



WORLD PROFESSIONAL MARATHON SWIMMING FEDERATION

c/o ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

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DENNIS MATUCH, SECRETARY

WORLD RANKINGS 1978 MEN

1. John Kinsella(USA)	2315	13. Magdy Farid(Egypt)	394
2. Marwan Ghazzawi(Egypt)	1555	14. Fiedala(Egypt)	393
3. Claudio Plit(Argentina)	1342	15. Ossama Rachad(Egypt)	388
4. Bill Heiss(USA)	1047	16. Jon Erikson(USA)	355
5. Nasser Shazly(Egypt)	862	17. Abas(Egypt)	326
6. Magdy Mandour(Egypt)	801	18. Steve Cassidy(USA)	259
7. James Barry(USA)	690	19. Mohamed Gamle(Egypt)	207
8. Raul Villagomez(Mexico)	681	20. John McCauley(USA)	60
9. Jim Whelan(USA)	617	21. Phillip Hellmuth(USA)	55
10. Amin Youseff(Egypt)	468	22. James Doty(USA)	50
11. Villegas Perez(Mexico)	450	23. Ralph Willard(USA)	45
12. Marwan Saleh(Syria)	442		

WORLD RANKINGS 1978 WOMEN

1. Loreen Passfield(Canada)	1677	5. Cynthia Nicholas(Canada)	554
2. Mona Hossin(Egypt)	1015	6. Jamee Stewart(USA)	150
3. Christine Cosette(Canada)	839	7. Marla Feldman(USA)	125
4. Penny Dean(USA)	650		

1978 MEN'S WORLD CHAMPION: John Kinsella. This is the fourth time that Kinsella has won the world's championship(1974, 76, 77, 78). The only other marathon swimmer to win more championships was Horacio Iglesias of Argentina(1967, 69, 71, 72, 73). Kinsella became the first American in history to win the Capri-Naples marathon this year.

1978 WOMAN'S WORLD CHAMPION: Loreen Passfield. This is the second world championship for Passfield.

OF THE NINE PROFESSIONAL MARATHON RACES HELD IN THE WORLD IN 1978 ONLY THE LAKE ST JOHN, CHIBOUGAMAU, PEPSI CHALLENGE LAKE ONTARIO, AND THE CHICAGOFEST MARATHONS WERE SANCTIONED SWIMS AND THUS ELIGIBLE FOR THE AWARDING OF POINTS TO INDIVIDUAL MARATHONERS.

OFFICIAL FEDERATION STAND ON SOLO ATTEMPTS BY WALTER POENISCH, DIANA NYAD AND STELLA TAYLOR AT END OF BULLETIN

PENNY DEAN WHO TURNED PROFESSIONAL THIS YEAR HAS THE FOLLOWING SOLO RECORDS:

World record for the English Channel, overall, England to France on July 29, 1978, in 7 hours 40 minutes. One hour

and five minutes under the former record.

World record for 21-mile Catalina Channel from Catalina to mainland on September 5, 1977, in 8 hours 33 minutes.

World record for 44-mile double crossing of Catalina Channel from Island to mainland and back on September 5, 1977, in 20 hours 3 minutes. This was over 6 hours 50 minutes under the former record.

World record for 21-mile Catalina Channel from the mainland to Catalina on September 1, 1976, in 7 hours 15 minutes 55 seconds. This was over 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours under former record.

RESULTS OF 1978 PROFESSIONAL RACES

RIO CORONDA RIVER(Argentina; 28 miles with current; water temp. 80°) Feb. 5

1. John Kinsella(USA)	7h 44' 40"	\$2,000	NEW RECORD
2. Claudio Plit(Arg.)	8 00' 56"	1,200	
3. Raul Villagomez(Mex.)	8 02' 02"	1,000	
4. Alberto Santiago(Arg.)	8 13' 18"	700	
5. Marwan Saleh(Syria)	8 15' 21"	900	(combining of 5th & 6th for tie)
Maher Saleh(Syria)			
7. Raul Carrizo(Arg.)	8 39' 12"	300	
8. Carlos Aguirre(Arg.)	8 48' 30"	100	
9. Jenny Anderson(Aus.)	8 58' 28"	200	(FIRST WOMAN)
10. Hector Suarez(Arg.)	8 59' 50"		
11. Guillermo Venturini(Arg.)	9 01' 18"		
12. Miguel Cruz(Arg.)	9 05' 11"		
13. Carlos Larriera(Arg.)	9 14' 45"		FIRST VETERAN
14. Alejandro Larriera(Arg.)			FIRST AMATEUR
15. Florencio Romero(Arg.)	9 29' 52"		SECOND VETERAN
16. Francisco Gaos(Arg.)	9 36' 07"		
17. Luis Brittes(Arg.)	9 36' 24"		SECOND AMATEUR
18. Anibal Caceres(Arg.)	9 42' 00"		THIRD AMATEUR
19. N.S. Mabel Garrido(Arg.)	9 44' 27"		SECOND WOMAN \$100
20. Osmar Reynoso(Arg.)	9 51' 52"		
21. Carlos Torres Del Sel(Arg.)	9 55' 05"		FOURTH AMATEUR
22. Raul Zanuttini(Arg.)	10 03' 40"		FIFTH AMATEUR
23. Julio Oscar Meza(Arg.)	10 08' 27"		THIRD VETERAN

