



IMSHOF SEPTEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

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1. Next Ceremony Class of 2027: Dublin, Ireland Saturday 8th May



Start making your plans and follow the news on International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame - IMSHOF [Home Page](#).

16 tickets sold as of 24th August

2. Ballot Process for the Class of 2027

Nominations were submitted by Friday 31st July, 2026 and will be fully completed by Friday 11th September.

An appointed Ballot Screening Committee reviews all nominations, executes a lite fact check, and suggests ballot categories to the Executive Committee for inclusion on the ballot. Any nominees not selected for the Class of 2027 ballot will be informed by email - with no further discussion about the decision.

Ballot sent to the IMSHOF Selector Panel before Thursday 24th September.

See this [page](#) for more details about the 70 + Selectors.

Voting closes Saturday 17th October. The Executive Committee will decide the inductees and award winners always in order of vote totals per category and decide on any ties. Announcements will be made in November through press releases and via the International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame Facebook page, Instagram, Facebook, website, and the next Newsletter.

Nominees not selected will be informed by email - with no further discussion about the selections.

If anyone wants to get a head start on Class of 2028 nominations - see the [webpage](#)/subtabs for details and [forms](#).

3. IMSHOF Initiatives

IMSHOF run two formal initiatives:

Identify and Promote Swimmers/Contributors with Physical Disabilities and Honorees who Assisted (adopted 10 March 2019). IMSHOF logged 12 activities to support this initiative in last year including new nominations, interviews and social media posts.

Identify and Promote Black Swimmers and Contributors (adopted 17 July 2020). IMSHOF logged 9 activities to support this initiative in last year including interviews, and social media posts. This also included looking for marathon swimmers/contributors via social media and contacting all World Aquatics National Federations.

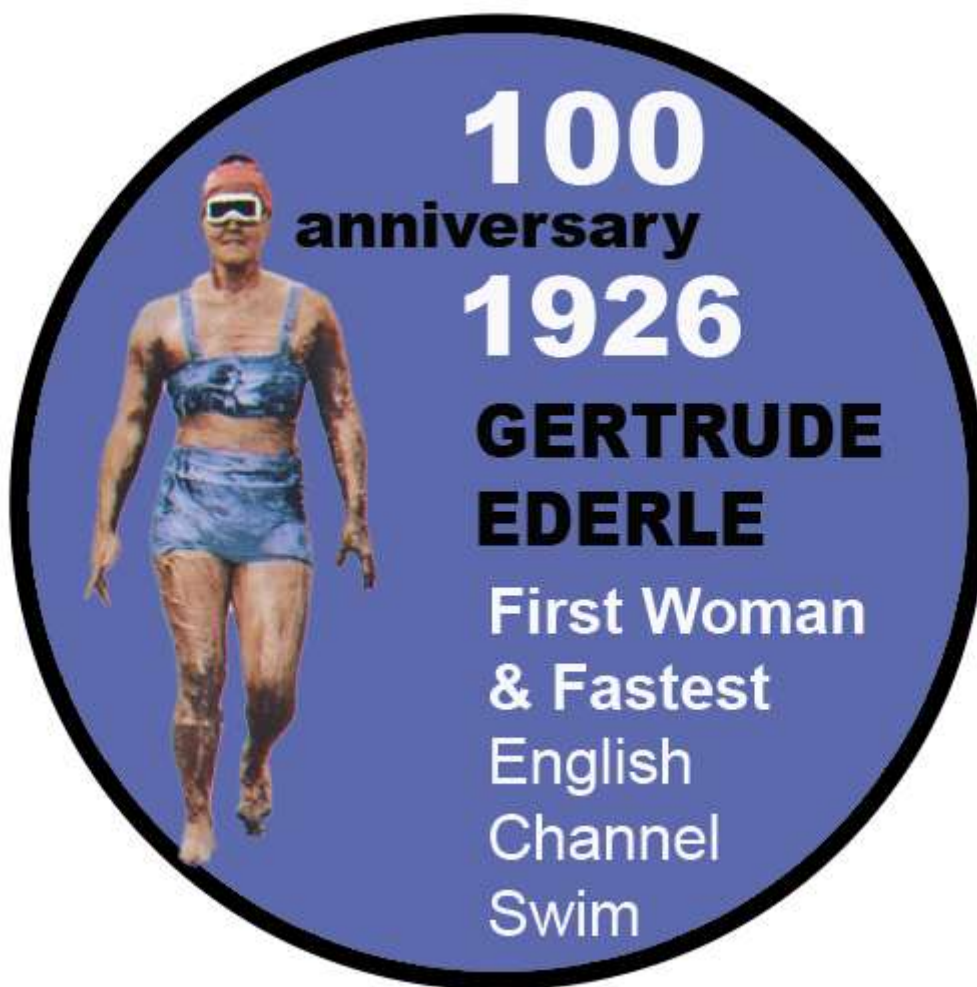
4. Social Media Explosion

The summer of 2026 saw an explosion of interest in IMSHOF on social media. YOU are helping every time you like or share - so please continue.

