

The 110 Meter and 120 Yard Hurdles

In the early history of track, there were all kinds of hurdle races, but about as standardized as obstacle courses—and run in much the same way. The first record listed as over 120 yards with ten hurdles of 42 inches each was in 1859. The hurdles themselves have evolved through the years; 19th century hurdling was over gates staked into the ground. The next shape was an inverted "T", with a base that extended both in front and back of the hurdle. The result was an object that could be knocked over but that rode up into the runner's legs first. The now familiar "L"-shaped hurdle became the norm in the mid-30's, quickly lowering world records. The global best has progressed only about one full second since then.

To say that the ranking picture was muddled for the high hurdles is understating the point. All ten of these athletes were on the short list for #1, as no one stood out head and shoulders above the rest across all ranking areas. While I will defend my choices, someone else could reasonably come up with a quite different set of rankings. It is amazing how many good hurdlers couldn't make the top ten—Dillard, Drut and Jackson to name just a few.

Statistical note: Since 110 meters and 120 yards differ by so little, yard marks are simply denoted by "y".

1. Greg Foster (US)

Born August 4, 1958 Chicago, Illinois

Competed at

Foster is the only athlete who tops the century without an Olympic gold medal or a world best. The latter isn't a particular problem, as marks are the least important area of consideration, but the two together are usually deadly enough to keep someone out of the top ten. Foster is, however, exceptional in his other accomplishments.

In 1976, Foster was a senior in high school. In 1980, no Americans went to the Games. In 1984, he lost to Roger Kingdom in L.A. by 0.03 seconds. In 1988, he attempted the Olympic Trials with his broken arm in a cast, but didn't make it. And finally in 1992, Foster was a little past his prime (his 16th year as a world-class hurdler) and got 4th at the Trials. Not the most successful Olympic hurdler of all time, but I wouldn't call it abysmal failure.

In the meantime, Foster took the first three World Championships, won six US titles, ranked #1 in the world five times and #2 another five times, and scored more rankings points in a single running event than anyone else (except for some guy named Carl Lewis). He has won as many Honors as any other hurdler and far surpasses all in Rankings. The fact that he never set a record or won an Olympic title is meaningless in light of these credentials.

Year	Rank	Mark	Meets, etc.
1977	7	13.57*	3)NCAA
1978	2	13.22	1)NCAA, 2)AAU, 1)US v SU
1979	4	13.28	dnf)NCAA, 2)ISTAF
1980	2	13.27	1)NCAA, dnq)Oly Trials, 3)Coke, 2)Weltklasse

1981	2	13.03	1)TAC, 1)US v SU, 2)Weltklasse, 1)W Cup, 1)Coke
1982	1	13.22	1)Weltklasse; 11 wins in 12 finals
1983	1	13.11	1)TAC, 1)W Ch, 1)Weltklasse
1984	2	13.15	1)Oly Trials, 2)Oly Gms, 1)Weltklasse; dnf 3 times
1985	2	13.24	dnf)Weltklasse, 1)ISTAF
1986	1	13.25	1)TAC, 1)Goodwill, dnf)Oly Fest, 1)Weltklasse
1987	1	13.17	1)TAC 1)Weltklasse, 1)W Ch, 2)GP Final
1988	--	13.39	dnf)Oly Trials (broken arm)
1989	6	13.19	5)Weltklasse
1990	4	13.15	
1991	1	13.06	1)TAC, 1)W Ch
1992	9	13.32	4)Oly Trials, 7)Weltklasse

2. Rod Milburn (US)

Born May 18, 1950 Opelousas, Louisiana

Died November 11, 1997 Port Hudson, Louisiana

Competed at

Milburn and Renaldo Nehemiah (see below) have careers with remarkable similarities. Both had a several-year stretch in their youth marked by several records and total dominance. Both then went out on top by joining professional sports organizations and forfeiting their "amateur" status. Both regained eligibility years later, but were nothing like they had been before.

