

JOHN MCBREARTY

John has been involved in athletics since 1962, first as an athlete (distance runner) and latterly as an administrator and an official.

He joined of the Ashburton Harrier club committee in his first year out of school (1963) and since then there have not been many years when he has not served on at least one committee in athletics. At one stage he visited South Africa and while there he twice ran in the Comrades marathon – once each way. As an administrator and official he has undertaken many roles, including at club level (firstly the Ashburton Club then more recently the Old Boys United Club) committee member, Treasurer, Secretary and President and at Centre level member of the executive committee, the Track and Field Committee and the Cross Country and Road Committee. He was Centre President in 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 and in 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 he was foundation chairman of the newly constituted Track and Field Committee. He is currently Vice President of Athletics NZ and is President elect. (He will become President at their AGM the beginning of August).

He was chairman of the local organising committee for the 2010 NZ Track and Field championships held in Christchurch.

For a number of years he has been one of the main organisers of the inter-club Riverside Relays.

He has managed a number of Canterbury Teams to various NZ Championships.

Since 2006 he has been official's coordinator for the Canterbury Cross Country and Road Committee. For many years he has been a regular Track and Field, Cross Country and Road official at interclub events in Canterbury. Also for a good number of years he was the athletics correspondent for Newstalk ZB.

He has attended at least the last ten NZ Track and Field Championships as an official including being Meeting Manager at the 2010 and 2011 Championships and an Area Technical Official at the 2012 Championships. Also he has been a senior official at all the NZ out of Stadium championships held in Canterbury during the last decade or more and Athletics NZ's Technical Delegate at a number of out of stadium championships outside Canterbury.

He has passed the IAAF TOECS Level II course and holds an Athletics NZ Officials Education Scheme "A" grading for out of stadium events.

Since the Feb 2011 earthquake which destroyed QEII Park he has been very involved in the relocation of Track and Field to Rawhiti Domain.