

INTERNATIONAL

Log Rolling

FORMED TO PERPETUATE
AND PROMOTE BIRLING:
THE OUTDOOR SPORT OF
AMERICA'S LUMBERJACK

HEADQUARTERS:
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
ORGANIZED 1926

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(An Illinois "General Not For Profit Corporation")

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P R E S S K I T

1976 WORLD'S LOG ROLLING CHAMPIONSHIPS 1976

(Note--Please turn page for results and scope
of 1975 World's Log Rolling Championships)

THE EVENT: The 1976 World's Log Rolling Championships will be held at Hayward, Wis., on July 30, 31, Aug. 1. The event will be sponsored by Historyland Logging Camp of Hayward in cooperation with the International Log Rolling Association. Log birlers from the United States and Canada, possibly other countries, will compete for \$5,000 in prizes and trophies. The tournament is held on an elimination basis. It is the only world's championship event sanctioned by the International Log Rolling Association.

The 1976 World's Log Rolling Championships will be the 54th renewal of a series dating to the first tournament in Omaha, Neb., in 1898. It will be the 17th straight event in Hayward, which holds the record as the site for hosting most world's log rolling championships. Each tournament is presented as a lumberjack affair, typifying the traditions of America's forests, rivers and lakes--and the legendary log drives.

THE ORGANIZATION: The International Log Rolling Association is the governing body for birling or log rolling. It conducts world's log rolling championships annually, and sanctions other log rolling events. The National Roleo Assn. was founded in Washburn, Wis., in 1926. It became the International Roleo Assn. in 1957 and the International Log Rolling Association in 1964.

Association membership is based on two classifications--birlers and boosters active in promoting birling. Annual meetings are held during the championships. Membership dues defray

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1976 WORLD'S LOG ROLLING CHAMPIONSHIPS
Hayward, Wis. - July 30, 31 & August 1st.

association expenses. Three important developments were: 1. Formal organization of the National Roleo Assn. 2. Lathe-turning of logs to standardized sizes. 3. Adoption of official birling rules.

SANCTIONS: The Association sanctioned the following log rolling events in 1975.

<u>Event</u>	<u>Host City</u>
Albany Timber Carnival Log Rolling Championships	Albany, Oregon
North American Log Rolling Championships	Vancouver, B.C., Canada
Orofino Log Rolling Championships	Orofino, Idaho
Canadian Log Rolling Championships	Port Alberni, B.C., Canada

THE CONTESTS: The sizes of logs for World's Log Rolling Championships are:

- Practice Log--Slow log, 20" in diameter and 13' long.
- Log I--Medium log, 17" in diameter and 13' long. Time limits vary--3 to 5 minutes.
- Log II--Fast log, 15" in diameter and 13' long. Time limits vary. This is the toothpick or old dynamite log.
- Log III--Faster log, 14" in diameter and 13' long. Time limits vary. This is "the killer".
- Log IV--The Finisher, 13" in diameter and 13' long.

Each log has a six-inch red center band--the neutral zone which birlers cannot trespass without losing a fall (they may step on it, but not beyond it); six-inch blue warning bands painted an inch from each end, and Roman numerals I, II, III, IV on the ends.

Two falls out of three decide each match. The first birler immersed above the waist or trespasses the neutral band is the loser (of a fall). Quick ending for falls are assured because of the small dimensions of Logs III and IV.

THE MATCH: The referee starts each match. Competing birlers grasp pike poles, after getting on the log, and are pushed from the platform. The referee cautions birlers, "Steady the log." When he is certain both birlers have equal control, he says "Throw your poles." The match is on when the whistle blows, to continue to a fall or expiration of the time limit.

Birlers endeavor to "wet" opponents by cuffing or rolling (starting the roll), spinning, snubbing (digging caulks in to stop the roll) and reversing. The cardinal rule of log birling is "NEVER TAKE YOUR EYES OFF YOUR OPPONENT'S FEET."

Male birlers wear "stag" pants, cut off just below the knees, and lumberjack shirts. Female birlers wear "stag" pants and shirts, or bathing suits. All wear caulked boots.