Milburn moves ahead of Nehemiah by the simple fact that in his return to international hurdling, he was much closer to his previous form, and that when he went pro, he kept on hurdling at high levels.

In 1974 Milburn signed with the International Track Association, a professional circuit that barnstormed mostly indoor venues in the U.S. and presented more or less normal track meets. The ITA, formed in 1973, was at first welcomed with decent crowds and somewhat regular television coverage. It is popular to now deride the ITA as a circus run by crackpots and doomed to failure, but it was not received as such in its time. Among the ITA's "stranger" ideas were prize money, a points-standing system for season-long "grand prix" awards, and pacing for middle-distance runners. Ah, the IAAF would never do such things!

The ITA was probably more successful than other 70's operations, like the ABA, WFL, WHL, and NASL. It was able to sign some stars because national federations, such as the AAU, had a habit of ordering around their athletes, telling them in which meets they could and could not run and threatening suspensions to the defiant. (Ben Jipcho, who won mile/2-mile doubles almost nightly, specifically said so.) The ITA was, in a word, the Seventies. Youth, always rebellious to begin with, were given a reason to be by their often inflexible and sometimes tyrannical elders. Its style was Seventies, too; Marty Liquori announced from the infield in a tuxedo with ruffled shirt and butterfly tie, and since all but eleven of the meets were indoors the track rather resembled Roller Derby.

It had problems paying bills in 1975, but that's not unusual in "fringe" sports. It died in 1976, when it was unable to sign any new stars after the Montreal Olympics.

Ironically, it may have helped change the very federations that it fed from. If the ITA had been able to continue, it was going to run a mile race later in 1976 with a \$100,000 first-place prize. Amateurs were going to do their own \$100,000 mile that summer, too, but the prize money was going to go to *national federations*. Even the casual fan could see through the hypocrisy; running for money was perfectly all right, as long as the athlete who earned it didn't get any of it. Both races fell through, though. And within a few years the transition to openly professional "amateur" track began.

Anyway, *Track & Field News* never ranked ITA athletes in its annual World Rankings. Their justification was that indoor competition had never been considered for rankings. Never mind that the '74 season saw three outdoor meets and then six in '75; at that point the ranking committee said they simply didn't rank pros, as they didn't compete against anyone else. (Remember, though, that high jumper Ni Ziquin was ranked when China wasn't a part of the IAAF, and never competed outside of his country.) Understandably, they didn't want to get into a thorny issue, and probably thought the ITA would fold soon and solve the problem for them (which it did).

Milburn was undefeated in his first ITA season, albeit with only three full-length hurdle races. The next year, 1975, he won 12 of 14, with 5 of 6 outdoors. The ranking committee that year admitted that he might have been first in the world if he had not been a pro. Thus he was arguably the best hurdler in the world for five straight years, losing only four times in that stretch. After his return to "amateur" running he went as high as #4 in the world, at the age of 32. Milburn died on the job in an industrial accident at a paper mill at the age of 47, when he fell into a railroad car filled with chemicals.

Year	Rank	Mark	Meets, etc.
1970	6	13.5	1)NAIA, 4)AAU
1971	1	13.0y WB	1)NCAA, 1)AAU, 1)Pan-Am; undefeated (14 finals)
1972	1	13.24 =WB	1)AAU, 3)Oly Trials, 1)Oly Gms
1973	1	13.0y =WB	1)NCAA, 5)AAU
1974	ITA	13.7y	undefeated (18 finals, 3 outdoors)
1975	ITA	13.45*	won 12 of 14 (5 of 6 outdoors)
1976	ITA	13.5yw	undefeated (2 finals, both outdoors)
1977	--	--	ineligible
1978	--	--	ineligible
1979	--	--	ineligible
1980	5	13.40	4)TAC, 2)Coke, 3)Weltklasse
1981	8	13.59	5)TAC
1982	4	13.46	8)TAC

