



Dennis Matuch, Honor Swimmer, United States of America, 1977



Personal Website (None known)

Dennis Matuch won the 59 km (36.75-mile) Lake Michigan swim from Chicago to Waukegan, Illinois, USA in 1962 in 21 hours. In the La Tuque 24-hour Marathon Swim in Canada, he was often sought as a partner in the two-person relay, swimming with IMSHOF Honorees Ted Erikson, Jon Erikson, Abou Hief and Diana Nyad. In 1963, Matuch broke the established world best time for a 40 km (25-mile) pool swim in a time of 12 hours and 50 minutes. He competed in the 37 km (23-mile) la Descente ou remontée du Saguenay race in 1966, 1967, 1968 and 1969. Matuch was also a leader in the administration and organization of marathon swimming. He became president of the World Professional Marathon Swimming Association and was one of the founders and chairman of the International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame. He coached IMSHOF Honoree Penny Dean to become the women's world marathon swimming champion on her first year on the professional circuit.

He received The Irving Davids/Captain Roger W. Wheeler Memorial Award from the International Swimming Hall of Fame in 1979 for his contribution to the administration of open water swimming.

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

[Long Swims Database \(Marathon Swimmers Federation\)](#)

