



Dan Simonelli, Honor Coach, United States of America, 2024



[Personal Website](#)

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Dan Simonelli was the most active coach/crew/observer for marathon swimming in Southern California from 2011. This included supporting more than 300 Catalina and Santa Barbara Channel swims as well as other channel/marathon swims. He coached/crewed swimmers in 6 countries at distances: 10 km - more than 100; 10 miles - more than 100; and 25 km – more than 65.

IMSHOF Honorees swam Catalina with Dan: 2013 Kimberley Chambers; 2015 Attila Mányoki; 2017 Antonio Argüelles Díaz-González (single and 2-way); and 2019 Chloë McCardel and Jaime Lomelín Gavaldón. He also crewed for 2016 Chloë McCardel English Channel and 2022 Antonio Argüelles Díaz-González Around Manhattan (2nd lap).

Dan coached and coordinated for teenagers with disabilities for Catalina, English Channel, Molokai, Italy, and Santa Barbara Channel relays (2015-2020).

He also contributed as an administrator: Founder Open Water Swim Academy 2012 – 2023 (and beyond), Founder Around~Coronado Swim (18.6 km) 2020 – 2023 (and beyond); La Jolla Cove Swim Club President 2012 to 2023; Catalina Channel Swimming Federation; Founder of the Open Water Swim Support Training 2019 – 2023 (and beyond). As Swim Across America Event Director for Catalina and English Channel relays they raised over \$200,000 for charity including the Catalina Channel David Yudovin (IMSHOF Honoree) Memorial Relay.

Dan is an accomplished marathon swimmer with 14 completed including: English Channel, Catalina and S.C.A.R. He received the Carnegie Medal Hero Award in 2019.

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

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