World Bests: 6/20/71, lasted 7 years, 300 days; tied it on 9/2/72 and 6/20/73

3. Renaldo Nehemiah (US)

Born March 24, 1959 Newark, New Jersey

Competed at

"Skeets" is hailed as the greatest hurdler ever by super-coach Wilbur Ross (author of *The Hurdler's Bible*). Certainly he had the best four-year streak ever. He burst onto the scene at #1 during his freshman year at Maryland, dropping his PR by 0.76 in the

process. The next three years were awesome; he won 36 out of 40 finals, and pulled the World Record from 13.21 to 12.93. In the following 19 years, it has only been improved on by 0.02 seconds. He was blazingly fast on the flat, too; he once got the stick waaayyy back in the Penn Relays 4x200, and pulled out the win with an 18.6 split (yikes!), according to some.

Then he did what most consider the dumbest thing ever in track. He had never played football, but decided to give up hurdling and sign with the San Francisco 49ers. He never played in a regular-season game, and when he finally did return to hurdling, he was a mere mortal again. The 49ers wasted their money, and Nehemiah could have easily made as much or more by staying in track. Few athletes have so obviously shot themselves in the foot.

Year	Rank	Mark	Meets, etc.
1978	1	13.23	2)NCAA, 1)AAU, 1)Weltklasse
1979	1	13.00 WB	1)NCAA, 1)AAU, 1)Pan Am, 2)Weltklasse, 1)W Cup
1980	1	13.21	1)TAC, 1)Oly Trials, 1)Coke, 1)Weltklasse
1981	1	12.93 WB	1)Weltklasse
1982	--	--	did not compete
1983	--	--	did not compete
1984	--	--	did not compete
1985	--	--	did not compete
1986	--	13.48	
1987	--	13.71	
1988	10	13.43	dnf)Oly Trials, 6)Weltklasse
1989	4	13.20	
1990	6	13.22	dnf)Weltklasse
1991	4	13.19	3)TAC, 1)Weltklasse, 3)GP Final

World Bests: 4/14/79, lasted 22 days; 5/6/79, lasted 2 years, 106 days; 8/19/91, lasted 7 years, 364 days

Total of 10 years, 127 days

4. Roger Kingdom (US)

Born August 26, 1962 Vienna, Georgia

Competed at

Kingdom's career was inconsistent. He was *Track & Field News* ' Athlete of the Year in 1989 but didn't even make the world's top ten hurdlers two years earlier.

Basketball legend John Thompson once said that it didn't matter how much or how often you did something, but when you did it. Kingdom was at the top of his game at two very important times—Olympic finals. In 1984 he became the only hurdler to ever beat Greg Foster in a global championship final. Four years later he was well healed from a 1985 hamstring pull and ran to an awesome 8-foot victory (the largest in Olympic history). The next year he broke Nehemiah's record.

Two injuries slowed him; the hamstring pull mentioned above, and knee surgery in 1991. He never fully recovered from the latter, but did win the US title and a World Championship bronze medal in 1995.

Year	Rank	Mark	Meets, etc.
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1983	8	13.44	1)NCAA, 7)TAC, 1)Pan Am
1984	1	13.14	2)TAC, 3)Oly Trials, 1)Oly Gms, 2)Weltklasse
1985	1	13.14	1)TAC
1986	4	13.40	5)Oly Fest, 5)Weltklasse
1987		13.51	
1988	1	12.98	1)Oly Trials, 1)Welt, 1)Oly Gms; undefeated (17 finals)
1989	1	12.92 WB	1)TAC, 1)Weltklasse, 3)GP Final, 1)W Cup
1990	1	13.21	1)TAC, 1)Goodwill, 1)Weltklasse
1991			did not compete (knee surgery)
1992	8	13.29	dnf)Oly Trials, 4)Weltklasse
1993		13.40	dnf)USA Ch
1994		13.39	5)USA Ch, 6)Weltklasse
1995	4	13.11	1)USA Ch, 3)W Ch, 4)Weltklasse, 4)GP Final
1996	8	13.25	5)Oly Trials, 5)Weltklasse

World Bests: 8/16/89, lasted 4 years, 5 days

5. Earl Thomson (Can)

Born February 15, 1895 Prince Albert, Saskatchewan

Died April 19, 1971 Annapolis, Maryland

Competed at

Thomson is the only non-American ranked in this event. He was born in Saskatchewan but grew up in southern California. He did retain Canadian citizenship, though, and ran for them internationally. His career record listed below has some incomplete information, due to the difficulty of finding pre-1920 statistics.