VETERANS AND AMATEURS STARTED THE RACE ONE HOUR BEFORE PROFESSIONALS

VETERANS: ALL SWIMMERS OVER 35 YEARS OF AGE WITH NO INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCES AND ALL SWIMMERS OVER 40 YEARS

NILE RIVER(Egypt): -76°; 23 miles(current-assisted); May 5

1. Marwan Ghazziwi(Egypt)	5:58	\$2,000
2. Magdy Mandour(Egypt)	5:58.1	1,400
3. Magdy Farid(Egypt)	6:03	1,000
4. Ibrahim Faidullah(Egypt)	6:16:22	600
5. Raymond Dixon(England)	6:21.8	200
6. Maher Abdel-Hamid(Egypt)	6:57.8	100
7. Alfonso Liberti(Italy)	7:25.25	100

WOMEN

1. Corrie Dixon(England)	6:11.3	\$2,000
2. Mona Aly(Egypt)	6:40.6	1,400
3. Loreen Passfield(Canada)	6:45.15	1,000
4. Nazla Faidallah(Egypt)	6:49.20	600

CAPRI-NAPLES (Italy): 65°; 21 miles; July 9.

1. John Kinsella 10 hours 28 minutes NEW RECORD

ONLY CONFIRMED TIME. SPONSORS TIME FOR OTHER
CONTESTANTS SUBJECT TO QUESTION AND NO DIFFERENTIATION
MADE BETWEEN AMATEURS AND PROFESSIONALS ENTERED

LA TUQUE 24 HOUR TEAM RACE(QUEBEC, Canada; 72°; 1/3 mile oval course) July 22-23

	<u>LAPS</u>	<u>INDIVIDUAL</u>	<u>AVERAGE</u>	<u>HRS. MIN. SEC.</u>			
1. John Kinsella(USA)	197	99	7:11	11	44	19	NEW RECORD
Bill Heiss(USA)	(65.7 miles)	98	7:50	12	14	48	
2. Amin Youseff(Egypt)	194	96	7:48	11	58	04	
James Barry(USA)		98	7:36	12	01	32	
3. Claudio Plit(Arg.)	192	97	7:48	12	06	07	
Raul Villagomez(Mex.)		95	7:50	11	52	33	
4. Marwan Ghazzawi(Egypt)	191	96	7:52	12	01	58	
Magdy Mandour(Egypt)		95	7:55	11	57	17	
5. Marwan Saleh(Syria)	181	91	8:33	12	01	42	
Maher Saleh(Syria)		90	8:37	11	58	03	
6. Faker	176	84	8:08	11	18	36	
Maki		93	8:28	12	49	51	
7. Cynthia Nicholas(Can.)	175	79	8:21	10	48	52	
Jon Erikson(USA)		96	8:23	13	10	01	
8. Santiago	165	82	8:05	11	00	13	
Ossama Rachad(Egypt)		83	9:40	13	00	43	
9. Mona Hossin(Egypt)	157	75	9:05	10	49	13	
Abbas(Egypt)		82	10:03	13	10	07	

BEST MALE AVERAGE: John Kinsella 7:11
BEST FEMALE AVERAGE: Cynthia Nicholas 8:21
FASTEST MALE LAP: John Kinsella 6:15
FASTEST FEMALE LAP: Cynthia Nicholas 7:10

There is a discrepancy between 5th, 6th, & 7th average time.
We are giving it as shown by sponsor's report. Perhaps these
times should be transposed.

