Jacqueline McClelland, Honor Administrator, Ireland, 2026



Videos: Talk 1 Talk 2 Panel 1 Swim 1 IMSHOF 2026 at 1:47:55

Jacqueline McClelland has been a leading figure in the growth and development of marathon swimming in Ireland. She is Co-Founder and Director of infinity Channel Swimming since 2013 and Committee member of the IMSHOF Honor Organization the Irish Long Distance Swimming Association (ILDSA) since 2014.

In 2013, Jacqueline began her North Channel involvement when the Oceans Seven was in its infancy and in danger of being unable to handle demand. She has been instrumental in increasing the availability of swims across the North Channel: 1947-2016: 34 solos; 2017 to present: 150 solos. As an example on August 4th 2025 they supported 4 solo crossings including Jacqueline piloting one of the escort boats.

Jacqueline established new methods for swimmers with physical disabilities to achieve their marathon swim goals. 1) Approval of a thin cloth band to hold a colostomy bag to the swimmer's body. 2) Adapted

the use of a ‘Roll Up Recovery Method’ for swimmers (with or without physical disabilities) for onboarding post swim, a method previously used for divers and casualties at sea.

Jacqueline has also crewed for solo swims in these locations to learn and share best practices: Cook Strait (23 km) New Zealand; La Bocaina swim (15 km) Canary Islands, Spain; False Bay (30 km) South Africa; Derwent River (34 km) Australia; Lake Geneva (73km) Italy; GeoBay (20 km) Australia; Monterey Bay (40K) USA, and Loch Ness (36.2 km) Scotland.

She was instrument in growing the Ireland Long Distance Annual Awards to 150+ attendance. Jacqueline received The Irving Davids/Captain Roger W. Wheeler Memorial Award from the International Swimming Hall of Fame in 2027 for her contribution to the administration of open water swimming.

Expanded Biography (Openwaterpedia)