



## LIFE MEMBERSHIP - Avril Davies

Presented at the AGM by Daniel Reese on behalf of the Athletics Canterbury Board – 29<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Knowing of other parents who have started their time as an official through their children, they probably started on the end of a rake, raking the long jump pit. As an official, we all have to start somewhere. I can't vouch for the accuracy of starting on the end of a rake, but this person I know did start through their children.

Having been involved in the sport for so long, I do not have accurate dates of when this start was. It appears that the association with childrens was in the 1990s.

Before too long they were President of the Canterbury Children's Athletic Association. I role they held in 1995/96 and again in 2001 to 2003 and was subsequently made a Life Member of Canterbury Children's.

While involved in children's athletics, they were involved on the NZ Children's management team that attended the Pacific School Games in the 90's in Perth and Melbourne in 2006. Interestingly to note was, the Perth team included Monique Williams and Brent Newdick as 10 year olds. As we know, they went on to represent New Zealand internationally at track and field.

In respect of officiating internationally, they were an official at the World Masters Games in Sydney in 2009 and Auckland in 2017, also officiating at the Oceania Championships in Cairns in 2012 and 2015 and the 2011 IPC World Championships in Christchurch where they were the Assistant TIC (Technical Information Centre) Manager. On the National scene they have officiated at numerous NZ Track and Field Championships and NZ Secondary School Championships and in recent years has worked as a Meeting Manager at various Meets. Still very much a regular in various roles at all Inter Club meets at Nga Puna Wai.

The officiating doesn't stop there. They have been a regular official at Cross Country races over the winter and last year was a Referee at the Crater Rim Trail Run – the NZ Trail Running Championships. They have been a lap Judge at the Takahe to Akaroa since 1998 and in 2011 was appointed Chief Judge a position has been held since, with 4 of those years when it was the National Road Relay.

They have been on the Athletics Canterbury Board first in 1999/2000, then again in 2010/11 for 3 terms to 2012/13 and then again from 2016/17 to date.

From Raking the Long Jump pit to the Athletics Canterbury Board it gives me great pleasure on behalf of the Board to nominate AVRIL DAVIES as a Life Member of Athletics Canterbury.

***The correct information was that Avril started on the Judges Stand (not the rake)***