LAKE ST. JOHN(Quebec, Canada; 21 miles; 68°-72°; flat) July 30

1. John Kinsella(USA) 7:13:35 \$7,000 plus \$1,000 NEW RECORD(Old: 7:18:06)
2. Bill Heiss(USA) 7:40:17 4,000
3. Claudio Plit(Arg.) 7:51:06 3,000
4. Marwan Ghazzawi(Egypt) 7:57:19 2,000
5. Nasser Shazly(Egypt) 7:59:12 1,500
6. Magdy Mandour(Egypt) 8:01:47 1,000
7. Raul Villagomez(Mex.) 8:02:42 800
8. Marwan Saleh(Syria) 8:29:00 500
9. James Wheland(USA) 8:35:46 500
10. Loreen Passfield(Can.) 8:46:59 \$500 plus \$500(FIRST WOMAN)plus \$500 FIRST CANADIAN
11. James Barry(USA) 8:47:01 500
12. Cynthia Nicholas(Can.) 8:47:08 500
13. Ossama Rachad(Egypt) 8:47:10 500
14. Feidalla Moustafa(Egy.) 8:49:10 500
15. Christine Cossette(Can.) 8:51:10 \$500 plus \$200(SPECIAL AWARD: NEW SWIMMER)
16. Jon Erikson(USA) 9:44:04 500

DEPARTURE SPRINT:

- | | | | | |
|------------------|-------|-------|----------------|----------|
| 1. John Kinsella | 9m52s | \$300 | 1. C. Cossette | 10m39s |
| 2. Bill Heiss | 9m59 | \$200 | 2. Kim Lumsdon | 10m41.5s |

ARRIVAL SPRINT:

- | | | | | |
|------------------|---------|-------|---------------------|---------|
| 1. John Kinsella | 11m12.5 | \$300 | 1. Cynthia Nicholas | 11:33. |
| 2. Ossama Rachad | 11m33.3 | \$200 | 2. C. Cossette | 13:52.2 |

PASPEBIAC(Chaleur Bay, Quebec): 65°; 15 miles; flat; August 6 (Invitational only)

1. John Kinsella(USA) 6:02:50 NEW RECORD \$4,000
2. Bill Heiss(USA) 6:25:48 \$2,500
3. Claudio Plit(Argentina) 6:37:49 1,500
4. Raul Villagomez(Mexico) 6:48:07 1,000
5. Jon Erikson(USA) 7:03:08 500
6. Cynthia Nicholas(Canada) 7:33:55 400 FIRST WOMAN
7. Ossama Rachad(Egypt) 7:37:39 400
8. Christine Cossette(Can.) 8:36:44 400 SECOND WOMAN
9. Dennis Matuch(USA) 9:08:02 400

DEPARTURE SPRINT: 1. John Kinsella 18:35

ARRIVAL SPRINT: 1. John Kinsella 21:56

On August 13th the Paspebiac Chamber of Commerce sponsored a double-crossing of Chaleur Bay for Jon Erikson and Cynthia Nicholas. Both swimmers left at the same time. 30 miles; 65°;

1. Cynthia Nicholas(Canada) 14 hours 51 minutes \$4,000

2. Jon Erikson(USA) 16:04 \$2,500

CHIBOUGAMAU(Quebec, Canada): 69°; 10 miles; flat; August 13.

1. Marwan Ghazzawi(Egypt)	3:27:48	\$2,000	NEW RECORD
2. James Barry(USA)	3:27:57	1,500	
3. Magdy Farid(Egypt)	3:32:22	1,000	
4. Nasser Shazly(Egypt)	3:34:36	800	
5. Amin Youseff(Egypt)	3:34:39	700	
6. Villegas Perez(Mexico)	3:37:50	600	
7. James Whelan(USA)	3:41:13	500	
8. Marwan Saleh(Syria)	3:43:38	400	
9. Fiedala(Egypt)	3:47:05	300	
10. Mona Hossin(Egypt)	3:51:40	350	FIRST WOMAN
11. Loreen Passfield(Canada)	3:51:42	200	SECOND WOMAN
12. Ossama Rachad(Egypt)	3:53:56	200	
13. Christine Cosette(Canada)	4:01:00	150	THIRD WOMAN
14. Abas(Egypt)	4:29:07	150	
15. Mohamed Gamie(Egypt)	4:44:47	150	

TORONTO(CANADA): PEPSI CHALLENGE SWIM: 74°; 32 miles across Lake Ontario.
\$50,000 purse
August 16
Canadian National Exhibition
Seven foot waves last three hours of race
Field limited to the ten top pro
marathoners of previous year.

1. John Kinsella(USA)	13:49	NEW RECORD(old 15:35; solo)	\$25,000
2. Claudio Plit(Argentina)	15:01	\$10,000	
3. Raul Villagomez(Mexico)	15:09	6,000	
4. Magdy Mandour(Egypt)	15:19	4,000	
5. Bill Heiss(USA)	15:57	2,000	

Still in water after time limit(3 hours after winner)

Jon Erikson(USA)	27 miles	\$500
Loreen Passfield(Canada)	24 miles	500
Kim Lumsdon(Canada)	22 miles	500

CHICAGO(USA; 10 miles; 57°; flat):

August 20

76 starters; 15 finish; 16th thru 22nd
place awarded prize according to position
two hours after winner.

