

Gabay, Wechsler run all-time #1 and #2 times at Mill Creek in smoking-hot Burlco Open race!!!

Reuben Frank, [October 19, 2019](#), [sjtcaweb](#)

Austin Gabay and Ethan Wechsler, two of New Jersey's top XC runners, finished 1-2 Friday at the [Burlington County Open](#) with the two-fastest times in Mill Creek Park history. Gabay, a Cinnaminson senior, ran 15:39 and Wechsler, a Cherokee senior, ran 15:43. They repeated their 1-2 finish from last year and became the first runners in course history to break 16 minutes at Mill Creek twice.

The previous course record was 15:43 by Keith Krieger of Cherokee in 2003, so Wechsler tied Krieger's former course record. Gabay plans to run for Duke, where Krieger ran.

Last year, Gabay won the race in 15:56, with Wechsler second in 15:57. Those two are responsible for four of the eight sub-16 times in course history.

Wechsler now has the two-fastest non-winning times in course history.

Gabay pulled away from Wechsler going around the pond the second time, just before the turn toward the tennis courts and the final straightaway.

Cinnaminson and Cherokee runners own the nine-fastest times in course history and 14 of the top 18.

Gabay is the first Cinnaminson runner to repeat a County Open title and the eighth overall.

Here's a look at all the repeat winners in meet history:

Eric Lorenz [Holy Cross], 1986, 1987
Jason Capelli [Rancocas Valley], 1992, 1993
Brad Bisinger [Lenape], 1996, 1997
Adam Ambrus [Shawnee], 1999, 2000
Alex Yersak [Cherokee], 2006, 2007
David Forward [Shawnee], 2008, 2009
Nick Falk [Cherokee], 2014, 2015
Austin Gabay [Cinnaminson], 2018, 2019

Cherokee won its sixth straight team title. More on that later!

Although there have been minor changes in the Mill Creek 5,000-meter course, specifically the location of the bridge in the back woods just before the two-mile mark, the 5,000-meter Mill Creek course has been used for the County Open since 1986.

Here is an all-time Mill Creek performance list with all sub-16:20 times. All the times are from the Burlington County Open except those with an asterisk, which come from South Jersey sectionals, held at Mill Creek only in 1988. The County Open was held for several years at Cherokee in the late 1990s.

ALL-TIME MILL CREEK PARK LIST

15:39 ... Austin Gabay [Cinnaminson], 2019
15:43 ... Ethan Wechsler [Cherokee], 2019
15:43 ... Keith Krieger [Cherokee], 2003
15:56 ... Shawn Wilson [Cherokee], 2012
15:56 ... Austin Gabay [Cinnaminson], 2018
15:56 ... Justin Kelly [Cherokee], 2017
15:57 ... Ethan Wechsler [Cherokee], 2018
15:59 ... Mike Ungvarsky [Cinnaminson], 2016
16:01 ... Jon Anderson [Cinnaminson], 2003
16:04 ... David Forward [Shawnee], 2008
16:05 ... Bill Mason [Cinnaminson], 1998
16:06 ... Steve Grabowski [Cinnaminson], 2005
16:06 ... Urie Ridgeway [Bridgeton], 1988
16:06 ... Chris Spisak [Cherokee], 2017
16:07 ... Eric Lorenz [Holy Cross], 1986
16:08 ... Eric Lorenz [Holy Cross], 1987
16:09 ... Joe Halin [Cherokee], 1998
16:11 ... Justin Kelly [Cherokee], 2016
16:12 ... David Forward [Shawnee], 2009
16:13 ... Adam Ambrus [Shawnee], 1999
16:13 ... John Chilkotowski [Cherokee], 1986
16:13 ... Joe Shanahan [Haddonfield], 1988*
16:15 ... Mike Clayton [Rancocas Valley], 1985
16:15 ... Brad Bisinger [Lenape], 1997
16:15 ... Bill Mason [Cinnaminson], 1997
16:15 ... Nick Falk [Cherokee], 2015
16:16 ... Ben Werbos [Cherokee], 1998
16:16 ... Greg Bredeck [Cherokee], 2005
16:16 ... Connor Herr [Shawnee], 2011
16:16 ... Julian Greco [Lenape], 2012
16:16 ... Jack Shea [Cherokee], 2016
16:17 ... Steve Unger [Shawnee], 2002
16:18 ... Mike Ungvarsky [Cinnaminson], 2015
16:18 ... Rex Myers [Delran], 1988*
16:19 ... Dean Parker [Rancocas Valley], 1986

16:19 ... Jon Harris [Rancocas Valley], 1994
16:19 ... Ray Tomczuk [Delran], 1998
16:20 ... Dan Christensen [Shawnee], 1998
16:20 ... Shawn Wilson [Cherokee], 2011
16:20 ... Austin Gabay [Cinnaminson], 2017