Year	Rank	Mark	Meets, etc.
1916	=1	14.8	3)AAU
1917	--	--	did not compete (military service)
1918	1	15.2y	1)AAU
1919			
1920	1	14.4y WB	1)IC4A, 1)Oly Gms
1921	1	14.4y =WB	1)IC4A, 1)NCAA, 1)AAU; undefeated (8 finals)
1922	1	15.0y	1)AAU

World Bests: 5/29/20, lasted 10 years, 340 days; tied it on 6/18/21

6. Lee Calhoun (US)

Born February 23, 1933 Laurel, Mississippi

Competed at

Calhoun was the first hurdler to successfully defend an Olympic title. Despite the two big wins, he ranked #1 in the world only once, so he is relegated to sixth place. In the middle of his career, he was suspended for receiving gifts on a television game show! Times have changed—now the IAAF gives out gold bars.

Year	Rank	Mark	Meets, etc.
1956	2	13.5	1)NCAA, 1)AAU, =1)Oly Trials, 1)Oly Gms
1957	2	13.5y	2)Coliseum Rel, 3)Compton, 1)NCAA, 1)AAU
1958	--	--	suspended
1959	3	13.7	1)Compton, 1)AAU, 2)US v SU, 2)Pan Am
1960	1	13.2 WB	2)AAU, 1)Oly Trials, 1)Oly Gms, 2)US v Brit Emp

World Bests: 8/21/60, lasted 10 years, 305 days

7. Jack Davis (US)

Born September 11, 1930 Amarillo, Texas

Competed

Jack Davis was twice an Olympic silver medalist, with the margins of loss totalling 0.12 seconds. He never ranked worse than second in the world, forging two undefeated seasons. He finally got into the record books in his last year of competition. His career's accomplishments are similar to Foster's—except that it was less than 40% as long.

Year	Rank	Mark	Meets, etc.
1951	2	14.0y	1)NCAA, 2)AAU
1952	2	14.00	1)NCAA, 2)AAU, 2)Oly Trials, 2)Oly Gms
1953	1	13.9y	1)NCAA, 1)AAU; undefeated (18 finals)
1954	1	13.6y	1)AAU; undefeated (7 finals)
1955	2	13.8	1)Pan Am, 4)Compton, dnc-f)AAU
1956	1	13.3y WB	3)AAU, =1)Oly Trials, 2)Oly Gms

World Bests: 6/22/56, lasted 148 days; 11/17/56, lasted 3 years, 278 days

Total of 4 years, 61 days

8. Willie Davenport (US)

Born June 8, 1943 Troy, Alabama

Died

Competed at

"The Breeze", as he was called, must have loved competing, because he never seemed to quit. He won the 1964 Olympic trials as a 19-year-old army private, and competed in the next four Olympiads. Yes, *four*; three more as a hurdler, and in the 1980 Lake Placid games in the bobsled!

His first Olympic experience ended early with an injury in the semis. Over the next five years he was the #1 man in the world and won nearly every major title he attempted. The dominant hurdler of the '60s was never near tops in the '70s, but he did manage an Olympic bronze at the age of 33.

