

Cory Pickos is a living legend in the sport of water skiing. Originally from Kenosha, Wisconsin, Cory started skiing on a leased gravel pit ten miles from home. He trained with his dad and brothers. Everything was old school...he was basically self-taught. After he and his brother, Craig, finished 1st and 2nd in Open Men tricks at the USA National Championship in Tivoli Gardens, Michigan, his parents moved the family to Florida in order to give the boys an opportunity to train year round.

During his lengthy career as an Open Men Trick Skier, Cory set 24 World Trick Records and won 2 World Championship titles. During his career, he won 10 US Open and 10 US Masters Trick titles.

He was the first person to trick over 10,000 points and has been an innovator in trick skiing for over three decades. Cory was a phenomenon at an early age, having set his first world record at the age of 13.

He is the youngest member in history of the elite U.S. Team. Cory was selected a member of the team at the age of 13 and competed in his first world championship in 1977. He competed as a USA team member or as an independent in almost every World Championship thereafter, culminating in his last Worlds in Calgary, Canada in 2009. That is a span of 32 years that may very well never be duplicated. Cory and his son Adam both made the finals in Calgary!

During his collegiate days, Cory competed as a member of the Florida Southern ski team. He is still regarded as the most accomplished skier to compete on the team.

Cory won more pro tour trick titles than can be counted...and he won his first pro event at the age of 12! He is one of a few water skiers that have been recognized by his local community. The Town of Eagle Lake, Florida posted a sign on the highway as you entered the city limits proclaiming that Eagle Lake was the home of World Record Holder Cory Pickos.

Cory has operated a ski school since he was 16 years old. Starting on his parents' lake in Eagle Lake, he trained the likes of AWSEF Hall of Fame member Tory Baggiano. He has operated the Cory Pickos World Ski Resort in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida for twenty years

Cory served as the coach of Team USA at the 2001 World University Championship in China and was selected as the coach for the Australian Junior Team for the last Junior World Championship held in the USA.

His contribution to the sport of water skiing goes beyond being a world class competitor and innovator; Cory is also an AWSA Senior Trick Judge and Level III Instructor.

Cory suffered a knee injury almost three years ago, which ended his competitive career while still at or near the top of his game. It can be said that Cory Pickos has truly dedicated his life to the sport of water skiing.