



## Irish Long Distance Swimming Association, Honor Organization, Ireland, 2012



[Organizational Website](#)

Videos: [Documentary 1](#) [Show 1](#) [Swim 1](#)

### **Irish Long Distance Swimming Association, Honor Organization**

(ILDSA) was founded in 1966 with the aim of promoting open water swimming. The ILDSA organized more than 300 open water events, providing thousands of swimmers an opportunity to compete at the highest levels. The ILDSA established development races that introduce pool swimmers to the outdoor environment. Key races included: Belfast Lough; Clew Bay; Dublin Bay; Shannon Estuary; Lough Neagh; Carlingford Lough; and Rathlin Sound. Lough Erne served as the annual championship. For some, these races also helped prepare the swimmers for the English and North Channels.

The ILDSA serves as the ratification body for the North Channel – part of the Oceans Seven challenge. Starting in 2010, the ILDSA have organized an annual open water awards ceremony which now includes the induction for the Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame – Ireland.

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

### **IMSHOF Honorees who completed the North Channel**

Antonio Argüelles Díaz-González, Honor Swimmer, México, 2015  
Cameron Bellamy, Honor Swimmer, South Africa, 2020  
Colleen Blair, MBE, Honor Swimmer, Great Britain, 2023  
Dr. Caroline Block, Honor Swimmer, United States of America, 2020  
Tom Blower, Honor Swimmer, Great Britain, 1964  
Kimberley Chambers, Honor Swimmer, New Zealand, 2019  
Marcia Cleveland, Honor Swimmer, United States of America, 2020  
Elizabeth Fry, Honor Swimmer, United States of America, 2014  
Pat Gallant-Charette, Honor Swimmer, United States of America, 2019  
Ted Keenan, Honor Swimmer, Ireland, 1984  
Dina Levačić, Honor Swimmer, Croatia, 2015  
Michelle Macy, Honor Swimmer, United States of America, 2019  
Attila Mányoki, Honor Swimmer, Hungary, 2016

Rohan Dattatrey More, Honor Swimmer, India, 2018  
Lynton Mortensen, Honor Swimmer, Australia, 2024  
Kevin Murphy, Honor Swimmer, Great Britain, 1971  
Anna-Carin Nordin, Honor Swimmer, Sweden, 2018  
Stephen Redmond, Honor Swimmer, Ireland, 2017  
Stève Stievenart, Honor Swimmer, France, 2025  
Alison Streeeter, MBE, Honor Swimmer, Great Britain, 1985  
Nora Toledano Cadena, Honor Swimmer, México, 2006  
Sarah Thomas, Honor Swimmer, United States of America, 2018 – first 2-way  
Joe Zemaitis, Honor Swimmer, United States of America, 2025

The list above covers the “normal” North Channel crossings of 34.5 km. These are defined as a start and finish on any location on the Admiralty Chart 2198 (Southern part).

The shorter swim 20.2 km, the Dál Riata, also takes place across the North Channel but doesn't count towards Oceans Seven.