



**Dale Petranech, Honor Administrator, United States of America, 1995**



Holding the Dale Petranech Award for Services to IMSHOF  
Personal Website - (None known)

**Dale Petranech** became the first U.S. Swimming Open Water Swimming Committee Chairman in 1977 and developed a successful domestic and international program. He assisted U.S. Masters Swimming to form its own independent organization. He was chairman of the FINA Open Water Swimming Commission that made recommendations to FINA for inclusion of Open Water Swimming into their organization and eventually served as Honorary Secretary of the FINA Technical Open Water Swimming Committee. He assisted in writing the FINA Open Water Swimming Rules and served as a FINA Open Water Official at several World Championships and World Cup events. He escorted American swimmers at two FINA World Cups. In 1985, he became the oldest swimmer to swim across the Catalina Channel and swam around Manhattan Island. He has served as the Secretary of the International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame and has promoted the induction of the finest marathon swimmers in the world into the International Swimming Hall of Fame. He is also an inductee in the

International Swimming Hall of Fame (2014) and received The Irving Davids/Captain Roger W. Wheeler Memorial Award from the International Swimming Hall of Fame in 2006 for his contribution to the administration of open water swimming. As a general policy the IMSHOF restricts its activity to selecting Honorees and maintaining a record of their achievements and contributions. Only one award is given - which will not be on an annual basis. The Dale Petranech Award for Services to the International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame was established in 2016 and Dale was the first recipient based on 25+ years of service to the IMSHOF.

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

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