



Tom Hetzel, PhD, Honor Swimmer, United States of America, 1980



Personal Website (None known)

Tom Hetzel, PhD was an internationally ranked marathon swimmer from 1968 to 1972. He swam the English Channel eight times as a solo swimmer from 1967 to 1977 in times ranging from 13 hours and 45 minutes to 18 hours and 54 minutes. He also captained six relay crossings that set three new records. He swam the 34 km (21-mile) Traversée internationale du Lac St-Jean professional race in Canada, the 32 km (20-mile) Aswan High Dam, 48.2 km (30 miles) in Baja California, 48.2 km (30 miles) from Point Lookout in New York, twelve Manhattan Island Marathon Swims and coached IMSHOF Honoree Doc Counsilman on his English Channel swim.

He also is credited with restarting the Manhattan Island Marathon Swim with Honoree Drury Gallagher in the early 19803.

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

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

