

International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame – Honor Contributor 2015 Nominee: Nancy J. Ridout



By this submission, the Recognition and Awards Committee of United States Masters Swimming wishes to nominate **Nancy J. Ridout** for induction into the International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame. Nancy's engagement and commitment to swimming has been a lifelong endeavor and her contributions to Masters Swimming are prodigious, and invaluable to the growth and viability of the program.

Nancy has touched every facet of Masters Swimming. Her engagement in our sport began pre Title IX as an AAU age group swimmer and as a club swimmer at the University of Michigan where she was also a two time AAU-American Water Polo player. The birth of United States Masters Swimming in 1970 provided Nancy a forum for directing her competitive energy as well as an organization where she could contribute her leadership talents and boundless enthusiasm for making USMS a success.

From the earliest days of Masters Swimming, Nancy has been a seminal force in all things Masters. For her local club (Tamalpais Aquatic Masters), LMSC (Pacific Masters Swimming) and United States Masters Swimming, Nancy has been there to contribute. Her swimming résumé is lengthy and the results that have come from her many roles have been a crucial part of Masters Swimming's growth and success.

The following are a list of Nancy's contributions:

United States Masters Swimming

- Member of the USMS Board of Directors, 1985-present
 - Member of the Board of Trustees for the Swimming Saves Lives Foundation 2011 to present
 - Member FINA Masters Committee 2006-2013, Chair of Masters Development Sub-Committee, worked primarily in water polo and swimming
 - XI FINA World Masters Championships, 2006, Local Operating Committee Secretary
 - Originator and Administrator of 8 US Olympic Training Center High Altitude Training Camps for Masters, inaugurated in 1998
 - Partnered USMS with USA Water Polo and *Swimming World Magazine* in "Strokes for Stroke" a national campaign to highlight awareness of the symptoms and treatment of strokes (brain damage), 2000
 - USMS President, 9/97-2001
 - Initiated the USMS Charitable Foundation while president, 1998
 - USMS Vice-President, 9/89-9/93
 - USMS Secretary, 9/85-9/89
 - USMS Co-Editor of *SWIM Magazine*, 9/91-9/93
 - Co-Editor *Watermarks* (USMS Newsletter), 9/89-9/91
 - *Places to Swim* originator and editor, 1986-2000; first publication detailing contacts for Masters clubs that welcome visitors, originally for US and then expanded to international listings
 - USMS Federation Convention delegate, annually 1982-present
 - USMS Committee Participation
 - International (1980)
 - Championship (1983-1985)
 - Registration (1983-1989, 1992-2013)
 - Long Range Planning (1986-1989)
 - Executive Committee (1986-1993)
 - Chairman Marketing Committee (1994-1997)
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Nancy J. Ridout

Special Recognition

- Capt. Ransom J. Arthur M.D. Award, United States Masters Swimming's most prestigious recognition presented annually to the volunteer who has done the most to further the objectives of Masters swimming, generally over an extended period of time.
 - USMS Presidential Citation, 2012, "For outstanding and dedicated service on the FINA Masters Technical Committee for 8 years."
 - Recipient of the USWFA (US Water Fitness Association) Masters Swimming Pioneer Award, Dr. Richard Rahe International Award, 2006
 - Dorothy Donnelly Service Award, 2005
 - The 2002 USMS Rule Book was dedicated to Nancy for her significant contributions.
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Pacific Masters Swimming LMSC

- Registrar, 1983-2014 Managed day-to-day operations. During Nancy's tenure the LMSC grew from 2,000 to 11,000 members.
- Top Ten and Records Chairman, 1974-1979, 1985-present
- Vice-President, 1979-1982
- Member ad hoc By-Laws Revision Committee (adopted 11/91)
- Member ad hoc Meet Directors Handbook Committee (published 3/92)
- Co-Chairman, Meet Director 1993 National One Hour Swim ad hoc Organizing Committee
- Meet Director, 1997 National One Hour Postal Swim
- Instrumental in creating and editing the *History of Pacific Masters*

Special Recognition

In 2013 Pacific Masters Swimming's Distinguished Service Award was renamed the Nancy Ridout Distinguished Service Award in recognition of Nancy's 40 years of contributions.

Tamalpais Aquatic Masters (TAM)

- Member of the Tamalpais Aquatic Masters since 1972
- Meet Director for the Pacific Long Course Championships, 1982; Short Course Championships, '83, '84, '85
- Organized and directed Masters Swimming Clinics (1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981) featuring notable speakers including Doc Councilman, George Haines, Covert Bailey, Dave Scott, Don Swartz, Karen Moe, Penny Little and Jim Gaughran.

Special Recognition

Multiple time recipient of TAM's annual Work Your Tail Off award for commitment, effort and tenacity, both in and out of the pool.

Masters Swimmer

Love of swimming in all of its manifestations is fundamental to Nancy's commitment to the sport. Key to that commitment is Nancy's participation as an athlete. While fostering her contributions on the deck, Nancy's swimming accomplishments and performances have positioned her at the pinnacle of the sport through over 4 decades of competition. Her swimming resume is full of world records, national records, All American, and Top 10 performances.

- Attended almost every USMS championship, yards and meters, since the inception of Masters Swimming.
- Throughout her Masters career earned Pacific, National and World Records, All-American (pool and/or long distance) every year since 1972 and continually been in the USMS Top Ten.
- Awarded the Pacific Masters Swimmer of the Year Award '77, '82, '87, '89, '90, '91, '92, '93, '94