



## Bob Duenkel, Honor Administrator, United States of America, 2019



Videos: [Show 1](#) [ISHOF 1](#) [ISHOF 2](#)

**Bob Duenkel** over a period of 40 years, greatly assisted the development and recognition of marathon swimming. He joined the International Swimming Hall of Fame as a staff member in 1977 and retired as the executive director & curator in 2016. As a coach Bob was named in 1978 as the National Junior College Swimming Coach of the Year and in 1988 coached the USA to victory in the FINA Open Water World Cup team in Evian, France.

Bob served on Board of Directors of both the International Swimming Hall of Fame and the International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame and was the administrative liaison. His extensive knowledge of aquatics and personal networks throughout the swimming world helped build the reputation, archives and artefacts of both organizations. Bob's non-assuming personality and low-key approach help guide the IMSHOF while provide room for the growth and recognition of epic marathon swimming which never followed the more traditional ISHOF Olympics, Worlds and records approach. This included a significant input into an early process for recording the marathon swims not under the jurisdictional authority of another body.

Bob was also an All-American pool swimmer and open water competitor. In 1970 his relay team swam in the 24 Hour La Tuque Marathon, completed 77 km and took 7th place. He received the Presidential Award in 2004 from the International Swimming Hall of Fame and was inducted in 2020.

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