THE ORIGIN: Log birling has one outstanding claim to fame. It is the All-American sport. Encyclopedia Britannica describes birling as "The favorite sport of the American lumberjack. Its origins can be traced to the log drives of the New England States, from whence it moved westward to the Great Lakes regions and thence to the Pacific Northwest. It was in the spring drive that the lumberjacks, turned rivermen, obtained their experience in managing themselves on the moving carpets of logs.

"Clad in 'staged' overalls, which were light and dried quickly, woolen shirts, high topped boots that gripped the soft bark of the logs, they would leap from log to log, pushing, prying and pulling to keep the logs moving. From the daily work of the rivermen the sport of log rolling developed. It required skill and endurance to hop on a log with an opponent, spin it rapidly in the water with feet, stop ('snub') it suddenly, reverse the motion, and in various ways maneuver an adversary off balance and into the water. Dislodging an opponent constituted a fall; two falls constituted a match. Birling rules became standardized as the sport progressed."

1975 RESULTS AND PAST CHAMPIONS: The results in all professional and amateur competition in 1975 appear on the backs of pages 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 of this Press Kit. The rosters of major professional champions follow:

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THE CHAMPIONS: Major champions recognized by the International Log Rolling Assn. are:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>MEN'S DIVISION</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>	<u>SITE OF CHAMPIONSHIP</u>
1898	Tom Fleming	Eau Claire, Wis.	Omaha, Nebraska
1900	Al Stewart	Eau Claire, Wis.	Ashland, Wisconsin
1901	Tom McElhone	Eau Claire, Wis.	Ashland, Wisconsin
1902	Tom Fleming	Eau Claire, Wis.	Ashland, Wisconsin
1914	William Delyea	Cloquet, Minn.	Eau Claire, Wisconsin
1915	Edward Oleson	Marinette, Wis.	Eau Claire, Wisconsin
1924	Joe Madwayosh	Cloquet, Minn.	Eau Claire, Wisconsin
1925	Joe Madwayosh	Cloquet, Minn.	Washburn, Wisconsin
1926	William Girard	Gladstone, Mich.	Washburn, Wisconsin
1927	Wilbur N. Marx	Eau Claire, Wis.	Washburn, Wisconsin
1928	Wilbur N. Marx	Eau Claire, Wis.	Washburn, Wisconsin
1928	William Delyea	Cloquet, Minn.	Cloquet, Minnesota