Year	Rank	Mark	Meets, etc.
1964	5	13.6	1)Oly Trials, 7-sf)Oly Gms (inj)
1965	1	13.5	1)AAU, 1)US v SU, 2)Universiade
1966	1	13.3y	1)NAIA, 1)AAU

1967	1	13.3y	1)NAIA, 1)AAU, 2)Pan Am, 1)Am v Eur
1968	1	13.3	dnf-h)AAU, 1)Oly Trials, 1)Oly Gms
1969	1	13.42 =WB	1t)AAU
1970	4	13.4y	3)AAU
1971	5	13.3y	3)AAU
1972	4	13.50	2)AAU, 2)Oly Trials, 4)Oly Gms
1973	--	13.4y	6)AAU
1974	8	13.5	3)AAU
1975	--	--	
1976	3	13.38	6)AAU, 2)Oly Trials, 3)Oly Gms, 2)US v SU
1977	6	13.56	3)AAU

World Bests: 6/28/69, lasted 1 year, 357 days; tied it on 7/4/69

9. Hayes Jones (US)

Born August 4, 1938 Starksville, Mississippi

Competed at

Jones was somewhat short for a hurdler, but very fast. He ran on a world-record setting 4x100 relay in 1961, and was undefeated at indoor races from March 1959 to the end of his career.

None of that, however, will get you on the list of top ten outdoor high hurdlers of the century. In Honors Won, Jones can point to an Olympic title and five AAU wins. In Rankings and win/loss, he was never lower than third in the world over seven straight years, with four #1s. He has no world bests, though, which knocks him just behind Davenport. These accomplishments might seem too good to be ninth in the century, but this is a tough bunch.

Year	Rank	Mark	Meets, etc.
1957	7	13.7y	5)AAU
1958	1	13.6	1)AAU, 2)US v SU
1959	2	13.6	1)NCAA, 2)AAU, 1)US v SU, 1)Pan-Am
1960	3	13.5	1)AAU, 3)Oly Trials, 3)Oly Gms
1961	1	13.6y	1)AAU, 1)US v SU; undefeated
1962	2	13.4y	2)AAU; only lost to Tarr
1963	1	13.4y	1)AAU, 3)US v SU
1964	1	13.4	1)AAU, 2)US v Su, 2)Oly Trials, 1)Oly Gms

10. Allen Johnson (US)

Born March 1, 1971

Competed at 5' 10"/155 lb

A few years ago it appeared that Johnson was headed high on this list. Starting in 1995, he won the most important race in each of four consecutive years, but has not lived up to it since then.

I met Johnson and got his autograph at the Jesse Owens Classic in Columbus, Ohio, in the mid-nineties. At that time he was already world-class, but I noticed something that struck me. Most professional athletes have their every need attended to, especially during competition. That day, Johnson brought his equipment in an ordinary backpack, left it at the starting line, and went back and got it himself after the race. His self-reliant attitude made him appear more like a college student than the multi-million dollar professional that he is.

I met him again at the 2001 World Championships, and the fortune and fame he earned since then did not change him—he spent a long time patiently and happily signing autographs and posing for pictures. He is a class act all the way.

Year	Rank	Mark	Meets, etc.
1994	6	13.25	3)USA Ch, 2)W Cup
1995	2	12.98	2)USA Ch, 1)W Ch, 3)Weltklasse, 2)GP Final
1996	1	12.92	1)Oly Trials, 1)Oly Gms, 2)Weltklasse
1997	1	12.93	1)USA Ch, 1)W Ch, 1)Weltklasse
1998	2	12.98	2)Goodwill, 1)Weltklasse
1999	5	13.01	2)USA Ch, 4-qf)W Ch (inj)
2000	2	12.97	1)Oly Trials, 1)Weltklasse, 4)Oly Gms
2001	1	13.04	1)USA Ch, 1)W Ch, 1)Welt, 1)Goodwill, 2)GP Final

Performance of All Time

Renaldo Nehemiah's 12.93 Zurich, Switzerland August 19, 1981

There had been large improvements in the hurdle record before Nehemiah came along, but most of them were due to advances in equipment or technique, and the rest of the world quickly caught up. Not so with this record. In the 24 years since it was set, it has been beaten three times, and that's it. The record has only been lowered by 0.02 seconds.

