

IMSHOF NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2025



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1. Class of 2026 Inductees and Awards Winners

Honor Swimmers:

[Amelia "Millie" Gade Corson](#)
[Andrew "Andy" Donaldson](#)
[María Digna Ezcurra de Ortellado](#)
[Bárbara Hernández Huerta](#)
[Alexander "Alex" Meyer](#)
[Marwan Saleh](#)

Irving Davids/Roger W. Wheeler Memorial Award:

[Julian Critchlow](#)

Dale Petranec Award for Services to IMSHOF:

[Carol Sing](#)

Honor Administrators:

[Captain Roger W. Wheeler](#)
[Cliff Golding](#)
[Jacqueline McClelland](#)
[John Graeme West](#)

Honor Coach:

[Irving Davids](#)

Poseidon Award:

[Paul Asmuth](#)

Announcements were made over the last few weeks on Facebook and other social media – directing readers to our website: [International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame - IMSHOF](#). Many thanks for your help in liking and sharing – it brought in many hundreds of viewers new to IMSHOF.

There were two big differences, compared to previous years, in the list of Inductees and Award Winners. IMSHOF now have representatives from three countries for the first time: Chile, Paraguay and Syria. We get even more international with every new country. Four of the Inductees (unfortunately deceased) had marathon careers between 1910 and 1969. The IMSHOF Selectors were able to look beyond the name recognition of current social media and the availability of many marathon swims around the world: swim slots and airplanes booked by

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the internet and credit card – versus sending letters, carrying cash and taking ocean liners! The public is fascinated by the early days of the sport – and hopefully the next generations will be interested in the era 2000-2025 a hundred years from now.

For the first time IMSHOF analyzed the votes to see what role (if any) the Selector's personal "inclinations" played in determining the final voting numbers. Eleven different totals were generated and compared to the final voting numbers:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Female | 2. Male |
| 3. Native language English | 4. Native language <u>not</u> English |
| 5. World Aquatics/FINA | 6. <u>Not</u> World Aquatics/FINA |
| 7. Attended previous Ceremonies | 8. Never attended a Ceremony |
| 9. Honor Swimmer | 10. Honor Contributor |
| 11. Selector <u>not</u> an Honoree | |

There were no significant differences in these other 11 totals. This gives IMSHOF confidence that the Selector pool is generally voting for the top candidates in the sport.

If your heroes haven't yet been inducted or received an award – please see [Nominate | IMSHOF](#) and subtabs to help you nominate – see also the [video](#). The deadline for nominations for the Class of 2027 is the end of July 2026

2. Ceremony – San Diego Saturday 16 May 2026

We hope you can join us to celebrate at the Induction and Awards Ceremony to be held in San Diego on Saturday 16 May 2026. An entire weekend of events is planned – so start making your plans and follow the news on [International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame - IMSHOF](#).

The first 57 tickets have been sold 6 months in advance (a very good sign!).

3. New Videos (now 170) in the IMSHOF YouTube Channel

[Honoree Sarah Thomas](#) – yet another challenge

[How to nominate an individual or organization to IMSHOF](#)

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[Raha Akhavan](#) – Iranian marathoner

[John Scott](#) – finding passion and purpose

[New England](#) – mass production of marathon swimmers

[Kim Lumsdon](#) - Daughter of Honoree Cliff Lumsdon shares her swimming stories

[Honoree Bryan Finlay, PhD](#) - Yoda of Great Lakes swimming

[Victor Malwa](#) – the first black English Channel solo swimmer from sub-Saharan Africa

[Alice Dearing](#) – 10 km Olympian and IMSHOF Executive Committee member

[Susan McKay](#) - an auditor's approach to marathon swimming

[Dr. Siân Clement](#) - how swimming helped her get through medical school

[Honoree Ned Denison](#) - open water swimming is a social activity

End

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