

## Helen Mackle for Canterbury Merit Award 2023



This person has been dedicated to the sport of athletics as a volunteer for 21 years.

### **Volunteer Positions held**

Secretary / Treasurer Mid South Canterbury Sub Centre of Athletics Canterbury Inc

Secretary Athletics South Canterbury All Weather Track Trust

Secretary / Treasurer Lovelock Classic Local Organising Committee

Committee Member Temuka Amateur Athletics Club

Committee Member South Canterbury Amateur Athletic Club

Chair 45<sup>th</sup> South Island Colgate Games Local Organising Committee

### **45<sup>th</sup> South Island Colgate Games January 2023**

At this latest big competition, she chaired the Local Organising Committee that comprised members of Temuka, Waimate and Geraldine Clubs, and a member of Athletics Canterbury. Regular meetings began early in 2022, with each committee member being given a role to undertake. At this time, the track facility and supporting venues along with portable toilets, tents, temporary fencing, food stalls were booked.

She was also responsible for applying for the \$24,500 in grants needed to run the event locally, and was successful in receiving \$23,495.00 in Grants from four different organisations.

In the lead up to the 3 day event, She ensured that all the Committee and representatives from Temuka, Ashburton, Geraldine and Waimate Clubs were on hand to set up the facility and put together athletes and team packs. During the event she ensured everything ran smoothly, and at the end of the three days that the facility was put back into order, certificates posted to attending clubs, accounts paid. There was constant liaison with Athletics New Zealand who worked with the LOC in running the event.

### **Sub Centre**

As a Life Member of the Sub Centre she also held the position of Secretary / Treasurer for the Mid South Canterbury Sub Centre for a number of years now. She organises regular monthly committee meetings during the 6 months summer season, writing up agendas, taking and writing up minutes and keeping all the 6 affiliated Clubs constantly informed of news and athletic events. The winter months are kept busy finalising Annual Accounts, organising the AGM, submitting performance reports for the Sub Centre as a Registered Charity and Incorporated Society and putting together the summer season calendar.

During the summer season she is heavily involved in organising the regular seasonal three Sunday Inter-clubs, Mid South Champs, and five Friday night inter-clubs. For each interclub meeting, she enters athlete's names and performances into Meet Manager and prints out the paperwork, organises clubs to man the various events and ensures the facility is hired and set up and cleaned up at the end of each event. She also sorts out points for the athletes for end of season awards to find the winning club for the various trophies that are contested for on the day.

### **Track Trust**

She has been the Secretary for five years now. She receives all correspondence and sets up the agenda, writes up the minutes and ensures all trustees are kept up to date with all correspondence as it happens. She also organises the hiring of the All Weather Track facility for the six month summer season, including liaising with Primary and Secondary Schools for hires, provides quotes for hire, invoices at end of hire,

organises individual hire and access to the facility. With a few hires including Primary and Secondary School hires she helps out with opening and closing the facility and ensuring the event runs smoothly.

### **Lovelock Classic January 2023**

This is a once-a-year meeting. Her role is to organise the regular meetings required to organise the event, set up the morning and afternoon programme for the event on Meet Manager and enter performances, organise some sponsorship and send out sponsorship invoices, organise programme books and athlete numbers, set up the facility and clean up afterwards, send out thank you letters to sponsors and arrange for prize money for the athletes.

### **Temuka Athletics Club**

She is also a Life Member of the Temuka Athletics Club as well as being on their Committee. She attends committee meetings and attends regular Monday night club nights, helping with coaching and training of athletes. Keep a tally of club points nights and athletes results from various Inter-clubs the athletes attend.

### **Relevant Information**

Over an ordinary athletic season, the various athletic roles she undertakes can take up to 30 hours a week, which includes many weekends. The Colgate Games increased this workload immensely and it was an extremely busy season, with many deadlines to meet.

She is a B Grade Administration Official and C Grade in Track, Throws and Jumps. Her training in Administration ensures that this region has someone qualified to help organise and set up various athletic events like the Aoraki Secondary Schools athletics and the Control Room / Administration for South Island Colgate Games.

This Administration role sees her as one of the first to arrive to events to ensure the relevant programmes and paperwork is set up and available, and often one of the last to leave, and often does a number of tasks at home after the events as well.

This season she has also travelled to various regions to work in Technical Information or Control Room / results for Canterbury Secondary School athletics, International Track Meet in Christchurch, she attended the South Island Secondary School athletics in Invercargill to train a Southland Official in Administration and the Meet Manager programme. If available, and when time permits, she will help out at regular Saturday Inter-club meetings in Christchurch.

She is a well organised and passionate volunteer for not only local athletic events but all athletic events throughout NZ. Her dedication to the sport sees her organise, officiate and work behind the scenes to ensure that multiple events in our region run smoothly i.e. local club, school events to National event in Timaru. She was party to the successful application of National Secondary Schools to be held in Timaru in 2024 as well as the South Island Secondary schools in March and April 2024.

She was a key member as part of the administration team for the new all-weather track resurface, earlier this year.

I have great pleasure in presenting Helen Mackle with a Canterbury Merit Award, given to those who have given Exceptional Service to the Sport of athletics in Canterbury.

Prepared by Linley Welford and presented by Daniel Reese – 26<sup>th</sup> July 2023