Here are a few Facebook facts to illustrate:

7,000 followers achieved on 7th August 2026 - then 7,100 on 25th August (6,000 was achieved in March 2024). Largest monthly views - 287,004 (versus 72,300 in March 2024).

The post on August 6th received 787 likes and was shared 148 times (a record for IMSHOF) with the caption: "100 years ago today - Honoree Gertrude Ederle swam across the English Channel. First female, beat the speed of all men, international superstar"



IMSHOF have a few remaining decals - the first 25 to email info@IMSHOF.org will receive a physical decal for car window, laptop, etc. free.

The reel posted on August 12th was viewed 33,207 times. If you missed the swimmer, at night, in a bait ball - [see here](#).

5. New Videos

New Videos added to the IMSHOF Channel:

[Susie Maroney \(old video\)](#): Suzie is a fish

[Honoree Mervyn Sharp](#): acknowledged 50 years after his first Channel crossing at the CSA dinner

[Honoree Marcos Aurelio Díaz Domínguez](#): interviewed by Jaime Lomelín Gavaldón (in Spanish)

[Honoree David Barra](#): swimming Lac St. Jean solo

[Honoree Christopher Green](#): swim around Manhattan & pull \$5 out of your speedo for ice cream

[Honoree Mervyn Sharp](#): feeding 50+ years ago in the Channel

[Charalampos Taiganidis](#): Greek Swimmer with a visual (S12) disability

[Honoree Gustavo Orioabala](#): his 20 Bridges (Around Manhattan) finish



6. Recognizing New and Advancing Patrons

Our community thrives thanks to the generosity of our supporters. We are proud to announce our newest Patron:

Silver Patron: Ralph Willard (1914-1997) Class of 1981 USA - purchased by an Honoree inspired by his career.

Please see the description of the program on [Patrons & Special Thanks | IMSHOF](#).

7. Sea Goddess Trophies

IMSHOF Honorees and Executive Committee members continue to order and receive Sea Goddess Trophies (\$50 + engraving + shipping). The latest to receive is Attila

If anyone wishes to minimize shipping cost - a few can be delivered to Dublin in May 2027 at the Ceremony. Inquire for a Sea Goddess trophy at info@imshof.org



8. Connecting with all Living Honorees

Before the arrival of commonly used internet and less expensive phone calls - IMSHOF was sometimes unable to contact new Honorees. A few were unaware of their Induction.

IMSHOF has now made contact with all but three living Honorees in the past few years. We had success recently in contacting Zhang Jian, Honor Swimmer, China, 2018 - the first swimmer resident in China to swim the English Channel. Many thanks to marathon swimmer Mario Lin who spoke to Zhang by phone (in Mandarin). He is now fully aware of his Induction and meaning and Mario will serve as his liaison for all future communication with IMSHOF.

Many thanks - we still strive to contact the last three.

This is not an issue going forward as the new nomination forms require the Individual's/organization's consent and contact details. Further IMSHOF also require a "younger" second contact who can help in the future if IMSHOF lose contact.

Are you receiving this directly? If you received this newsletter via email from **info@IMSHOF.org**, you are already on our subscription list. If not, please visit our [website](#) to stay connected with our community.

Please use [IMSHOF's Electronic Public Library](#) for more artifacts and suggest additions.

[SIGN UP TO OUR NEWSLETTER](#)

IMSHOF needs your help to identify and nominate Administrators, Coaches, Organizations, Pilots, and Swimmers for induction and individuals for the Poseidon Award and the Irving Davids and Captain Roger W. Wheeler Memorial Award. Nominations for the Class of 2028 must be submitted by Saturday 31st July, 2027 10pm GMT to allow an adequate period for internal data validation, ethics and viability review. See the [webpage](#) and subtabs for details and [forms](#).

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