1. John Kinsella(USA)	3:30:40	\$3,000	
2. Marwan Ghazzawi(Egypt)	3:36:50	2,000	
3. Penny Dean(USA)	3:42:20	1,500	FIRST WOMAN
4. Claudio Plit(Argentina)	3:43:06	1,000	
5. Nasser Shazly(Egypt)	3:44:10	800	
6. Steve Cassidy(USA)	3:46:07	700	
7. Bill Heiss(USA)	3:46:27	600	
8. Magdy Mandour(Egypt)	3:51:03	500	
9. Villegas Perez(Mexico)	3:59:16	400	
10. Amid Amin(Egypt)	4:04:18	300	
11. Loreen Passfield(Can.)	4:09:22	1,000	SECOND WOMAN: FIRST WOMAN PRIZE
12. Jon Erikson(USA)	4:15:02	200	
13. Jim Whelan(USA)	4:15:49	200	
14. Mona Hossin(Egypt)	4:17:03	750	THIRD WOMAN: SECOND WOMAN PRIZE
15. Atta Abbas(Egypt)	4:36:25	200	
16. Jamee Stewart(USA)	9½ miles	500	FOURTH WOMAN: THIRD WOMAN PRIZE
17. Mohammad Gamie(Egypt)	9 miles	200	
18. Marla Feldman(USA)	8½ miles	300	FIFTH WOMAN: FOURTH WOMAN PRIZE
19. John McCauley(USA)	8 miles	200	
20. Phillip Hellmuth(USA)	8 miles	200	
21. James Doty(USA)	7 miles	200	
22. Ralph Willard(USA)	5 miles	200	AGE 64: OLDEST ACTIVE COMPETITOR

There were special woman's prizes. If place position prize exceeded special
prize woman was eligible for highest prize only.

The Federation was approached by three marathoners attempting to set new records. Their requests for sanction was turned down. The official comments and position of the Federation are as follows:
 The Cuba to Florida swim was attempted (unsuccessfully) by Walter Poenisch and Diana Nyad. Both marathoners claimed that if successful their swims would be a new open water record of 103 to 130 miles. Federation consultants (including a University of Chicago oceanographer) say that the Cuba to Florida is a current-assisted swim. The Gulf Stream in this area is one of the fastest in the world with currents of from 1.5 to 7 miles per hour moving in a north-easterly direction. A swimmer, however, would not receive full benefit of such a current since he would be swimming northerly. The swimmer would receive the benefit of at least one-half (0.75 to 3.5 MPH) the current. Also, the Gulf Stream does not extend the full width of the distance from Cuba to Florida but only about 75% to 85% of the distance. A marathoner leaving Cuba would pick up the current from two to six miles out and possibly lose it the same distance upon nearing the Florida Keys. The claims of the marathoners Walter Poenisch and Diana Nyad for their attempts as being open-water ones are not justified. Stella Taylor's attempt to swim from Bimini Island to Florida was invalid for the same reason since the Gulf Stream sweeps along the east coast of Florida with vectors towards land. These marathoner's claims were also not justified since they also broke the rules of marathon swimming as reached by this Federation and the Channel Swimming Association. Rules broken by each marathoner are as follows:

- Walter Poenisch: Flippers (swim fins) and snorkle used.
 Left water three times.
 No official and neutral observers present.
- Diana Nyad: Double-suit worn (approaching scuba-divers insulation breaks "no artificial aids" rule).
 Use of artificial wave-breaking device in the form of pontoon boat.
- Stella Taylor: Left water four times to avoid sharks.

In all the above cases the media gave credit to huge distances covered by the swimmers. All the above cases were cases of the swimmer being carried along by a significant current. The Gulf Stream precludes any attempt from Florida to Cuba.

NEW BOOK

Diana Nyad's book **OTHER SHORES** (Random House; 1978) has just been published. It is a fascinating account of Diana's career as a professional and solo marathoner. She first entered the pro circuit in 1970 and throughout the next five years proved to be one of the best marathoners on the circuit. Her abilities earned her recognition in 1974 as the Woman's Professional World Champion in 1974. The next few years saw Diana gaining world-wide recognition for her solo endeavors which included a crossing of Lake Ontario and a world's record swim around Manhattan Island. Diana's discussion of her life both in and out of the water, her training methods, her philosophy of swimming, and her comments on other personalities in the world of marathon swimming are sure to be of interest to all. The book is available through your local book store for \$8.95.