## May 7-9, 2015 – Loucks Games 48

Combined: North Rockland 50 Medgar Evers 48 Windsor, CT 24

Men: Mount Vernon 28 Newburgh 27 Iona Prep 23

Women: Rush-Henrietta 46 New Rochelle 40 Medgar Evers 38

This was the first year that four Outstanding Athlete awards were given, as both genders had awards given to the Outstanding Runners and the Outstanding Field athletes, and with the talent that was on display in 2015, it made the selection much easier on the committee. Although this meet will forever be remembered for its blistering-paced Men's 3200 Meters race, there were plenty of outstanding performances. Mike Brannigan of Northport shared the Outstanding Male Athlete Award with Mount Vernon's Rai Benjamin, each having superb meets. Brannigan won the aforementioned 3200m with a New York State and Meet Record of 8:42.92, one of ten runners to break the magical 9:00 minute barrier. Second place finisher Alex Ostberg (Darien) set a Connecticut state record (8:43.93), while third place finisher Eli Moskowitz (Souhegan) set a state record for New Hampshire (8:44.79). Even 11th place was fast (9:00.31). Benjamin, meanwhile, came within 0.003 seconds of becoming the first male to win three individual events at the same Games. His second place finish in the 100 meters (10.686) placed him slightly behind Mount St Michael's Anton Porter's (10.683), the latter also winning the 200m (21.58). Meanwhile Benjamin won the 400m in near-record time 46.67 and then won what would become his Olympic event, the 400IH, in a near-record 51.71. As of 2025, each of Rai's one-lap efforts is still #2 all-time Loucks, while the 100m is ranked #7. The Outstanding Female Running Award was won by Rush-Henrietta's Sammy Watson, who on Friday won the 800m (2:08.73), then on Saturday won the 400m (53.59), before anchoring the winning 4x400. The Outstanding Female Field Award was earned by Shayla Broughton (Medgar Evers) who set a meet record in the Pentathlon (3318 points – 14.77/5'6"/18' 3.25" / 29' 8.25" / 2:53.40). Beacon's Rayvon Grey set a meet record in the Long Jump (24' 9.75") to capture the Outstanding Male Field Award. North Rockland's Eric Favors doubled in the Shot Put and Discus (62' 11.75"/ 173' 8"), while meet records were set by Kristina Insingo (Holy Trinity) in the Discus (143' 8") and Brenessa Thompson (Medgar Evers) in the 100m (11.83). In a great

story, Annie Heffernan of St. Ursula in Cincinnati, Ohio won the Saturday morning mile (4:49.47) after her delayed flight arrived at approximately 2:00 am. Many followers of Loucks rank the 2015 meet alongside the 2012 meet as the top meet in Loucks Games history.

## May 12-14, 2016 – Loucks Games 49

Combined: North Rockland 56 New Rochelle 47 Windsor 47

Men: Huntington 49 Beacon 38 Saratoga Springs 29

Women: Paul Robeson 62 North Rockland 51 New Rochelle 37

From the very start, one could tell that it was going to be a great meet, as on Thursday, the North Rockland guartet of Katelyn Tuohy, Camille Cameron, Sydney March and Alex Harris set a meet record in the DMR (11:39.49). The 2016 Games had its share of outstanding performances and performers, and in the second year of four outstanding athlete awards (two male, two female) the judges had many candidates from whom to choose. Alyssa Sandy's meet record in the 100HH (13.83) and #6 all-time Loucks performance in the 400LH (60.73) cemented the Outstanding Female Runner Award for her, while Brianna Duncan (Cambridge Rindge & Latin, MA) won the Outstanding Female Field Award by winning the Long Jump (#3 all-time Loucks – 20' 3") and Triple Jump (38' 11"). Rayvon Grey repeated as the Outstanding Male Field Performer by winning the Triple Jump (49' 1.25" - #6 all-time Loucks) and the Long Jump (23' 6"). Huntington's Infinite Tucker won both hurdles (14.53 - highs and 52.77 – intermediates) and ran on the winning 4x400 to be named the Outstanding Male Running Athlete. There were other fine performances, too. Sammy Watson (Rush Henrietta) won the 800m (2:06.61 - #3 all-time Loucks) and the 400m (53.48 #4 all-time Loucks). Andrew Cannistraci (Iona Prep) won the Shot Put (56' 7.5") and the Discus (173' 6"). Noah Affolder (Carthage) ran 8:47.60 to win the 3200m, being one of a record *eleven* runners under the nine minute mark. Aiden Tooker who was second (8:49.27) won the next morning's One Mile Run with a great time of 4:10.57. Tyler Gleen (Trumbull) won the first of his consecutive 800m titles (1:52.22).

