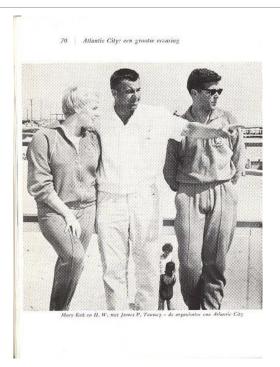


James Toomey, Honor Administrator, United States of America, 1971





James center with IMSHOF Honoree Herman Willemse on the right Videos (please help if you can find any)

James Toomey conceived the idea of the 36 km Around the Island Swim in Atlantic City in 1953; organized the political/financial support; and served as its race director until 1964. This became one of the most important events on the annual professional calendar. During these years many IMSHOF Honorees won podium finishes in the races: Abdulla Latif Abou-Heif, Greta Andersen, Alfredo Camarero, Regent Lacoursiere, Cliff Lumsdon, Tom Park, Herman Willemse and Steve Wozniak. Later he was elected as the first president of the World Professional Marathon Swimming Federation in 1971.

Expanded Biography (Openwaterpedia)