

## **Athletics NZ Obituary**

Don Chadderton of Christchurch who gave over 60 years of service to the sport, both domestically and internationally, passed away on Friday 18 September 2020.

His lasting legacy to his lifetime of service is the creation as a founding member of the New Zealand secondary schools athletics association from 1973 to 1991. He was president of the association from 1980 to 1987 and was made a life member in 1992. He was a trail blazer and one of our most decorated officials.

He had a long and distinguished career touching many different aspects of athletics including competitor, coach and administrator. He won Canterbury titles and represented Canterbury at New Zealand championships. As a coach he was the youngest to obtain the NZAAA coaching diploma in 1960 and went on to coach athletes in track, field, cross country and road to achieve club, interschool, centre and national titles. He was the first national coach in race walking and was manager of the New Zealand junior development squad from 1992 to 1996.

He was the first New Zealander appointed to the IAAF race walking judges' panel in 1974 and judged at six Commonwealth Games including 1974 in Christchurch and 1990 in Auckland. He managed New Zealand teams to the 1988 world junior championships in Canada, the 1994 world cup track and field in London and to world cup of race walking. He represented New Zealand and Oceania on the IAAF Walking Committee.

He was a life member of the Canterbury walkers association, received an Athletics Canterbury blazer in 1980, received a Christchurch secondary schools athletics service award in 1992, and was Sport Canterbury outstanding summer sports administrator in 2006. He was made a life member of Athletics Canterbury in 2003, received an Athletics New Zealand merit award in 2003, was president of Athletics New Zealand 2004-05 and was made a life member of Athletics New Zealand at a function at the Papanui Club on 25 August 2020. Later bowls became his passion and he was president of the Mandeville Bowling Club.

He received an IAAF diploma in 1988, the prestigious IAAF veteran pin in 1997 and an Oceania merit award in 2014. A truly remarkable New Zealander and loyal servant of athletics.