



# IMSHOF NEWSLETTER January 2020

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## Ricardo Ratto joins the IMSHOF Executive Committee

Ricardo Ratto is an “all-rounder” in the sport. As an organiser, he sets the safety program and overall courses for some of the largest open water swims in the world including all the major swims at Copacabana Beach and other locations in Brazil – some having more than 4,000 entrants. He also coordinated Open Water Swimming for the Brazilian Swimming Federation from 1995 to 2006, and as the Open Water Swimming Supervisor from June 2017 until October 2019, planned this Olympic cycle that has already Ana Marcela Cunha (IMSHOF Honor Swimmer, Brazil 2019) qualified for Tokyo. As a FINA Open Water Swimming Certified Official since 1999, he worked many events: Olympics London 2012; FINA World Championships and FINA 10k Marathon Swimming World Cup events and is will be active until at last the end of 2022.

He is also a marathon swimmer having completed the 15km Mar Grande to Salvador Crossing in Bahia State.

The passing of Dale Petranech, with his extensive global committee history/contacts reduced the Executive Committee’s FINA competition experience and knowledge. Ricardo helps restore some of this knowledge and joins Richard (on the Netherland Technical Open Water Swimming Committee (TOWSC)) and Melissa (1994 25k World Champion, Athlete Commission on the global TOWCS and Technical Director World Cups in Singapore).

Ricardo is our first South American on the Executive Committee – helping to further broaden our global representation. Finally, Ricardo is yet another representative who’s first language is not English.



*Ricardo Ratto, Honor Contributor – Administrator, Brazil (2017)*

## Update on the annual Induction/Awards Ceremony

New York City on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

11 of the 15 new inductees and award winners (with a guest each) have confirmed attendance and 35 others have registered.

More than 20 Honorees confirmed  
57 formal confirmations  
Plus 23 who confirmed by email but not yet registered

The event will be a great success. New York City is now considered one of the great travel destinations in the world and the event is right in the center of Manhattan - Fordham Center, 150 West 62nd Street., New York, NY 10023.

Please join us by registering on <http://tiny.cc/imshof2020>



**INDUCTION CEREMONY**  
Saturday 2nd May 2020

## New nomination forms available for Honors and Awards

The Executive Committee has responded to input from nominators and selectors and produced more detailed/standard forms. These make it easier to nominate your heroes in the sport. The selectors will then see forms that allow high quality comparisons.

The will be available shortly on the website: <https://imshof.org/> but don't wait if you have candidates – email [ned.denison@corkopenwater.com](mailto:ned.denison@corkopenwater.com) and [imshofvoting@gmail.com](mailto:imshofvoting@gmail.com) and request specific forms. Please provide the name and we'll make sure that they haven't already been nominated.

PLEASE think about the sport and your heroes (swimmers and contributors) – and get them nominated. The deadline for the 2021 vote is the end of the summer – but please start early.

## IMSHOF Facebook

**New content 25 of the last 33 days – almost every day!**

Many thanks to all of you who supplied stories, ideas and other content. A good example is the recent article on IMSHOF Honorees in the Olympics – nine volunteers were involved in compiling the list. Please keep the news coming!

Also, thanks for those of you who volunteered to help in other ways. One example: Antonio Argüelles Díaz-González (Honor Swimmer Mexico 2015) and his colleague Franco Chicago supplied Spanish language biographies for all Honor Swimmers with Spanish as their native language. These are now posted on the website – which brings their stories more easily to many fans of the sport.

There are other language translated needed...any volunteers?

