

Cherokee junior Patrick Ditmars runs all-time #7 Burlington County 1,600 time at Holmdel!!!!

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If five South Jersey miles under 4:17 at Haddonfield Thursday night wasn't enough, a sixth ran well under 4:17 a few hours later at Holmdel.

Cherokee junior **Patrick Ditmars** ran 4:15.26 and placed 3rd out of more than 600 runners in 27 sections of 1,600 meters at the Holmdel Twilight Series Royal Rumble at Bob Roggy Stadium. Ditmars' previous PR was 4:19.61 at last year's state Group 4 meet at Franklin High School.

Marco Langan from Bridgewater-Raritan won the race in 4:07.93. His PR was 4:11.40 indoors at the North 2 Group 4 sectionals at the Bubble in February – which was the last competitive 1,600 or mile he ran.

Colin Riley of Jonathan Dayton was 2nd in 4:13.92, dropping his PR from 4:16.51 also indoors at the Bubble in the Meet of Champions in March.

Ditmars' time is No. 3 in Cherokee history, behind only Shawn Wilson [4:11.69 in 2013] and Marc Pelerin [4:11.86 converted from full mile in 2002] and just ahead of Steve Burkholder [4:15.49 in 2010] and Ethan Wechsler [4:15.52 in 2019].

It's also No. 7 in Burlington County history and fastest since 2013, when Wilson ran 4:11.69 on the same track.

It's also a Burlington County junior class record, breaking the mark of 4:15.52 set by Wechsler at the 2019 state Group 4 meet at Franklin.

Another Cherokee junior, **Conor Jacob**, PR'd in 9th place overall with a 4:18.45, a more than seven-second PR from his 4:25.84 when he won the Burlington County Open last weekend at Rancocas Valley.

And Cherokee sophs **Nick Kuenkel** and **Robert Poplau** ran 4:24.93 and 4:27.33, lowered their PRs from 4:26.13 at R.V. Saturday for Kuenkel and something north of 4:40 for Poplau, who hadn't run a competitive 1,600 since freshman year.

Junior **Thomas Bromley** made it five Chiefs under 4:30. Bromley ran 4:27.89, dropping his PR nearly nine seconds.

Here's the updated Burlington County sub-4:16 list:

4:11.15 ... Ryan Garvin [Lenape], 2009
4:11.69 ... Shawn Wilson [Cherokee], 2013
4:11.86y ... Marc Pelerin [Cherokee], 2002
4:13.1y ... Ricky Jacques [Burlington Twp.], 1968
4:14.60 ... Matt Poskus [Cinnaminson], 2007
4:14.8y ... Vance Watson [Willingboro], 1982
4:15.26 ... Patrick Ditmars [Cherokee], 2022
4:15.28 ... Jon Anderson [Cinnaminson], 2004
4:15.44 ... Brian Tetreault [Cinnaminson], 2007
4:15.49 ... Steve Burkholder [Cherokee], 2010
4:15.52 ... Ethan Wechsler [Cherokee], 2019