

LIFE MEMBERSHIP - Pat Boland

To my knowledge the person I am proposing to nominate for election to Life Membership of Athletics Canterbury began her career as a veteran athlete with the Sumner Running Club in the early 1980's. She has been a member of the club since then

As a regular inter-club competitor in cross country and road races and announcer throughout the winter seasons she is well known to most in the sport.

In looking through past Takahe to Akaroa Relay programmes I first found her name as a member of the Sumner veteran womens team in 1986. A perusal of subsequent programmes indicates a continuing roll as a competitor in the relay up to the present day.

Over the intervening years she has competed in many New Zealand Cross Country and Road Race Championships.

This involvement as a participant in the sport soon led to an involvement in club administration and event organization.

She has held many positions on the Sumner Club Committee including Race Secretary and for a number of years President.

She was involved in the organization of the very popular and successful Boulder Bay Classic Road Race and became a Trustee of the Christchurch International Marathon Trust Board. A position she still holds today.

She also became involved in the rescue management of the Christchurch marathon at a time when the event was in sight of collapsing.

She was elected on to the Cross Country Committee in the 1980's and was Chairperson in 1991 and 1992.

In 1994 she took over as convenor of the Takahe to Akaroa Relay and has been convenor since then. This year she heads the committee organizing her third New Zealand Championship Relay.

She has managed many Canterbury Cross Country and Road Race teams to New Zealand Championships.

She has also managed New Zealand Mountain Running and Ikeden Relay teams on International competition.

From 1991 to 2006 she was on the Executive of Athletics Canterbury and was President for two years 1997 and 1998 following two years as Vice President.

She enjoys her relaxed time in the summer as an official at Track and Field meetings.

For her first twenty years service in the sport she received a long service award.

For her extraordinary service and dedication to the sport she has been awarded a Merit Award by Athletics New Zealand Council.

It is now my pleasure, having worked with Pat Boland during her full time with Athletics Canterbury, to nominate her to this meeting of Canterbury Club Delegates for Life Membership of Athletics Canterbury!