1929	Wilbur N. Marx	Eau Claire, Wis.	Wakefield, Michigan
1929	Lawrence Bergeron	Cloquet, Minn.	Cloquet, Minnesota
1930	Wilbur N. Marx	Eau Claire, Wis.	Washburn, Wisconsin
1931	Wilbur N. Marx	Eau Claire, Wis.	Cloquet, Minnesota
1932	Kippy Anderson	Eau Claire, Wis.	Eau Claire, Wisconsin
1933	Wilbur N. Marx	Eau Claire, Wis.	Cloquet, Minnesota
1934	Elmer Swanson	Quilcene, Wash.	Cloquet, Minnesota
1935	Walter Swanson	Brinnon, Wash.	Port Townsend, Wash.
1936	Walter Swanson	Brinnon, Wash.	Port Townsend, Wash.
1937	Joe Connor	Cloquet, Minn.	Escanaba, Michigan
1938	James Herron	Kelso, Wash.	Escanaba, Michigan
1941	James Herron	Kelso, Wash.	Gladstone, Michigan
1942	Jim Running	Eau Claire, Wis.	Gladstone, Michigan
1947	Eddie Herron	Kelso, Wash.	Gladstone, Michigan
1948	Jim Running	Eau Claire, Wis.	Gladstone, Michigan
1949	Jim Running	Eau Claire, Wis.	Gladstone, Michigan
1951	Jim Running	Eau Claire, Wis.	Gladstone, Michigan
1952	Jim Running	Eau Claire, Wis.	Gladstone, Michigan
1953	Jim Running	Eau Claire, Wis.	Midland, Michigan
1954	James Herron	Longview, Wash.	Priest River, Idaho
1955	Ardiel Wickheim	Sooke, B.C., Canada	Spokane, Washington
1956	Jubiel Wickheim	Sooke, B.C., Canada	Rockford, Illinois
1957	Jubiel Wickheim	Sooke, B.C., Canada	Sooke, B.C., Canada
1958	Ardiel Wickheim	Sooke, B.C., Canada	Orofino, Idaho
1959	Jubiel Wickheim	Sooke, B.C., Canada	Priest River, Idaho
1960	Jubiel Wickheim	Sooke, B.C., Canada	Hayward, Wisconsin
1961	Ardiel Wickheim	Sooke, B.C., Canada	Hayward, Wisconsin
1962	Jubiel Wickheim	Sooke, B.C., Canada	Hayward, Wisconsin
1963	Jubiel Wickheim	Sooke, B.C., Canada	Hayward, Wisconsin
1964	Jubiel Wickheim	Sooke, B.C., Canada	Hayward, Wisconsin
1965	Jubiel Wickheim	Sooke, B.C., Canada	Hayward, Wisconsin
1966	Jubiel Wickheim	Sooke, B.C., Canada	Hayward, Wisconsin
	(Runner-Up, Roy Bartlett of Clarkston, Wash.; Third, Jim Ogle of Marquette, Michigan)		
1967	Ardiel Wickheim	Sooke, B.C., Canada	Hayward, Wisconsin
	(Runner-Up, Dick Moore of Lewiston, Idaho; Third, Billy Hopinkah of Hayward, Wisconsin)		
1968	Phillip Scott	Nova Scotia, Canada	Hayward, Wisconsin
	(Runner-Up, Ardiel Wickheim of Sooke, B.C.; Third, Russ Ellison of Aberdeen, Wash.)		
1969	Jubiel Wickheim	Sooke, B.C., Canada	Hayward, Wisconsin
	(Runner-Up, Phillip Scott of Nova Scotia, Canada; Third, Jerry Phillips of Walla Walla)		

