



John Kinsella, Honor Swimmer, United States of America, 1978



Personal Website (None known)

John Kinsella won 7 Majors: 1979 English Channel Race; 1978 Capri to Naples; and 1974, 1976, 1977, 1978 and 1979 World Professional Marathon Swimming Federation. He completely dominated the professional marathon swimming circuit in the 1970's after winning a silver medal in the 1500-meter freestyle at the 1968 Olympics and a gold medal in the 800-meter freestyle relay. He started the decade by winning the Amateur Athletic Union's James E. Sullivan Award for America's outstanding amateur athlete and ended the decade by winning a professional English Channel race in 1979. He won every major professional marathon swimming race he entered, including the 32 km (20-mile) Traversée internationale du Lac St-Jean professional race in 7 hours and 54 minutes in 1974, in 7 hours and 36 minutes in 1975, in 7 hours and 18 minutes in 1976, in 7 hours and 32 minutes in 1977, in 7 hours and 13 minutes in 1978 and in 7 hours and 1 minute in 1979. He was also inducted in the International Swimming Hall of Fame as an Honor Swimmer (1986).

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

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