

# IMSHOF NEWSLETTER

## FEBRUARY 2024



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### Cancun (May 2024) Ceremony Update

43 dinner tickets booked so far – well ahead of the expected rate for the target of 100+.

The following Honorees and Executive Committee members have booked dinner tickets:

- |                       |                               |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Beth Yudovin          | Ned Denison                   |
| Nora Toledano Cadena  | Julie Ridge                   |
| Elizabeth Fry         | Sally Anne Minty-Gravett, MBE |
| Suzanne Heim-Bowen    | Shelley Taylor Smith          |
| Madhu Nagaraja        | Marcia Cleveland              |
| Catherine Vogt Kase   | Ros Hardiman                  |
| Courtney Moates Paulk | Penny Lee Dean EdD            |

The following Honorees confirmed their intention to attend:

- |                        |                                 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Forrest Nelson         | Antonio Argüelles Díaz-González |
| Gustavo Oriozabala     | S.A. "Sid" Cassidy              |
| Sandra Bucha           | Michael P. Read, MBE            |
| Jaime Lomelín Gavaldón | Allan do Carmo                  |
| Massimo Giuliani       | Lynton Mortensen                |
| Dr. Evgenij Pop Acev   | Simone Ruffini                  |
| Dan Simonelli          |                                 |

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Several organizations have booked promotional pages in the booklet – contact us if interested.

See the [IMSHOF home page](#) to book dinner tickets, hotels, and swims. Jaime Lomelín Gavaldón has been named an “Ambassador” of the swims – so swim for Jaime!!! All events are walking distance from the hotels. The schedule is as follows (with some deciding to take public tours/relax on the beach for some of the long weekend):

- Friday (May 17) many will arrive early, and casual dinners can be organized.
- Saturday (May 18) 1.9 km and 3.8 km swims, IMSHOF Congress (for Ceremony attendees), Induction & Awards Dinner, and after dinner drinks.
- Sunday (May 19) 10 km swim

### IMSHOF Congress in Cancun

The purpose of this 2-hour Congress is to facilitate discussion and learning amongst the attending Honorees and Executive Committee members (and their guests). IMSHOF consulted widely and have set a few topics in advance. It is not expected that any major decisions will be made during the Congress. The sport doesn't work that way – and IMSHOF is not able to enforce key sport-wide decisions.

There was a Congress in Cork (2013) informal and London (2017).

#### Topics

1. A very short description of IMSHOF

What we are/do:

Recognize the world's most successful (marathon is 10 km +) swimmers in competitive races, individuals for their solo swim exploits plus contributors (administrators, coaches, pilots, organizations, etc.) to the sport.

A non-profit educational sports hall of fame (nobody is paid and IMSHOF runs on a tiny budget) devoted to marathon swimming and is dedicated to promoting the Honorees and the sport.

Two initiatives; standards for Majors and Records; and nomination standards: unassisted (unless noted), km, straight line measure and generally ratified/witnessed.

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What we are not/do not do:

- Swim ratification/accreditation body
- International control/governing body
- Engage in controversy

2. What can IMSHOF do better? What extra/new things should IMSHOF consider doing?
3. Best things about the sport?
4. Worse things about the sport?
5. Costs of popular solo swims are going up. Partly due to more swimming interest (10 times – 100 times) and a relatively small increase in volunteers (2 times ?). One day a summer in your boat (for any swim) in 2007 was fun – 12 times in 2023 is a JOB. Upsides include more swimming slots and more professionalism in the sport. Attendees to offer their experiences – any making money in the sport: piloting/kayaking, coaching, swim camps, etc. Any thoughts for the future.

### New Patrons & Special Thanks

Please see the description of the program on [Patrons & Special Thanks | IMSHOF](#)

Platinum Patron Individual: Courtney Moates Paulk (USA 2024)

Gold Patron Individual: Pauline Jackson (USA 2024) – by her nominator Marilyn Morgan

Silver Patron Individual: Penny Lee Dean, EdD (USA 1980)

Silver Patron Individual: Catherine Vogt Kase (USA 2024)

Silver Patron Individual: Summer Wesson

Gold Patron Individual: Petar Stoychev (BUL 2008) topped up on the way to Platinum

Special Thanks: Lee Shimano shared her Canadian National Exhibition materials which allowed IMSHOF to define Majors and Major winners which capturing the results of these races.

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### New Videos (now 80 on file) and Articles

[Erdal Acet](#) (not an Honoree) – 1976 English Channel male speed record

[Oldest English Channel Relay](#) – Honorees Dr. Chris Stockdale, MBE & Kevin Murphy

You can be notified immediately about new videos by subscribing (free) to our YouTube Channel (see image below – black “Subscribe” button) on

<https://www.youtube.com/@infoimshof3830>



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## Info IMSHOF

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### For You



Honorees Dr.  
Chris  
Stockdale,  
MBE & Kevin  
Murphy



Panel  
Discussion

2 of the 6  
swimmers in  
the oldest ever  
English Channel  
relay

38:49



50:31

For even more content – IMSHOF posts **every day** on Facebook. Follow (see image below and lower right button “+Follow”) on <https://www.facebook.com/IMSHOF>

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### International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame

4.8K followers • 49 following

Learn More

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## IMSHOF on Instagram

IMSHOF have greatly increased our communications in Instagram. It helped greatly in announcing the Class of 2024 Honorees who are present on this social media channel and not Facebook.

You can follow us on <https://www.instagram.com/imshofame/>

## Incomplete Honoree Details

IMSHOF tries to gather and preserve key details about Honorees. We have a few data holes we hope to fill:

13 missing dates of birth/dates of passing

22 missing second contacts used where all other methods to reach an Honoree are exhausted. This contact, can unfortunately be important when we receive a rumor about a death.

10 living Honorees (without any known video in existence) are still deciding on a recorded career interview. Read the post below – sometimes these interviews are the only/best video in existence and “bring the Honoree back in voice and image for decades to come”.

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### Example Social Media Post

IMSHOF post daily on Facebook. If you aren't using this social media outlet – below is an example of the kind of Honoree/sport history stories we post:

Unfortunately, each year we generally lose at least one Honoree. They are remembered in the annual Induction & Awards Ceremony booklet. In Cancun in May we'll remember Honoree Carlos Larriera (Argentina – Class of 1969). He was a winner and later organizer of the Santa Fe Coronda swim and the vice president of the World Professional Marathon Swimming Federation. Watch this proud man recount his career: [Carlos Larriera on WOWSA Live \(youtube.com\)](#)

In 2021 we remembered Herman Willemse in the booklet [Class of 2021/2020 Virtual | IMSHOF](#). Herman from the Netherlands was in the inaugural Class of 1963. He described his close relationship with Carlos [Herman Willemse on WOWSA Live \(youtube.com\)](#) from 8:50. Herman also won the Santa Fe Coronda swim plus 11 Majors and was the president of the World Professional Marathon Swimming Federation.

Both Honoree swimmers worked to ensure that their professional marathon circuit survived in parallel with the International Marathon Swimming Association until they merged into the International Marathon Swimming Federation (then renamed as Association) in 1991 which led into FINA.

\*\*\*\*If you get a link to this newsletter directly by email you are already on the subscription list.

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