

Draft: 1923 **1st International/ National Y.M.C.A.**
Swimming & Diving Championship Tournament May 19, 1923
Hosted by the Brooklyn Central Branch YMCA

There were Nine Young Men's Christian Associations from Five States that took part in the First National Y.M.C.A. Swimming Championship that was held at the Brooklyn Central YMCA on May 19, 1923. Teams came from as far west as Cincinnati, Ohio (Central Parkway Branch), and as far north as Toronto Ontario, Canada (West End Branch). Also teams from Auburn, Maine; Worcester, Massachusetts; Summit, Passaic, and Bayonne, in New Jersey, and finally teams from New York; (Buffalo, West Side Branch and Brooklyn Central Branch) participated in the meet.

Note: In the historical material received there is no information regarding officials; a Championship Committee, a Meet Director or a Meet Referee, etc. Also there is no listing of an "Order of Events" or indication as to the number of participants.

Meet Highlights: The feature race of the evening was the neck and neck battle between Harry Lewis (Brooklyn Central) and Louis Rutledge (Cincinnati Central Parkway). Both men raced on even terms throughout the 100 yards, with Lewis winning out by a margin of inches at the finish. There were 5 National Records established during the meet as indicated above (*). This being the 1st National Championship it would stand to reason that each event would have established a new record. However the National YMCA Physical Education Department must have established a Competitive Swimming Records system prior to this event. **(Will need to research this!)**

1923

Meet Results:

50 Yard Free Style: (1 turn)

<u>Place:</u>	<u>Names:</u>	<u>Association:</u>	<u>Time:</u>
1 st	Louis Rutledge	Central Parkway Br. Cincinnati, OH	26.3/5
2 nd	Alfred Brown Jr.	Central Br. Brooklyn, NY	NT
3 rd	Louis Helwig	Central Br. Brooklyn, NY	NT

100 Yard Free Style: (3 turns)

<u>Place:</u>	<u>Names:</u>	<u>Association:</u>	<u>Time:</u>
1 st	Harry Louis	Central Br. Brooklyn, NY	56.3/5*
2 nd	Louis Rutledge	Central Parkway Br. Cincinnati, OH	NT
3 rd	Chauncy Croll	Buffalo, NY	NT

220 Yard Free Style: (8 turns)

<u>Place:</u>	<u>Names:</u>	<u>Association:</u>	<u>Time:</u>
1 st	Arthur Hastings	Central Br. Brooklyn, NY	2:38.4/5*
2 nd	Ed. Vogeles	Central Parkway Br. Cincinnati, OH	NT
3 rd	Cornell Braisted	Central Br. Brooklyn, NY	NT

440 Yard Free Style: (17 turns)

<u>Place:</u>	<u>Names:</u>	<u>Association:</u>	<u>Time:</u>
1 st	Harry Lewis	Central Br. Brooklyn, NY	5:59.3/5*
2 nd	Louis Rutledge	Central Parkway Br. Cincinnati, OH	NT
3 rd	Edmund Gillis	Central Br. Brooklyn, NY	NT

(*) Indicates those individuals who have broken the existing National YMCA Record time.

1923

Meet Results Continued:

200 Yard Breast Stroke: (7 turns)

<u>Place:</u>	<u>Names:</u>	<u>Association:</u>	<u>Time:</u>
1 st	H. Altheimer	Central Parkway Br. Cincinnati, OH	2:54.4/5*
2 nd	Victor Kiffe	Central Br. Brooklyn, NY	NT
3 rd	Hugh Robinson	Central Br. Brooklyn, NY	NT

150 Yard Back Stroke: (5 turns)

<u>Names:</u>	<u>Association:</u>	<u>Time:</u>
1 st Victor Kiffe	Central Br. Brooklyn, NY	1:53.2/5*
2 nd James Hill Jr.	Central Br. Brooklyn, NY	NT
3 rd Thomas Walker	West End Br, Toronto, Ont. Canada	NT

Fancy Diving:

<u>Place:</u>	<u>Names:</u>	<u>Association:</u>	<u>Points:</u>
1 st	Joseph Kreuttner	Central Br. Brooklyn, NY	???
2 nd	Thomas Gonsalves	Central Br. Brooklyn, NY	???
3 rd	Theodore Smith	Central Br. Brooklyn, NY	???

400 Yard Free Style Relay: (5 turns)

<u>Place:</u>	<u>Names:</u>	<u>Association:</u>	<u>Time:</u>
1 st	Louis Helwig, James Hall Jr., Alfred Brown, Harry Lewis.	Central Br Brooklyn, NY	4:06.4/5
2 nd	Ed Vogele, Russ Webb, H. Altheimer, Louis Rutledge.	Central Parkway Br. Cincinnati, OH	NT
3 rd	McColgan, Schuchert, Mason, Chauncy Croll.	Buffalo, NY	NT

(*) Indicates those individuals who have broken the existing National YMCA Record time.

Meet Scoring:

<u>Place:</u>	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>3rd</u>
Individual Events:	5	3	1
Relay Events:	10	6	2

Total Points Scored:

1st Place:	Central Br. Brooklyn, NY	52 Points
2nd Place:	Central Parkway Br Cincinnati, OH	25 Points
3rd Place	Buffalo, NY	3 Points
4th Place	West End Br. Toronto, Ontario	1 Point

Editorial Notes:

In Preparing and working on this International / National Y.M.C.A. Swimming and Diving Championship Historical Project it has been a little difficult in that there is limited material and information, particularly for the early years. During these years from the 1st men's championship in 1923 through about 1936 only first place times were reported and in some cases there was no first names (sometimes initials) were used. However, the task of putting this YMCA Historical Information together has been a very interesting challenge but beyond a doubt well worth the time and effort.

