



Sandra Bucha, Honor Swimmer, United States of America, 2014



Personal Website (None known)

Sandra Bucha was a world-class sprinter and professional marathon swimmer. Together with IMSHOF Honorees John Kinsella and coached by Don Watson, Bucha won the 24 Heures La Tuque in 1974 and appeared on the cover of *Swimming World Magazine* in the December 1969 issue. From 1973 to 1975 as she was studying at Stanford University, Bucha embarked on an unprecedented professional marathon swimming career where she completed 9 swims and finished first woman in all 9 races with six second-place overall finishes: 1973 Chicago Lake Front 10-mile professional marathon swim: 1st woman, 2nd overall (to IMSHOF Honoree Johan Schans), 1974 Chicago Lake Front 10-mile professional marathon swim: 1st woman, 2nd overall (to John Kinsella), 1974 24 Heures La Tuque 24-hour non-stop relay with John Kinsella: 1st place in new record, 1974 Traversee Internationale du Lac St-Jean: 1st woman, 3rd overall to John Kinsella and Veljko Rogošić, 1974 Laval 10-mile professional marathon swim: 1st woman, 2nd overall to John Kinsella, 1975 Chicago Lake Front 10-mile professional marathon swim: 1st woman, 2nd overall (to John Kinsella), 1975 24 Heures La Tuque 24-hour non-stop relay with John Kinsella: 1st place, 1975 Traversée Internationale du Lac St-Jean: 1st woman, 2nd overall to John Kinsella, 1975 Laval 10-mile professional marathon swim: 1st woman, 2nd overall to John Kinsella.

She was the subject in a successful lawsuit against the Illinois High School Association, this legal action resulted in the initiation of girls' sports programs and state interscholastic championships for girls in the State of Illinois. It also helped influence United States legislation (Title 9) which led to a massive increase in female sports participation at High School and University levels. She was one of the leaders of social revolution.

She is also an inductee in the International Swimming Hall of Fame (2014).

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

