

**4<sup>th</sup> YMCA International Swimming and Diving Championship Meet**  
**April 23 – 24, 1926**  
**Hosted by the Central Branch YMCA, Brooklyn, New York**

For the second time in four years the YMCA National Swimming Championship was held at the Brooklyn Central YMCA. Twelve YMCA associations and 120 athletes took part in the championship. To date, there is limited material regarding this championship meet.

**Event Results (Limited Information Available)**

**50 Yard Freestyle**

<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Association</u>	<u>Time</u>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Walter Laufer	Central Parkway Br Cincinnati, OH	24.0*
2 <sup>nd</sup>	No additional information		

**150 Yard Backstroke**

<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Association</u>	<u>Time</u>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Walter Laufer	Central Parkway Br. Cincinnati, OH	?

**220 Yard Freestyle**

<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Association</u>	<u>Time</u>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Harry Glancy	Central Parkway Br. Cincinnati, OH	?

**100 Yard Freestyle**

<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Association</u>	<u>Time</u>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Walter Laufer	Central Parkway Br. Cincinnati, OH	?

**440 Yard Freestyle**

<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Association</u>	<u>Time</u>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Harry Glancy	Central Parkway Br, Cincinnati, OH	5:06.4/5*

(\* ) *New YMCA National Record time.*

The team championship was won by the Brooklyn Central team, which mounted a well balanced team effort in spite of the absence of Walter Spence, due to an attack of the "Flu." This is the third time in four years that the Brooklyn team won this team championship.

**Biography: Walter Laufer** was born July 15, 1906 in Cincinnati, Ohio. Walter was discovered by Fred "Tiny" Pfeiffer, the Cincinnati East High coach, and was later coached at the Central Parkway YMCA and the Chicago Lakeshore Athletic Club by Stanley Brauning. Walter participated in the 1925 and 1926 YMCA National Championships and set a new national record in the 50 Yard Freestyle in 1926. Walter and his YMCA team also won the National AAU Indoor Championship in 1926. Walter (including relays points) outscored all of the other teams. In addition, he was also recognized by the Sports Writers as the 1926 "Swimmer of the Year." In 1928, Walter was a member of the U.S. Olympic Team and won two medals: Silver in the 100 Meter Backstroke and Gold in the 800 Meter Freestyle Relay, which was anchored by Johnny Weissmuller. In 1974, Walter Adam Laufer was inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Walter died on July 16, 1984.

**Editorial Note:** Material for the information on Walter Laufer was obtained from a book compiled by Susan Laufer Pfau, daughter of Walter Laufer, Ronald R Brill, son-

in law, and assisted by Nancy Laufer Brill, also a daughter of Walter Laufer, who live in Cincinnati, Ohio.

*Information researched and compiled by Paul Atkinson. Edited by Meredith Griffin.*