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Henry Hall

Born: 1893 Died: 1986

Henry Hall, born in Ishpeming Michigan, was a famous ski jumper who skied from 1910 to 1930. Henry's brothers were also famous skiers. When they were children, their father had them jump off their front porch so they could beat their Swedish and Finnish neighbors. He also started them walking a tight rope in a big barn in order to improve their equilibrium.

Henry C. Hall was born in Ishpeming, Michigan, in 1893. He was the best skier of five Hall brothers that skied throughout the United States and Canada from 1910 to 1930. Henry Hall won the National Ski Association National Ski Jumping Title in 1916 at Glenwood, Minnesota, and a year later established the World Ski Jumping Distance Record of 203 feet at Steamboat Springs, Colorado, the first of two world records he set in his career. The Colorado ski fans present at Steamboat Springs' famed Howelsen Hill, that day in 1917, cheered wildly, placed American Flags in Hall's hands, hoisted him to their shoulders, and carried him to his hotel. This was a proud moment for American skiing, for here was a World Distance Record holder in their midst, and he was a native-born American, the first to ever hold such a title. Hall's second World Distance Record was set at Revelstoke, British Columbia, Canada, in 1921 when he upped the distance record to 229 feet.

The following is a summary of some of Henry's accomplishments:

First American to hold World Ski Jumping Titles

1. 1917 World Record, 203 feet: Steamboat Springs, CO
2. 1921 World Record, 229 feet: Revelstoke, British Columbia

Record unbroken for 10 years

3. Continued to win ski-jump titles to age 43
4. Last jump recorded for television at age 78
5. Cross-country skied to age 91

Henry Christian Hall was elected to the U.S. National Ski Hall of Fame in 1967.



Henry Hall at Steamboat Springs, Colorado, after establishing the World Ski Jumping Distance Record of 203 feet at the famed Howelsen Hill.