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<u>YEAR</u>	<u>MEN'S DIVISION</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>	<u>SITE OF CHAMPIONSHIP</u>
1970	Phillip Scott (Runner-Up, Jim Ogle of Marquette, Mich.; Third, Don Jacobs of Escanaba, Michigan)	Nova Scotia, Canada	Hayward, Wisconsin
1971	Phillip Scott (Runner-Up, Jerry Phillips of Walla, Walla, Wash.)	Nova Scotia, Canada	Hayward, Wisconsin
1972	James Fischer (Runner-Up, Phillip Soctt of Nova Scotia, Can.; Third, Mike Heerling of Victoria, B.C.)	Stillwater, Minn.	Hayward, Wisconsin
1973	Phillip Scott (Runner-Up, Fred Scheer of Hayward, Wisconsin)	Nova Scotia, Canada	Hayward, Wisconsin
1974	Phillip Scott (Runner-Up Steve Herrling, Sooke, B.C.)	Nova Scotia, Canada	Hayward, Wisconsin
1975	Phillip Scott (Runner-Up Fred Scheer)	Nova Scotia, Canada Hayward, Wisconsin	Hayward, Wisconsin

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>WOMEN'S DIVISION</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>	<u>SITE OF CHAMPIONSHIP</u>
1929	Agnes Hare Dixon	Ashland, Wis.	Washburn, Wisconsin
1937	Laura Marchant Hebert	Cloquet, Minn.	Escanaba, Michigan
1938	Mary Jean Malott	Cornell, Wis.	Escanaba, Michigan
1941	Mary Jean Malott	Cornell, Wis.	Gladstone, Michigan
1942	Mary Jean Malott	Cornell, Wis.	Gladstone, Michigan
1947	Mary Jean Malott	Cornell, Wis.	Gladstone, Michigan
1948	Mary Jean Malott	Cornell, Wis.	Gladstone, Michigan
1949	Arbutus Lamoureux	Ladysmith, Wis.	Gladstone, Michigan
1952	Arbutus Lamoureux	Ladysmith, Wis.	Gladstone, Michigan
1953	Virginia Hansen	Silver Lake, Wash.	Midland, Michigan
1954	Charlotte Hansen	Silver Lake, Wash.	Priest River, Idaho
1955	Virginia Hansen	Silver Lake, Wash.	Spokane, Washington
1956	Virginia Hansen	Silver Lake, Wash.	Rockford, Illinois
1957	Elizabeth Wamboldt	Nova Scotia, Canada	Sooke, B.C., Canada
1958	Bette Ellis	Clarkston, Wash.	Orofino, Idaho
1959	Charlotte Hansen	Silver Lake, Wash.	Priest River, Idaho
1960	Bette Ellis	Clarkston, Wash.	Hayward, Wisconsin
1961	Diane Ellison	Aberdeen, Wash.	Hayward, Wisconsin
1962	Barbara Peterka	Lewiston, Idaho	Hayward, Wisconsin
1963	Bette Ellis Toothaker	Clarkston, Wash.	Hayward, Wisconsin
1964	Bette Ellis Toothaker	Clarkston, Wash.	Hayward, Wisconsin
1965	Bette Ellis Toothaker	Clarkston, Wash.	Hayward, Wisconsin
1966	Charlotte Hansen Janke (Runner-Up, Diane Ellison Rowe of Tustin, Cal.; Third, Linda Mike of Hayward, Wis.)	Winlock, Wash.	Hayward, Wisconsin
1967	Cindy Cook (Runner-Up, Charlotte Janke of Winlock, Wash.; Third, Mary Ann Bedausky of Hayward)	Lewiston, Idaho	Hayward, Wisconsin
1968	Cindy Cook (Runner-Up, Diane Ellison Rowe of Tustin, Cal.; Third, Mary Ann Bedausky of Hayward)	Lewiston, Idaho	Hayward, Wisconsin
1969	Cindy Cook (Runner-Up, Diane Ellison Rowe of Tustin, Cal.; Third, Mary Ann Bedausky of Hayward)	Lewiston, Idaho	Hayward, Wisconsin
1970	Cindy Cook (Runner-Up, Marlys Hodd, Hayward, Wis.; Third, Bonnie Fischer, Stillwater, Minn.)	Lewiston, Idaho	Hayward, Wisconsin
1971	Phoebe Morgan (Runner-Up, Penni McCall, Lewiston, Idaho; Third, Marlys Hodd, Hayward)	Hayward, Wis.	Hayward, Wisconsin
1972	Penni McCall (Runner-Up, Phoebe Morgan, Hayward, Wis.; Third, Bonnie Fischer, Stillwater, Minn.)	Lewiston, Idaho	Hayward, Wisconsin
1973	Judy Scheer (Runner-Up, Penni McCall of Lewiston, Idaho)	Hayward, Wis.	Hayward, Wisconsin
1974	Judy Scheer (Runner-Up, Bonnie Wells, Kennewick, Wash.)	Hayward, Wis.	Hayward, Wisconsin
1975	Judy Scheer (Runner-Up Bonnie Wells, Kennewick, Wash.)	Hayward, Wisconsin	Hayward, Wisconsin