In May of that year, Nehemiah fell and broke a bone in his foot, and spent the next six weeks in a cast. His shoe contract included a promise by Nehemiah that he would break the 13.00 barrier that season, and he began to worry. After meeting Wilbur Ross by chance, in June he moved in to the coach's house and began intense work.

His first meet back in action produced a 13.26, a five-yard win. A week later Nehemiah ran a handicap race in practice, and three watches caught him at a hand-timed 12.6. Again a week later, he ran at the National Sports Festival, and rode a 3 m/sec wind to 12.85. The head official didn't believe it was possible and adjusted it to 13.00.

When he got to Zurich, it was obvious that he was ready to go. Foster ran his career best time (13.03) but was left a yard behind. Nehemiah ran four more races that season; the next summer he was training with the San Francisco 49ers.

Race of All Time

1984 Olympic Games Los Angeles, California August 6, 1984

Late in 2000, ESPN.com columnist Jeff Hollobaugh published his Top 100 Track & Field Competitions of the Century. There were no men's high hurdle races on the list. There haven't been a lot of highly anticipated duels between two great hurdlers, but this one seems to bet the best.

In the first round, Greg Foster tied the Olympic record of 13.24. In the first semi, a then-still-unheralded Roger Kingdom tied it again; Foster did it in the second semi, too. In the final Foster didn't get out of the blocks well as he thought he'd false-started. He recovered, though, and took the lead. On the run-in Foster committed the cardinal sin of looking across the track before the finish. It gave Kingdom the chance he needed, and slipped in for the narrowest of wins.

Progression of World's Best Times

<u>Mark</u>	<u>Athlete (Nation)</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Date</u>
15.0y	Thaddeus Shideler (US)	St. Louis, Mo	6/11/04
15.0=	Forrest Smithson (US)	London, Eng	7/25/08
15.0y=	Arthur Shaw (US)	Chicago, Il	9/12/08
15.0y=	Fred Kelley (US)	Los Angeles, Ca	3/15/13
15.0y=	Thaddeus Shideler (US)	St. Louis, Mo	6/11/13
15.0y=	Fred Kelley (US)	Berkeley, Ca	5/2/14
15.0y=	Bob Simpson (US)	Columbia, Mo	5/29/15
15.0y=	Bob Simpson (US)	Philadelphia, Pa	4/29/16
15.0y=	Fred Murray (US)	Cambridge, Ma	5/27/16
14.6	Bob Simpson (US)	Columbia, Mo	5/27/16
14.6=	Bob Simpson (US)	Evanston, Il	6/3/16
14.4y	Earl Thompson (Can)	Philadelphia, Pa	5/29/20
14.4y=	Earl Thompson (Can)	Chicago, Il	6/18/21
14.4y=	George Guthrie (US)	Columbus, Oh	6/5/26
14.4y=	Steve Anderson (US)	Missoula, Mt	6/2/28
14.4y=	Steve Anderson (US)	Eugene, Or	6/1/29
14.4=	Erik Wenneström (Swe)	Stockholm, Swe	8/25/29
14.3y	Jack Keller (US)	Columbus, Oh	5/2/31
14.2y	Percy Beard (US)	Lincoln, Nb	7/4/31
14.2y=	George Saling (US)	Chicago, Il	6/11/32
14.2y=	Alvin Moreau (US)	Baton Rouge, La	5/6/33
14.1y	Jack Keller (US)	Evanston, Il	5/20/33
14.1=	Forrest Towns (US)	New Orleans, La	5/23/36
14.1=	Forrest Towns (US)	Chicago, Il	6/19/36
14.1=	Forrest Towns (US)	Berlin, Ger	8/6/36
13.7	Forrest Towns (US)	Oslo, Nor	8/27/36
13.7y=	Fred Wolcott (US)	Austin, Tx	5/3/40
13.7=	Fred Wolcott (US)	Philadelphia, Pa	6/29/41
13.6y	Harrison Dillard (US)	Lawrence, Ks	4/17/48
13.5y	Dick Attlesey (US)	Fresno, Ca	5/13/50
13.5=	Dick Attlesey (US)	Helsinki, Fin	7/10/50
13.4	Jack Davis (US)	Bakersfield, Ca	6/22/56
13.3y	Jack Davis (US)	Bendigo, Aus	11/17/56

