Francis "Frank" Pritchard, Honor Swimmer, United States of America, 2008

Francis "Frank" Pritchard was active in marathon swimming between 1927 through 1938. During his early career, Frank finished second in the 1927 National A.A.U. 4.5-mile championships and fourth in the 1928 Olympic Trials in the 1500-meter freestyle. During his marathon swimming career, Frank out-swam several of the more famous marathon swimmers of his era. He beat IMSHOF Honorees Marvin Nelson, George Young and Ernest Vierkoetter. Between 1930 and 1937, Frank participated in the most prestigious marathon swimming event of the time, the Canadian National Exhibition swims in Toronto, Canada. In 1931, he finished fourth. In 1933, he finished third. In 1934 and 1935, he finished second. In 1936, he finally won. In 1937, he defended his title and set a race record that lasted more than 10 years. He also won the 1934 Hearst 24 km (15-mile) Swim in Lake Michigan in Chicago, USA and the 1934 and 1935 Blue Water Carnival 19.3 km (12-mile) Swim from Sarnia, Ontario, Canada to St. Clair, Michigan, USA.

Expanded Biography (Openwaterpedia)

Long Swims Database (Marathon Swimmers Federation)