

March 2026

2026 Centennial Events

Celebrating 100 Years of Track & Field
Excellence (1926–2026)

The 100th Anniversary Gala

Date: Saturday September 19th, 2026

Venue: Michelangelo Banquet Centre

Location: 1555 Upper Ottawa, Hamilton, ON L8W3E2

Ticket Pricing:

\$100.00/individual ticket

20% Discount any subsequent ticket purchase

Table Purchase (10 ticket minimum) \$800.00/table

Join us for the pinnacle of our centennial year. This formal evening will honour the legends, the families, and the future of the HOC.

Evening Highlights:

- **Centennial Speeches:** Inspiring words from HOC alumni, Olympic legends, and community builders.
- **Commemorative Publication:** Every guest will receive a copy of our limited-edition 100th Anniversary book, documenting our journey from 1926 to today.
- **Centennial Feature Video:** A cinematic look back at a century of record-breaking moments.
- **The HOC Museum Experience:** An immersive gallery featuring 100 years of medals, jerseys, and rare memorabilia.

Follow us on social media or visit our website for ticket information.

Call for Sponsors: Support the HOC

The Hamilton Olympic Club is seeking sponsorships to support the 100th Anniversary Celebration. Joining us as a sponsor provides high visibility within the Hamilton sports community and supports our ability to continue to provide quality programming for local athletes.

- **View our Sponsorship Package:** [HOC 100th Anniversary Sponsorship Package](#)
- **Contact** Monika Di Cesare or Bill Urie at hamiltonolympicclub100@gmail.com
- **Please forward** any sponsorship referrals to local businesses and donors

Celebrating the Past and Building the Future

Join Our Team: Volunteer Opportunities with the HOC

The Hamilton Olympic Club is fueled by the passion of our volunteers. We are currently looking for energetic individuals to help us grow our presence in the community. We will need help with a number of initiatives.

- **The Impact:** You'll be the face of the HOC, helping us share the legacy of our 100 years of existence to the Hamilton Community
- **Current:** Distribute and display 100th anniversary Information posters to local community centers, libraries, and businesses.
- **Future Roles:** This is just the beginning! Stay tuned for more opportunities to get involved with events, and administration.

Interested? Please contact Monika Di Cesare at hamiltonolympicclub100@gmail.com to get started.

Spring Media Blitz

The Hamilton Olympic Club will be featured on local media over the course of the next few months. Interviews On CH Morning Live and Cable 14 Hamilton Life and CH Sportline highlighting our 100th-anniversary celebrations across Hamilton. Stay tuned for information releases.

Twilight Throwers Series

Dates: To Be Determined (Summer 2026)

A high-energy series of competitions featuring our throwing athletes will take place over the summer season. Watch for details to the HOC website.



Your History is Our History: Share Your HOC Story

For over a century, the Hamilton Olympic Club has been more than just a track team—it's a community. To honour the generations of athletes who have donned our colours, we are collecting stories, photos, and memorabilia. If the HOC played a part in your life or the life of a loved one, please help us keep that history alive for the next generation of champions.



[@hamiltonolympicclub100](https://www.instagram.com/hamiltonolympicclub100)

Melville Marks "M.M." Bobby Robinson (1888–1974)

Melville Marks "M.M." Bobby Robinson was a titan of Canadian amateur athletics, best known for his transformative leadership of the Hamilton Olympic Club and his pivotal role in shaping international competition. Based in Hamilton, Ontario, Robinson served as the sports editor for *The Hamilton Spectator*, using his journalistic platform to champion amateur sports and the pursuit of athletic excellence.

The Hamilton Olympic Club

The Hamilton Olympic Club stands as one of Robinson's most enduring achievements. As its president and primary driving force, he evolved the club into a national powerhouse. Under his guidance, the club became a central hub for Canadian track and field, producing a steady stream of national champions and Olympic contenders.

A Lasting International Legacy

Robinson's influence extended far beyond Ontario. Through the connections he forged at the Hamilton Olympic Club, he became the visionary behind the inaugural **British Empire Games** (now the Commonwealth Games), which Hamilton hosted in 1930. His efforts effectively positioned Hamilton as a leader in athletic development and cemented his reputation as one of Canada's most influential "sports builders." Robinson's legacy lives on in the city's vibrant sporting culture and the continued global success of the Commonwealth Games.

Robinson was ahead of his time, emphasizing:

- **Structured training regimens** and professional coaching.
- **Athlete welfare** and holistic development.
- **Olympic ideals** of discipline, fair play, and international cooperation.