13.56=	Martin Lauer (WG)	Zurich, Swi	7/7/59
13.2	Lee Calhoun (US)	Bern, Swi	8/21/60
13.2=	Earl McCullouch (US)	Minneapolis, Mn	7/16/67
13.42=	Willie Davenport (US)	Miami, Fl	6/28/69
13.42=	Leon Coleman (US)	Miami, Fl	6/28/69
13.2y=	Erv Hall (US)	Knoxville, Tn	6/19/69
13.2=	Willie Davenport (US)	Zurich, Swi	7/4/69
13.2=	Thomas Hill (US)	Wichita, Ks	6/13/70
13.0y	Rod Milburn (US)	Eugene, Or	6/20/71
13.24=	Rod Milburn (US)	Munich, WG	9/2/72
13.0y=	Rod Milburn (US)	Eugene, Or	6/20/73
13.0=	Guy Drut (Fra)	Berlin, WG	8/22/75
13.21=	Alejandro Casanas (Cub)	Sofia, Bul	8/21/77
13.16	Renaldo Nehemiah (US)	San Jose, Ca	4/14/79
13.00	Renaldo Nehemiah (US)	Westwood, Ca	5/6/79
12.93	Renaldo Nehemiah (US)	Zurich, Swi	8/19/81
12.92	Roger Kingdom (US)	Zurich, Swi	8/16/89
12.91	Colin Jackson (GB)	Stuttgart, Ger	8/20/93

#1 Rankers, 1912, 1920 to 1942, and 1946

1946	Harrison Dillard (US)	1930	Steve Anderson (US)
1942	Bill Cummins (US)	1929	Richard Rockaway (US)
1941	Fred Wolcott (US)	1928	Sydney Atkinson (SA)
1940	Fred Wolcott (US)	1927	Charles Werner (US)
1939	Fred Wolcott (US)	1926	George Guthrie (US)
1938	Fred Wolcott (US)	1925	George Guthrie (US)
1937	Forrest Towns (US)	1924	Daniel Kinsey (US)
1936	Forrest Towns (US)	1923	Karl Anderson (US)
1935	Percy Beard (US)	1922	Earl Thomson (Can)
1934	Percy Beard (US)	1921	Earl Thomson (Can)
1933	John Morris (US)	1920	Earl Thomson (Can)
1932	George Saling (US)	1912	Fred Kelly (US)
1931	Percy Beard (US)		

All-Time Rankings Leaders

Points Leaders

120	Greg Foster (US)
117	Colin Jackson (GB)
92	Willie Davenport (US)
73	Roger Kingdom (US)
71	Alejandro Casañas (Cub)
70	Hayes Jones (US)
68	Tonie Campbell (US)
68	Mark Crear (US)
68	Allen Johnson (US)
64	Mark McCoy (Can)

Most #1 Rankings

5	Greg Foster (US)
5	Willie Davenport (US)
5	Roger Kingdom (US)
4	Rod Milburn (US)
4	Hayes Jones (US)
4	Renaldo Nehemiah (US)
4	Fred Wolcott (US)

Most #1 s in a Row

5	Willie Davenport (US)
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Most Years Ranked

16 Greg Foster (US)
16 Colin Jackson (GB)
13 Willie Davenport (US)

4 Renaldo Nehemiah (US)
4 Fred Wolcott (US)

Most Consecutive Years Ranked

16 Colin Jackson (GB)
12 Greg Foster (US)