



George Young, Honor Swimmer, Canada, 1963



George (on the right) receiving winner's check from IMSHOF Honoree William Wrigley Jr. as first to swim from Catalina Island

Videos: [Show 1 at 2:00](#) [Pathé 1](#) [ISHOF 1](#)

George Young won 2 Majors: 1927 Wrigley Ocean Marathon Race and 1931 Canadian National Exhibition. The first came at age 17 as the sole finisher of the 1927 Wrigley Ocean Marathon across the Catalina Channel in 15 hours and 44 minutes, winning the US\$25,000 first prize. This event organized and funded by IMSHOF Honoree William Wrigley Jr. was a massive sporting event at the time with huge media attention. This greatly raised the profile of the sport and George became a Canadian superstar - nick named the "Catalina Kid". In 1931 George won the 24.1 km Canadian National Exhibition race in a time of 8 hours and 9 minutes.

He is an inductee in the International Swimming Hall of Fame - Class of 2014.

[Expanded Biography \(Openwaterpedia\)](#)

[Long Swims Database \(Marathon Swimmers Federation\)](#)