



John Graeme West, Honor Administrator, New Zealand, 2026



John Graeme West served on the World Aquatics' (formerly FINA) Technical Open Water Swimming Committee from 2009 to 2025 – the last five years as Honorary Secretary, was a Delegate at 36 and Referee at more than 20 FINA/World Aquatic marathons, and led more than 50 international seminars and officiating schools. He was also responsible for writing and updating Technical official training materials 2010-2025.

In the Olympics he was: Technical Events Manager in 2020 Tokyo, Japan; and 2024 Paris, France; Chief Referee: 2016 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and Assistant Referee: London 2012. In the World Aquatic Championships John was: Technical Event Manager in 2023 Fukuoka, Japan; 2024 in Doha, Qatar; and 2025 in Singapore; Chief Referee in 2013 Barcelona, Spain; 2015 in Kazan, Russia; 2019 in Gwangju, Korea; and Referee in 2007 in Melbourne, Australia. He was Referee at the World Games for the Deaf in 1989 in Christchurch, New Zealand.

He led more than 50 international seminars and officiating schools, and mentored hundreds of officials. These included countries without IMSHOF Honorees – hence expanding the geographic coverage of the sport: American Samoa, Cayman Islands, Cyprus, Mauritius, Morocco, Papu New Guinea, South Korea, Marshall Islands, Namibia, Northern Mariana Islands, Qatar, Singapore, Tanzania, Thailand, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Vanuatu, and Zimbabwe.

He received the World Aquatics' Dennis Millar Trophy (2022) for outstanding contribution to open water swimming.

[Expanded Biography \(Openwaterpedia\)](#)