



Irish Long Distance Swimming Association, Honor Organization, Ireland, 2012



[Organizational Website](#)

Irish Long Distance Swimming Association, Honor Organization

(ILDSA) was founded in 1966 with the aim of promoting open water swimming. Honorary Secretary John Moffett organized four events in its first season. Since the auspicious beginning, the ILDSA has organized over 300 open water events, providing thousands of swimmers an opportunity to compete at the highest levels. The ILDSA established development races that introduce pool swimmers to the outdoor environment. The core of the ILDSA calendar remains races in Belfast Lough, Dublin Bay, Shannon Estuary, Galway Bay, Lough Neagh, Carlingford Lough, and Rathlin Sound. Lough Erne is its major annual championship. These races served as competition for all. For some, these races also helped prepare the swimmers for the English Channel. Indeed, many marathon swimmers test themselves in ILDSA events in Clew Bay, Co. Mayo and the annual Championships at Lough Erne before attempting the English Channel.

The consistent, high standard of the ILDSA events and its contributions have long been internationally recognized: the ILDSA received the International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame Award of Merit in 1995. In addition to promoting races, the ILDSA has sought to set standards in marathon swimming challenges. It provided relay teams that were the first to swim the North Channel and the length of Lough Neagh. The ILDSA has also provided observers for North Channel attempts and individual swims in all parts of Ireland and a nationwide support network to encourage and recognize those who challenge the waterways of Ireland.

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

Long Swims Database (Marathon Swimmers Federation) – No entry expected

Honorees who completed the North Channel swim

Antonio Argüelles Díaz-González, Honor Swimmer, Mexico, 2015
Cameron Bellamy, Honor Swimmer, South Africa, 2020
Colleen Blair, MBE, Honor Swimmer, Great Britain, 2023
Dr. Caroline Block, Honor Swimmer, United States of America, 2020
Tom Blower, Honor Swimmer, Great Britain, 1964
Kimberly Chambers, Honor Swimmer, New Zealand, 2019

Marcia Cleveland, Honor Swimmer, United States of America, 2020
Elizabeth Fry, Honor Swimmer, United States of America, 2014
Pat Gallant-Charette, Honor Swimmer, United States of America, 2019
Ted Keenan, Honor Swimmer, Ireland, 1984
Michelle Macy, Honor Swimmer, United States of America, 2019
Attila Mányoki, Honor Swimmer, Hungary, 2016
Rohan Dattatrey More, Honor Swimmer, India, 2018
Kevin Murphy, Honor Swimmer, Great Britain, 1971
Anna-Carin Nordin, Honor Swimmer, Sweden, 2018
Stephen Redmond, Honor Swimmer, Ireland, 2017
Alison Streeter, MBE, Honor Swimmer, Great Britain, 1985
Nora Toledano Cadena, Honor Swimmer, Mexico, 2006