

Congratulations to Alan Hamilton of Dunstan High School, former executive member of NZSSAA and long-time athletics coach who was recognised in the New Year Honours Awards 2020

Kenneth Alan Hamilton (Alan) QSM

Alexandra

For services to athletics and youth

Alan Hamilton is "thrilled and honoured" his 40 years' mentoring and coaching young people has been recognised.

Mr Hamilton (63), started coaching in 1974 while at high school, and has since coached athletics, high school and senior rugby teams and cyclists, including the Dunstan High School cycling team, and established a high-performance programme for mentoring pupils.

"It's all about personal potential and there are so many facets to being successful that I wanted to introduce to the kids, anybody, who just wants to be better than they are," he said.

"Looking at the psychology behind performance, the humanistic side of being a good person in this world — there are so many facets to being a high performer, whatever that is."

The Dunstan High School associate principal was also a member of the Alexandra Amateur Athletics Club, the Winton Athletics Club and Dunedin's Ariki, an administrator, adviser and mentor for the New Zealand Secondary Schools Athletics Association, a member of its executive committee from 2001 to 2005, and a volunteer for the Otago Athletics Administration.

In 2002 he was named New Zealand Volunteer Coach of the Year and in 2015 he won the New Zealand Secondary Schools Sports Council school sport service award.

While he had coached athletes to win national titles and compete overseas, he was most proud of helping use sport to change the lives of pupils who struggled at school.

"I've coached kids that have won national titles and [competed] overseas, but they're no more important, and I mean that sincerely."



Alan Hamilton