

Skies Clear for Sandy Hook Lighthouse 5k

The prediction was wind and rain for the annual Sandy Hook Lighthouse Run for the Blind. Once again, the sun fought its way through the morning clouds and the only wind that appeared was a welcoming tail wind that followed the runners back to the finish line.

Ryan Mitchell ran a blistering 16:05 to win the 12th Annual race to support the NJ Blind Citizens Association and Camp Happiness. Lyndsay McMeen of Red Bank won the Women's division in a swift 19:52 run and finished fourth overall.

The race which is put on by the Eatontown Lions Club is an annual benefit to this cause and is supported by the Jersey Shore Running Club and the many dedicated volunteers from both clubs. Special commemorative tee shirts and accessories were given to each runner to mark their participation in the event. Awards were presented following the Kid's Run – in its third year and becoming a family must for those looking to get the younger generations interested in running. All children who ran received a special medal for finishing.



Ryan Mitchell of West Long Branch

Many of the registered runners donated above the race amount to the NJ Blind Citizens Association to support the local charity and the many wonderful programs in Leonardo such as Camp Happiness and the Thrift Shop located at 18 Burlington Avenue on the bay. Support for the blind is the Lions key mission and the involvement of both of these organizations has been a resounding success.

Stacey Stefanski, Director at NJBCA presented awards to the winners and all participants were invited to join in an after event gathering at Off the Hook in nearby Highlands. Next year's race will be on May 5th 2018 and we suggest that you mark your calendars and put away your umbrellas as the sun always shines on the Lighthouse 5K!