

2014 WOWSA WORLD OPEN WATER SWIMMING ASSOCIATION AWARD NOMINEES PERFORMANCE OF THE YEAR

CYPRUS ISRAEL SWIM



Cyprus Israel Swim by Udi Erell, Doron Amosi, Ben Enosh, Ori Sela, Oded Rahav, Luc Chetboun (Israel).

Six valiant men and their tireless support crew went for it back in 2013. Their goal? To swim an unprecedented relay from Cyprus in the Mediterranean Sea to their native Israel. Udi Erell, Doron Amosi, Ben Enosh, Ori Sela, Oded Rahav and Luc Chetboun gave it their best shot.

For 60 hours, the optimistic, visionary team struggled against the high seas with 25-knot winds and waves building past 2 meters. But Mother Nature won round one when safety became a major concern. But the men never gave up and attempted an even longer 377 km course from Cyprus to Israel in October.

Despite security concerns in Gaza, the pioneers braved the seas and finished in a cumulative 123 hours 10 minutes, swimming through 5 full days and nights to set history's 6-person distance relay record.

For their courage and commitment to each other, for their stamina and strength at sea, for their desire to help raise awareness for clean seas, the Cyprus Israel Swim is a worthy nominee for the 2014 World Open Water Swimming Performance of the Year.

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2014 WOWSA Performance of the Year Nominees

1. Beyond Avalon by Dan Henry, Dave Speier, William Miller, Steve Miller, Lee Grove, Dana Selles, Mark Zambon, Penny Nagel, Chris Gibson, Jon Rodley, Jonathan Hands, Nick Jeffery, Terry Hirt (U.S.A.)
2. Curaçao Channel Crossing by Niko Kluyver, André Nottelman, Erwin Ruijsink (Curaçao)
3. Cyprus Israel Swim by Udi Erell, Doron Amosi, Ben Enosh, Ori Sela, Oded Rahav, Luc Chetboun (Israel)
4. Diomed Islands Swim by Alexandr Brylin and Grigori Prokopchuk (Russia)
5. English Channel Crossing by Cyril Baldock (Australia)
6. Great Lake Adventure by Vicki Keith, Abi Tripp, Nick Streicher, Michelle Sempowski, Natasha Dobson, Harley Bolton, Natalie Lambert, Jenna Lambert (Canada)
7. International Winter Swimming Festival Argentina by Matías Ola (Argentina)
8. Lake Ontario Crossing by Trinity Arsenault (Canada)
9. Madagascar Swim by Thane Guy Williams and Jonno Proudfoot (South Africa)
10. Manhattan Island Marathon Swim by Kristian Rutford (U.S.A.)
11. Mallorca 360° Circumnavigation Swim by Richard Krugel (South Africa)
12. Monterey Bay Crossing by Patti Bauernfeind (U.S.A.)
13. Prison Island Swims by Jacques Tuset (France)
14. Triple Crown of Open Water Swimming by Charlotte Samuels (U.S.A.)
15. U.S. Lifeguarding Champions by Monmouth County Lifeguards (U.S.A.)

Vote in all four categories: wowsa.org