

DOCHERTY WINS (AGAIN) WITHOUT RECORD, YOUNGBERG ADDS TO 2024 WIN TOTAL

602 Total Finishers in 2024 Park Point 5-Miler & 2-Mile Walk

(DULUTH, MINN.) --- Daniel Docherty arrived at this year's Park Point 5-Miler wanting to take a shot at breaking the event record, and for the third straight year – and fourth time overall – he was within a minute of Steve Hoag's time of 24:15 that has stood since 1975.

Docherty crossed the line with a time of 24:40, which was good enough for his third straight and fourth career victory at the Park Point 5-Miler, but not good enough to break the longstanding record.

"The goal was to go at record pace, which is about 4:50 miles," Docherty said. "My plan was to kind of make it two races, the first three miles and then the last two. That's what I did, and it paid off with a win."

Docherty is the first men's runner to win three straight Park Point 5-Milers since Jeremy Polson did it from 2003-05. While the record remains a goal, he said it's a race he always has circled on his summer calendar.

"It's a bit of everything," he said about why he returns to the race. "It supports a great foundation, it's a night race, there's good competition, and you get to hang out by Lake Superior afterward."

Following Docherty across the line were Scott Behling (25:13) in second place and Isahak (25:15) in third place.

Chelsey Youngberg, meanwhile, was the first across the line in the women's race with a time of 29:39, marking her second win this calendar year in races put on by the Young Athletes Foundation.

"I kind of threw out my pace goals at the beginning just because it was hot and just wanted to race it," Youngberg said. "The goal's always to win, but I know this race is competitive. I love the community of Duluth and just getting a chance to see a lot of people that I haven't seen since last summer." Youngberg also won this year's Fitger's 5K, a race she also won in 2022. She was followed across the line by Maddie Van Beek (30:09) in second place and Erika Swanson (32:02) in third place.

In the 2-Mile Walk, Logan Linnum won the men's race with a time of 25:00 while Becky Lindholm won the women's race with a time of 26:18. Kelsey Brown won the nonbinary race with a time of 31:24, marking the first time a non-binary participant has been part of the Park Point 5-Mile & 2-Mile Walk.

There were 506 finishers (247 men, 259 women) in the 5-Mile Run and 96 finishers (30 men, 65 women, 1 non-binary) in the 2-Mile Walk, making this the largest turnout for the event since 2017.

Full results of the 2024 Park Point 5-Miler & 2-Mile Walk can be found <u>HERE</u>.

For any questions or interview requests, please contact Marketing & Public Relations Director Zach Schneider via phone at (218) 343-9874 or via email at <u>zach@grandmasmarathon.com</u>.

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ABOUT THE YOUNG ATHLETES FOUNDATION (YAF)

Created in 1990, the Young Athletes Foundation (YAF) works to support the growth and development of youth athletics throughout northeast Minnesota and northwest Wisconsin by assisting community members and local businesses to provide pathways of opportunity for kids to live active and healthy lifestyles.

The YAF offers community support in a variety of ways, including our Grant Program, Running Shoe Program, and UMD Eleanor Rynda Scholarship Fund. The organization also hosts several kids' events throughout the year including Wednesday Night & Saturday Morning at the Races.

The YAF's mission is helped and funded by various road races throughout the year --- the Saint Fennessy 4K, Fitger's 5K, Park Point 5-Miler, Minnesota Mile, and North End Nightmare 5K.

Since its inception, the YAF has contributed more than \$1.3 million to area nonprofit youth athletic organizations.

