

# THEODORE “TED” CORBITT BLACK HERITAGE POSTAGE STAMP RECOMMENDATION

National Black Marathoners Association  
PO Box 180912  
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We want to recommend Theodore “Ted” Corbitt, the first Black American to represent the USA in the Olympic Marathon, for a first class (Black Heritage) postage stamp. He’s considered the Jackie Robinson and father of American long distance running. Also, he conceived the five-borough, New York City Marathon, the largest marathon in the country. He

- Held six American records
- Held one world age group record at 82 years old
- Won four USA National Championships
- Was on two Boston Marathon winning teams

Here’s a summary of his athletic and administrative accomplishments.

- Born: January 31, 1919 in Dunbarton, South Carolina
- Died: December 12, 2007
- 1952 – First Black American to represent the USA in the Olympic Marathon
- 1978 - First recipient of the prestigious Abebe Bikila Award that recognizes outstanding contribution to the sport of distance running.
- 2005 - Lifetime Achievement Award Runner’s World “Heroes of Running”
- 2013 – Inducted into the National Black Distance Running Hall of Fame by the National Black Marathoners Association

## **AMERICAN RECORDS HELD**

- 1966, 25 Mile, 2:43:59
- 1956, Marathon, 2:42:25
- 1966, 40 Mile, 4:34:46
- 1966, 50 Mile, 5:54:15
- 1969, 100 Mile, 13:33:06
- 1973, 24 Hour, 134.7 Miles

## **WORLD AGE GROUP RECORD (AGE 82)**

- 2001, 6 Days, 303 Miles

## **NATIONAL USA CHAMPIONSHIPS WON & NAMED TO THE ALL AMERICAN AAU TRACK & FIELD TEAM**

- 1954, National AAU Marathon Champion, Yonkers, New York (Became the first African American to win a national marathon championship)
- 1956, National AAU 30 Kilometer Champion, Cincinnati, Ohio
- 1957, National AAU 30 Kilometer Champion, Cincinnati, Ohio
- 1968, National AAU 50 Mile Champion, Poughkeepsie, New York

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## TWICE WON THE BOSTON MARATHON TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP WITH THE NEW YORK PIONEER CLUB

- 1955 team was Rudy Mendez (10th), Ted Corbitt (11th) and Louis Torres (14th)
- 1957 team was Rudy Mendez (9th), Ted Corbitt (11th) and John Conway (16th).

## OTHER NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Completed 223 marathons
- Won twelve marathons from 1954 to 1964
- Won twenty-four ultra-marathons from 1959 to 1972.

## RUNNING ADMINISTRATIVE MILESTONES

- First President of the New York Road Runners Club, the organizers of the New York City Marathon.
- He conceived the idea of a five-borough New York City Marathon.
- Authored and published the booklet "Measuring Road Running Courses" in August 1964
- The third President of the Road Runners Club of America (RRCA) in 1960 – 1961
- First editor (1958) of New York Runner the official publication of the New York Road Runners Club.
- First editor of the Road Runners Club of America (RRCA) Newsletter in 1960.

Additional information about Mr. Corbitt is at [www.TedCorbitt.com](http://www.TedCorbitt.com).

<b>Print Name</b>	
<b>Signature</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>City/State/Zip</b>	

Mail To: Stamp Development  
Attn: Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee  
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 3300  
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