

## Hank Longo Water Skiing Bio and Highlights

- Hank began water skiing in 1958 at age 7, taught by Don Arsen, Hank's grade school principle and neighbor down the street, on the lake.
- Hank began competing at age 14, when he became a member of the Lake Oakland Ski Demons, Drayton Plains, Michigan.
- Began water ski announcing in 1967 and announced his first national championship in 1968, at White Sulfur, Ohio. The event was highlighted by Hank announcing the Jr. Boy's Jump Event, won by Wayne Grimditch, who set a new Jr. Boy's Jump Record.
- Hank has been announcing ski tournaments for over five decades.
- Founder and Chairman of the AWSA Announcers' Association. Established the organization to organize and identify announcers, because they were not recognized as officials by AWSA, and to provide announcing guidelines and structure for announcing tournaments; to unify announcers and one day be recognized as AWSA officials.
- In 2007 Announcers became recognized as AWSA Officials.
- Created and wrote the AWSA Announcers' Manual and Guidelines.
- Established through the AWSEF the Tommy Bartlett Award for the Most Outstanding Announcer at the National Water Ski Championships; later sponsored by AWSA.
- Interviewer for the Water Ski Hall of Fame and Award of Distinction Inductees, for the Water Ski Hall of Fame Video Library.
- Announcer for more National Water Ski Championships than anyone in the U.S.A.
- Chief Announcer for more National Water Ski Championships than anyone in the U.S.A.
- Announcer for more Regional Water Ski Championships than anyone in the U.S.A.
- Chief Announcer For more Regional Water Ski Championships than anyone in the U.S.A.
- Announcer and Chief Announcer for more State and local water ski tournaments in the U.S.A.
- Master of Ceremonies for USA Water Ski Awards Banquets.
- Master of Ceremonies for National Jr. Award Banquets
- Master of Ceremonies for Regional Jr. Award Banquets.
- Master of Ceremonies for State and Hall of Fame Banquets.

### Announcer for Major Tournaments:

- U.S. Open
- Jr. U.S. Open
- Malibu Open
- MasterCraft Pro
- Masters
- Master's Qualifier
- Jr. Masters
- Water Ski Pros
- Rocket Man night Jump
- Ski Fly Jump Championships

- Beaver Lake Pro Jump Tournament
- Daytona 500 Tournament
- Marine World Pro Jump Tournament
- Disney World Water Ski Classic
- Pan Am Championships
- U.S. Team Trials
- Disabled National Water Ski Championships
- U.S. Olympic Festival

#### Water Ski Highlights

- As President of the Minnesota Water Ski Association, Hank founded and established the Minnesota Water Ski Hall of Fame.
- Inducted into the Minnesota Water Ski Hall of Fame 2006.
- In 1983 set a World Stunt Record at Tivoli Gardens, Michigan, jumping over 14 MasterCraft Boats on ABC's "That's Incredible!"
- "Soar And Make Your Dreams Come True." An educational workbook and program, using Hank's World Stunt Record to teach students how to make their dream a reality.
- "Golden Boy Headlock vs. the Villain Vito Varmint." A wrestling comic book, co-starring waterski champion Tiger Francis.
- "The Golden Boy Headlock And Tiger How To Be Cool Guide And Survival Tips." A book on manners and morals for kids, with water ski champion Tiger Francis.
- Official designer for U.S. Water Ski Teams and Jr. Teams.
- Designed the exhibit displays, showcasing Central Florida as the Water Ski Capitol of the World and The Water Ski Museum and Hall of Fame, in Polk County's Outpost 27 Visitor Center.
- Designed displays for in the Florida Sports Hall of Fame for inductees Dick Pope Sr. and Dick Pope Jr.
- As Co-Host of PGTV's "Sports Central," Hank invited USA Water Ski and USA Water Ski Foundation Staff to be guests on the show, along with top water skiers in the world, to promote Polk County as the Water Ski Capitol of the World.
- Men 6 National jump Record Holder
- Men 6 National Jump Champion.