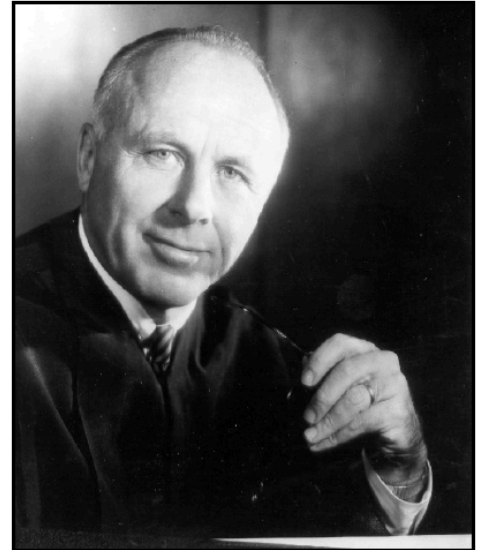


#160

A. Andrew Hauk

Born: 1912

During the 50 years that he was involved in skiing, Andy Hauk always seemed to be on top of the mountain as he reached his many pinnacles in ski sport. He authored numerous articles, letters, prospectuses and reports on skiing, in general, and ski area development, in particular.



A. Andrew Hauk was born in Colorado in 1912, and was a natural athlete. He was a basketball and semi-professional baseball player, and took to the slopes whenever he had the opportunity.

Hauk's achievements include Olympic Games organizer, participation in the development of three ski areas, founding member of a division of organized skiing, various elective offices, presidency of one of Southern California's oldest ski clubs, a national ski racing title, and a much sought after speaker on behalf of ski sport.

Andy Hauk's lifelong devotion to skiing began in Denver, Colorado, in 1924 when as a twelve-year-old, natural athlete – he was a varsity basketball player in high school and college and a semi-professional baseball player-he took to the Rocky Mountain snowfields at every opportunity.

Following his graduation from law school in 1939, Hauk came to Los Angeles which had few developed ski areas. The California Ski Association (now the Far West Ski Association) was only nine years old. Nevertheless, Hauk soon found several tightly-knit ski clubs which were highly competitive. Their weekend ski races at local areas and more distant Yosemite and Mammoth – which all had primitive uphill lifts – became legendary, establishing intense team rivalries and lifelong friendships.

Hauk's first taste of organized opposition to ski area development occurred in 1947 when he appeared at public hearings concerning development of San Gorgonio, an 11,000-foot peak near Palm Springs. This area enjoys snow-packed slopes from November until May, and its proximity to Los Angeles would have alleviated extensive travel time for skiers. Public debates continued through 1948, with Hauk in the forefront, presenting testimony and graphic support.

In 1952, Hauk was elected president of the Southern Ski club, his presidency lasting until 1954. Also in 1952, Hauk entered an entirely new phase of his skiing career-sanctioned ski racing. Always an aggressive racer, Hauk accepted a challenge from his brother, Paul, a member of the Forest Service in Colorado, and entered the national championships. While he had never raced at that level, Hauk emerged as the winner of the seniors (now veterans) Class II Giant Slalom. In 1954 and 1956, Hauk was a runner-up in the class, the latter finish more remarkable because in 1955 he had severed his Achilles' tendon and was out of skiing for the entire year. During these years, Hauk continued to win club races and added a veteran's title.

All of Hauk's initial thirty years in skiing, however, were prologue to the newest pinnacle he was to scale. In 1955, he was named to the California Olympic Commission for the 1960 Winter Olympic Games at Squaw Valley. Many have called these the finest games ever staged. In 1958, Hauk was named vice chairman of the committee and, as such, was charged with the responsibility of obtaining funds from the state of California, overseeing the funding of the organizing committee, establishing budgets, approving vouchers, setting policy and creating the general overall tone of the games.

Following Squaw Valley, Hauk found a further aspect of skiing – officiating at races. After 1960, he often served as chief of course, race committee chairman, gatekeeper, timer and referee. In 1963, he became certified by the Far West Ski Association as a competition official. His first exposure to officiating had actually come in 1950 when he served as a timing and scoring official at the F.I.S. World Championships at Aspen, Colorado.

Hauk was also a member of the National Ski Patrol System and received training at the U.S. Forest Service Snow Ranger School at Alta, Utah. His Ski Patrol Avalanche No. 1627 was issued in 1952.

In 1964, he was named a Superior Court Judge in Los Angeles, and in 1966 he was named a U.S. District Judge for the Central District of California, sitting in Los Angeles.

A. Andrew Hauk was elected to the U.S. National Ski Hall of Fame in 1975.