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<u>YEAR</u>	<u>TRICK & FANCY DIVISION</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>	<u>SITE OF CHAMPIONSHIP</u>
1898-1915	John Murray	Wisconsin	Various Cities
1927	John Murray Jr., James Murray	Wisconsin	Eau Claire, Wisconsin
1927	Wilbur N. Marx	Eau Claire, Wis.	Duluth/Washburn
1928	Wilbur N. Marx	Eau Claire, Wis.	Washburn, Wisconsin
1928	William Girard	Gladstone, Mich.	Washburn, Wisconsin
1930	Wilbur N. Marx	Eau Claire, Wis.	Washburn, Wisconsin
1931	Wilbur N. Marx	Eau Claire, Wis.	Washburn, Wisconsin
1932	Wilbur N. Marx	Eau Claire, Wis.	Eau Claire, Wisconsin
1941-1952	William & Adolph Girard	Gladstone, Mich.	Gladstone, Michigan
1953	William & Adolph Girard	Gladstone, Mich.	Midland, Michigan
1954	William & Adolph Girard	Gladstone, Mich.	Priest River, Idaho
1955	Jim Running, Arbutus Lamoureux	Oklahoma & Wisconsin	Spokane, Washington
1956	Harold Fischer, Robert Teske	Stillwater, Minn.	Rockford, Illinois
1957	Jubiel and Ardiel Wickheim	Sooke, B.C., Canada	Sooke, B.C., Canada
1958	Jubiel and Ardiel Wickheim	Sooke, B.C., Canada	Orofino, Idaho
1959	Jubiel and Ardiel Wickheim	Sooke, B.C., Canada	Priest River, Idaho
1960	Russell and Diane Ellison	Aberdeen, Wash.	Hayward, Wisconsin
1961	Russell and Diane Ellison	Aberdeen, Wash.	Hayward, Wisconsin
1962	Harold Fischer, Robert Teske	Stillwater, Minn.	Hayward, Wisconsin
1963	Harold Fischer, Robert Teske	Stillwater, Minn.	Hayward, Wisconsin
1964	Harold Fischer, Robert Teske	Stillwater, Minn.	Hayward, Wisconsin
1965	Hitoshi Adachi, Tsutomu Ito	Japan	Hayward, Wisconsin
1966	Russell Ellison and Diane Ellison Rowe	Aberdeen, Wash. Tustin, Calif.	Hayward, Wisconsin
1967	Howard Sieh and Kay Sietz	Hayward, Wis.	Hayward, Wisconsin
1968	Russell Ellison and Diane Ellison Rowe	Aberdeen, Wash. Tustin, Calif.	Hayward, Wisconsin
1969	Russell Ellison and Diane Ellison Rowe	Aberdeen, Wash. Tustin, Calif.	Hayward, Wisconsin
(Runner-Up, Harold Fischer and Bob Teske of Stillwater, Minn.)			
1970	Harold Fischer, Robert Teske	Stillwater, Minn.	Hayward, Wisconsin
(Runner-Up, Jim Ogle of Marquette, Mich., and Don Jacobs of Escanaba, Mich.)			
1971	Jerry Phillips Penni McCall	Walla Walla, Wash. Lewiston, Idaho	Hayward, Wisconsin
(Runner-Up, Jim Ogle of Marquette and Harold Fischer-Robert Teske of Stillwater, Minn.)			
1972	Harold Fischer, Robert Teske	Stillwater, Minn.	Hayward, Wisconsin
(Runner-Up, Jim Ogle of Marquette)			
1973	The Heidemans-Ray Sr., Ray Jr., and John	Downey, Calif.	Hayward, Wisconsin
(Runner-Up, Jim Ogle of Marquette; Phillip Scott of Nova Scotia; Judy Scheer of Hayward)			
1974	Tie The Heidemans-Ray Sr., Ray Jr., and John Jim Ogle, Marquette, Mich., Phil Scott, Nova Scotia, Bonnie Wells, Kennewick, Wash.	Downey, Calif. and Eau Claire, Wis.	
1975	The River Kids.	Escanaba, Mich.	

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HALL OF FAME: A Hall of Fame of Log Rolling is being established at Hayward. All past presidents of the Association, all champions in men's women's and trick and fancy divisions, Tony Wise of Hayward, George Mathison of Chicago, Roy Bartlett of Clarkston, Wash., and Richard Moore of Lewiston, Idaho, have been admitted as members to date.

<u>PAST PRESIDENTS</u> - based on available records:		<u>YEARS</u>
William P. Hart	Eau Claire, Wis.	1926
Harry Robinson	Ashland, Wis.	1928
J. P. O'Malley	Bayfield, Wis.	1929-1930
George T. Springer	St. Paul, Minn.	1941 thru 1948; 1953
Douglas A. Mathison	Gladstone, Mich.	1949-1951
William Girard	Gladstone, Mich.	1952
Lawrence Bergeron	Cloquet, Minn.	1953-1956
Frank Spence (pro tem)	Rockford, Ill.	1957
Mark Olson	Escanaba, Mich.	1958
Elmer Swanson	San Fernando, Calif.	1959-1960
Russell Ellison	Aberdeen, Wash.	1961
Ray Heideman	Downey, Calif.	1962-1974
George Mathison	Chicago, Ill.	1974-1975