## May 11-13, 2017 – Loucks Games 50

Combined: Cathedral Prep, PA 47 St Anthony's 44 Nyack 39

Men: Huntington 47 Cathedral Prep, PA 30 Greenwich (CT) 27

Women: New Rochelle 47 Saratoga Springs 39 Valhalla 23

This year's meet was supposed to be a celebration of 50 Years of Loucks, as many of the winners from the inaugural 1968 Games were present to be acknowledged at what was expected to be a huge crowd. Mother Nature had other plans, as monsoon conditions wreaked havoc upon the meet, canceling the Pole Vault and Steeplechase competitions, while cutting the total of participating athletes as compared to the list of accepted athletes by almost half. Due to a lack of competitors, at times the meet ran two hours ahead of schedule. Despite the conditions, there were several excellent performances. Kyree Johnson (Huntington), the Outstanding Male Runner cruised to a 48.34 victory in the 400m, a day after he won the Long Jump (23' 9"). Cameron Landis of Cathedral Prep (PA), the Outstanding Male Field Athlete won the Shot Put (58' 7.5") and was second in the Discus (166' 04"). Saratoga Springs' Kelsey Chmiel, the Outstanding Women's Runner, on Thursday anchored the winning DMR (4:42.97 split), and on Friday, won the 3200m (9:59.62). Outstanding Women Field Athlete, Olivia Morgan, scored 3205 points in the Pentathlon, despite the weather. For the second consecutive year Tyler Gleen of Trumbull (CT) won the 800m (1:51.82). Kristie Schoffield (Merrimack Valley, NH) cruised to a 2:08.46 victory in the 800m. The High Jump was held indoors, and Danny Renwick (Old Rochester, MA) jumped 6' 10" – the highest jump at Loucks in 17 years.

# **May 10-12, 2018 – Loucks Games 51**

Combined: North Rockland 46.4 Brentwood 37 Saratoga Springs 34

Men: Cardinal Hayes 36 Hunterdon Central, NJ 28.333 St Anthony's 26

Women: North Rockland 40.4 Wellesley 34 New Rochelle 33

Samantha Morillo (Valhalla) became only the second person in meet history to win three individual events. By winning the Shot Put (44' 3.25" - #4 all-time Loucks), the Javelin (117'

3") and the Discus (Meet record 145' 7"), Samantha was named the Outstanding Female Field Athlete. The Outstanding Female Runner was Katelyn Tuohy who, on Friday evening, set a national record in the 3200m (9:47.88), and then on Saturday won the Mile 4:45.61 (the fastest pure mile in meet history). CJ Licata (Gill St Bernard, NJ) won the Shot Put (63' 2.5" - #6 all-time Loucks and the Discus (184' 3" - #3 all-time Loucks) and was named the Outstanding Male Field Athlete. Based upon the strength of his victories in the 200m (21.19 - #2 all-time Loucks) and the 100m (10.82), Carlon Hosten (Taft) was named the Outstanding Male Runner. Some of the other top performances included Olivia Morgan (New Rochelle) setting a meet record in the Pentathlon (3406), Warwick's Kaeli Thompson's meet record in the Pole Vault (12' 7"), Billy Powers' 110HH (14.31 from Winnacunnet, NH) and Sophia Myers' 100HH (14.39 from Queens High School for Teaching) each winning for the second straight year. The excellent program of State College, PA sent its first athlete to the Games, and Esther Seeland didn't go home empty-handed, winning the 800m in 2:10.47.

# May 9-11, 2019 – Loucks Games 52

Combined: North Rockland 46.4 Brentwood 37 Saratoga Springs 34

Men: Columbus 32 Bronxville 30 Lowell, MA 27

Women: Paul Robeson 55 Saratoga Springs 33.25 New Rochelle 28 North Rockland 28

Like its counterpart of ten years earlier, many felt that the 2019 version of Loucks was among the best ever. It's hard to argue against it. The high hurdles produced both Men's and Women's Outstanding Runner Awards. Sincere Rhea (St Augustine, NJ) set the meet record in the 110 HH prelims, running 13.81. In the finals, he ran a windy 13.52. Chibugo Obichere (Valley Stream South) won the Women's 100HH with a new meet record of 13.80. In the field, Alissa Braxton (Commack) set a meet record with her 42' 0.25" leap in the Triple Jump, while for the men, Anthony Harrison (Ramapo) won a Discus duel with Nolan Landis (Madison, OH), throwing a meet record of 195' 7" (Landis finished with 191' 10" – the second best effort in meet history). Earlier, on Thursday, in an exciting DMR, Saratoga Springs defeated Portsmouth (NH) 11:54.24 to 11:57.26. Also on Thursday, the SMR made its debut, with the winning teams

being Suffern (4:05.63) and Bronxville (3:30.21). On Friday an exciting 800m saw Makayla Paige (Tewksbury, MA) display a huge homestretch kick to hold off Sacred Heart's (Halifax, NS), Maggie Smith and Nicole Anderson of Billerica (MA) 2:10.31 – 2:10.91 – 2:10.95. What a race! Anthony Brodie (Columbus) won the 200m (21.50) and the 400m (47.64). For the only time in meet history, to date, two long jumpers cleared the 24-foot mark, as Dalton's Zach Love (24' 3.25") narrowly defeated Justin Forde of Connecticut's Brien McMahon (24' 1.50"). respectively with the #4 and #5 best efforts in meet history. Forde continued his fine jumping winning Saturday's Triple Jump with the meet's third longest effort in history (50' 9"), meaning only the great Sanya Owolabi's two winning efforts (1977 – 51' 11" and 1978 – 52' 4.5") were better. Traveling from central Pennsylvania, Marlee Starliper (Northern HS) ran the second fastest time in meet history as she captured the 3200m in 9:54.75, with only Katelyn Tuohy's national record performance of the previous year topping it. Tuohy concentrated on the Mile, winning with the second fastest pure mile in meet history 4:46.24, only being topped by her own effort the year before. Ian Hall of Rogers (RI) set a meet record in the Javelin (203' 2"). Wow, what a meet. And who thought, as Ward Melville's Elizabeth Radke crossed the finish line as the last participant of the 2019 Games (final section of the 4x400), that it wouldn't be until 2022 that a regular Loucks Games would once again be held?