



Karen Burton Reeder, Honor Swimmer, United States of America, 1999



[Personal Website](#)

Videos: [Interview 1](#) [Swim 1 at 8:00](#) [IMSHOF 2026 at 57:20](#)

Karen Burton Reeder won 4 Majors: 1995 Around Atlantic City; 1995/1996 and 1996/1997 Marathon Swimming World Series Championship and 1992 FINA Long Distance Swimming World Cup.

She set the overall record for the Catalina in 1984 in 7 hours and 43 minutes – which held until 2012 and was the first female to complete the 88 km Hernandarias-Paraná in Argentina in 1993 – her time of 9 hours and 42 minutes was the female record for a year. Karen won 6 USA Swimming national championships, including three 15 km races and one 25 km race. Karen won bronze in the FINA World Swimming Championship 25 km in 1991. She won Lac St-Jean in Canada in 1992 and swam the English Channel in 9 hours and 4 minutes in 1993. She was on USA Swimming National Team on its record-setting English Channel relay of 6 hours and 52 minutes in 1990.

She served as the USA Swimming Open Water Swimming Coordinator for four years.

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

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