



Steven Muñatones, Honor Swimmer, United States of America, 2002



Personal Website (None known)

Steven Muñatones won 1 Majors: 1982 BLDSA Windermere International Championship. He completed five unprecedented swims in Japan. In 1989, he swam 42 km (26 miles) across Lake Biwa, Japan's largest lake in 10 hours and 36 minutes. In 1990, he was the first to swim both directions of the 19.5 km (12-mile) Tsugaru Channel from Honshu to Hokkaido in 6 hours 11 minute and 6 hours 41 minutes back from Hokkaido to Honshu. The negotiations to allow the return swim took several hours with Steven still in his swimming suit and all on the boat. As the "turn-around" exceeded the traditional 10-20 minutes this is best describes as a stage swim.

In 1992, he swam across the Five Lakes of Mount Fuji, Japan in 5 hours and 40 minutes, running and biking between each lake. In 1993, he swam 37 km (22.9 miles) between Ishigaki Island, Iriomote Island and Taketomi Island in Okinawa, Japan in 10 hours and 16 minutes. In 1994, Munatones swam 29 km (18 miles) through hundreds of hammerhead sharks around Yonaguni Island in Okinawa, Japan in 7 hours and 8 minutes. He also swam the 36 km (22.5-mile) Around-the-Island Swim in Atlantic City, USA in 1985, the 42 km (26-mile) Traversée Internationale du Lac Memphrémagog in Canada in 1984 and 1985, the 34 km (21-mile) Traversée internationale du lac St-Jean in Canada in 1984, the 38.6 km (24-mile) Los Cabos Marathon Swim in Mexico in 1984 and the 45.8 km (28.5-mile) Manhattan Island Marathon Swim in 1984.

He won two USA National 10-mile championships in 1982 and 1991. He coached several USA Swimming national open water swimming teams, wrote the Open Water Swimming Dictionary, wrote Open Water Swimming – Swimming Without Lines and was the NBC Olympics commentator for the first Olympic 10 km Marathon Swim at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

He received The Irving Davids/Captain Roger W. Wheeler Memorial Award from the International Swimming Hall of Fame in 2011 for his contribution to the administration of open water swimming and the Poseidon Award in 2017.

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

[Long Swims Database \(Marathon Swimmers Federation\)](#)