

MARK JOHNSTON – AWARDED 2010

Mark Johnston joined the NSW Masters committee in 1994, coming on board as assistant editor of The Waratah newsletter. In this role he introduced Desktop Publishing to present a more attractive format.

In 1995 he moved to the position of registrar, where he introduced the use of a database MS Access to store membership records. That year, in collaboration with Keith James, the first Weight Pentathlon championships were organised in NSW. Later in 1998, he put the club on the internet with its first website. In that same year he designed the structure of Club Merit Awards, based on similar schemes in the USA.

For the 2001 Sydney Nationals, results were available live on the website, a first for a national championship of this type. He became President in 2001, and presided over the change of name from Veterans to NSW Masters Athletics. Later he initiated the position of NSW Team Manager for the NSW team attending the national championships. He also inaugurated the first electronic newsletter for club members.

In 2008 he was convenor of the AMA National Championships, which offered athletes on-line entry for the first time. Later that year he was awarded an AMA Merit Award for services to Masters Athletics in NSW. Also in that year, he restarted an annual awards function which had lapsed for a number of years. Life membership of the NSWMA club was conferred on him in 2010.

As a competitor Mark has held NSW masters records in the discus, shot put, weight throw, and weight pentathlon events. At National Championships he has won 25 titles in discus, shot put, weight throw, hammer throw and weight pentathlon.



CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- 1994 Joined committee of NSW Veterans Athletics
- 1994 Won first state veterans title and set first state record
- 1995 Appointed Registrar, organised first NSW weight pentathlon
- 1996 Won first national veterans title
- 2001 Became president of NSW Veterans Athletics
- 2002 Presided over club change of name to NSW Masters Athletics
- 2008 Awarded AMA Merit Award
- 2010 Made Life Member NSWMA