6:00. Diane Stoneking figured it was too hot for that, and hung back about 12 seconds worth at mile one. Vos was the first to drop off the pace, and Stoneking was content to keep Schissel in sight. With just about a half mile to go, she decided it was time to kick it in, and so she did for the win. “She did that to me at Bonne Bell, too,” said Janey. “I guess she must do some track work.” She does.

Besides record-setting runners, the Masters 15K honors runners who have never won their age group in any race, ever, in what it calls “Novice” divisions. Congratulations to Wayne Walvatne, Bob Besinger, Roger M Dokken, Rich Roeder, A P (Frank) O'Brien, Katy Sears Lindblad, Carolyn Johnson, and Joyce Pfaff, who have at last broken this habit.

Many thanks to our sponsor for these past nine years, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota, whose contribution allowed us to keep the entry fee so low, and also to Q Cumbers Restaurant, which donated fruit and muffins.