

IMSHOF NEWSLETTER

August 2021



2021 Induction & Awards Ceremony

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Class of 2021 Induction & Awards Ceremony – Details & Preview

IMSHOF will run the virtual Class of 2021 Induction & Awards Ceremony on September 18th. There will be a zoom event for guests in the Asia Pacific time zones first – followed by a zoom event for guests in the Americas, Europe, Middle East and Africa time zones. The video will then be released immediately. We will send log in details closer to the date.

First Session – all 18th September (log in 30 minutes early and stay 30 minutes after to chat with other Honorees):

21:00-23:00 Auckland

19:00-21:00 Melbourne

17:00-19:00 Hong Kong & Perth

14:30-16:30 Mumbai

12:00-14:00 Moscow

11:00-13:00 Amsterdam & Cairo

10:00-12:00 England & Ireland

05:00-07:00 New York

02:00-04:00 Los Angeles

Second Session – on 18th September (log in 30 minutes early and stay 30 minutes after to chat with other Honorees):

22:00-24:00 Moscow

21:00-23:00 Amsterdam & Cairo

20:00-22:00 England & Ireland

15:00-17:00 New York

12:00-14:00 Los Angeles

Second Session – on 19th September

07:00-09:00 Auckland

05:00-07:00 Melbourne

03:00-05:00 Hong Kong & Perth

00:30-02:30 Mumbai

Hard of Hearing and Closed Captioning

IMSHOF (and WOWSA) have figured out how to enable closed captioning in Zoom and YouTube to help those in our community who are hard of hearing. This is an important step as part of our formal initiative *Identify and Promote Swimmers/Contributors with Disabilities and Honorees who Assisted*.

Nominations for the Class of 2022 Induction and Awards

Nominations close Friday 1st October 8pm (Melbourne, Australia time) / 6am (New York, USA time). Please note that all nominations require an IMSHOF review so a draft should be submitted no later than 15th September. Please send the name first to info@imshof.org to ensure that they haven't already been nominated.

The criteria noted, processes described and forms are available for download on the submenus at [Nominate | IMSHOF](#). Please note the swimmer or contributor does not have to be retired, but they must have had a "career" in the sport of marathon swimming (for swimmers at least 5 years of elite competition or traditional solo swims). Winning one race, setting one traditional swim record or running one successful event do not make a career.

Women and LGBTQIA Initiative

IMSHOF formally tracked since February 2020 and formally adopted an Initiative to "Identify and Promote Women and LGBTQIA in July 2020. The Executive Committee educated ourselves on the issues and communicated and educated our Honorees, newsletter recipients and social media followers.

With three possible exceptions, we do not see open discrimination in the sport in this regard and IMSHOF nominations/inductions are open and working. Interestingly media were openly reporting

['Team LGBTQ' earns 32 medals at Tokyo Olympics](#) and the only IMSHOF Honoree competing was profiled in the article and favorably accepted in her home country of Brazil.

IMSHOF did add to our ethics standards to include:

'IMSHOF believes that the sport of marathon swimming should encourage safe participation by all interested swimmers and contributors. Individuals or Organizations which repeatedly engage in creating entry barriers or a non-welcoming environment based on disability; race; country of origin; sex or sexual orientation/preference do not meet our ethics criteria. IMSHOF continues to monitor these criteria and evolve it over time.'

On these bases IMSHOF will close out the formal Initiative – and move to an annual watching brief. For reference, the three possible exceptions, noted above, are:

1. Discrimination still exists in some very conservative/religious countries. Considerable political and societal pressure is encouraging them to change - and IMSHOF has very little influence/role.
2. IMSHOF was historically male-oriented. This has completely changed in the last few years with leadership and women accomplishing impressive solo swims (some more impressive than the men!) and the percentage of inductees have evened out. IMSHOF have also nominated women from the early days of the sport, who might have been missed, such as Ida Elionsky.
3. The acceptance of trans athletes (in highly competitive events) is an active conversation in society and most sports. Each sport is working through their criteria. IMSHOF has very little influence/role.

Other Honoree Videos/Interviews

Honorees Antonio Argüelles Díaz-González, Ned Denison, and Steven Muñatones conduct interviews with Honorees. These appear on the [IMSHOF Facebook page](#) and [WOWSA](#) with links to YouTube. Interviews since the last newsletter (click to access the hyperlink) and a few more include: [The Daughter of Brojen Das > King of the Channel](#)

Honorees - if you haven't been interviewed YET > please volunteer.

Many thanks - follow us on:



International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame



@imshofame

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