



Hall of Fame

Sverre Fredheim

Inducted: 06 Nov 1992

Sverre Fredheim was born in Gran, Norway. He moved to the United States in 1927. In 1930 Fredheim settled in St. Paul. In 1931, he competed in, and won, the St. Paul Ski City Ski Jumping Championships held at Mounds Park.

His first victory catapulted the slightly built Norwegian immigrant into a career that spanned a period of three decades of championship performances.

Fredheim established and held many ski jumping hill records, among them was the 197 foot mark at Battle Creek Park in St. Paul. He also held the hill record on the Mounds Park Slide, the site of his first US competition.

In 1931, Fredheim won the Class "B" Central Division title in competition held in Canton, South Dakota. He was elevated into Class "A".

In 1934 he won the Central Division title and was second in the National competition.

During his long and outstanding career, Fredheim gained most every championship for which he vied. He led the US competition in the 1936 Olympic Tryouts. He competed for America, placing 11th - tops for the US team - in the Olympic games held at Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany.

In 1937, following his return from the Olympic Games, Fredheim began the season with a 212 foot hill record leap at Devil's Lake, North Dakota. During the 1937 season Fredheim garnered eight Class "A" victories.

Fredheim was selected to be a member of the 1940 US Olympic Team, but the Games were not held due to the Second World War.

In 1948, at the age of 40, Fredheim again skied himself onto the US Olympic team. In competition held at St. Moritz, Switzerland, he placed 12th.

Near immortal on a pair of skis, Fredheim narrowly missed the 1952 Olympic Team when he finished ninth among the best of US competitors.

His illustrious career as a ski jumping competitor was recognized and honored in 1973 with he was induction into the US Ski Hall of Fame.

It is fitting that this man, who represented the St. Paul Ski Club for most of his career and gained the respect and admiration throughout the world for his competitive abilities, be honored with induction in the St. Paul Ski Club Hall of Fame.