

The History of the George Terry Cup

Awarded in 2007 for the very first time, the George Terry Cup recognizes the category winners of the Annual Tour of University Heights race held in Toronto in early fall. Category winners will have their name engraved on the trophy for generations after them to admire.

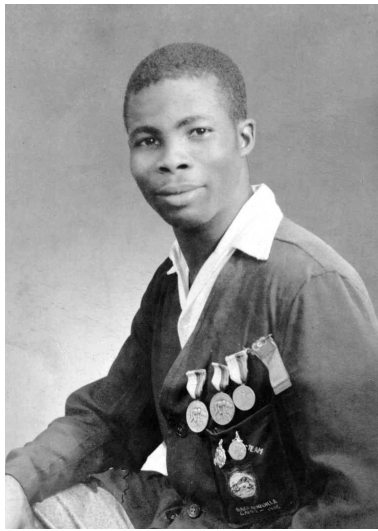
Categories recognized are:

- Squirt Male and Female
- Pee wee Male and Female
- Minime Male and Female
- Cadet Male and Female

Donated by the Terry Family, the Cup pays tribute to the late George Terry, a pioneer in the sport of cycling in Trinidad and Tobago capturing its very first international medal (A Silver Medal at the 1946 Central American and Caribbean Games). With a career record 114 1st place finishes, George Terry's dominance in the sport remains to this day a story that is talked about.



The George Terry Cup



George Terry Biography

Born on November 30, 1918, in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, George Terry began his cycling career in 1939. He spent the first three-and-a-half years in the Novice Division, and in this short period, he finished in the top-three fifty times. Of these, twenty were first-place finishes.

In 1944 George was promoted to Elite Class (Division A), where he earned an additional 94 first-place finishes.

While there were many victories in George Terry's career, many cycling fans have singled out the Silver Medal awarded to him in the 100 km Road Race in the 1946 Central American and Caribbean Games in Colombia as his greatest achievement in the sport. That medal became Trinidad and Tobago's first international cycling medal. George also won a bronze medal in those games.

For this accomplishment, George earned the nicknames "Champ" and "Superman," and he went on to establish several national and international cycling records.

George Terry ended his cycling career in 1952, after tabulating over 215 top-three finishes. His contribution to the sport earned him a place as one of the original inductees into the Sports Hall of Fame in Trinidad and Tobago.

The "Champ" immigrated to Canada with his family in the late sixties and lived in Hamilton, Ontario. While working and at the age of 50, he took on another challenge by enrolling in night school to obtain a certificate in auto mechanics, his lifelong interest.

Unlike the availability of athletic funding today, resources were not available for George and his fellow athletes, but the records he established and the respect he earned throughout his career speak for themselves.

George Terry became the official patron of the Two Wheel Drive Programme in 2004 with his picture being prominently placed in our workshop.

George Terry passed away on November 26, 2005, but his accomplishments live on in the annals of cycling, resulting in this recognition by local and international media and the cycling fraternity.

George Terry Photos



George Terry posing in jersey and bike



A young George Terry on his bike

T&T cycling superman dies in Canada

YVONNE WEBB
GUARDIAN SOUTH BUREAU

GEORGE TERRY, the first local road cyclist to win an international cycling medal, died on Saturday at the Trillium Medical Centre, Toronto, Canada.

Terry, 87, was a national award recipient and an inductee into the Hall of Fame.

His nephew, athletic coach Errol Phillip, better known as "Chicken," said his uncle, who had migrated from T&T to Canada, had been ailing for some time.

Phillip said Terry's body would be flown back to T&T on Thursday and he will be laid to rest in his home town of San Fernando after a funeral service at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Harris Promenade on Saturday.

Terry, who was born in Carapichaima, entered cycling as a novice in February 1939, and after a win, two seconds and four third places, was promoted to B class in April that year.

During the next two years in various cycle meets over the island, he was the winner 11 times, placed second 12 times and third eight times.

In 1942, he entered internation-



GEORGE TERRY

al races and registered wins in the one and three miles, but placed third in the half mile.

A year later, at the same meet, he won the nine-mile race, then at Barataria he took the sprint (1/2 mile) but was second to Barbadian Darrington Barlowe in the four mile.

However, in Siparia which he adopted as his second home, he

chalked up three wins in the one, three and five miles.

Selected with Barlowe for a three day meeting in Curacao in October 1944, he gained first places in the six and a half miles, five miles and half mile (third day), second four times, thrice to Barlowe, half mile (second day), four and a half miles and nine miles.

The other defeat came from Venezuelan Alvarado over three and a half miles.

For the feat of coming either first or second in every race he entered, locals called him Superman.

On July 8, 1946 at the St Joseph recreation ground, Terry set a record in winning the curtain race over 15 miles with a time of 42 minutes 15 seconds.

Then at CAC games in Barranquilla, Colombia, he created history by winning T&T's first medal at road cycling when he gained the silver medal over the gruelling 100 km race.

Recalling the event some 20 years later, Terry said he was convinced he had triumphed over Paticas Fernandez of Venezuela, who was adjudged the winner. Later, he gained a bronze medal in the team pursuit event.

Article found in the Guardian (Trinidad and Tobago paper) after George's passing