

**AUSTRALIAN MASTERS ATHLETICS
ASICS AWARDS**

Presented in Hobart, Easter 2007 for performances achieved in 2006

SPRINTS/HURDLES

Our recipient has maintained outstanding results throughout 2006. At the AMA National Championships, as well as at their State Championships our winner won the 100m, 200m and 400m. At the Pan Pacific Masters Games our recipient repeated their success but with the addition of the 60m and the Sprint Master of Masters. However, the highlight of the year were the performances at the World Masters Indoor Championships in Linz, where our recipient came third in the 60m, second in the 200m and first in the 400. These are outstanding results for an athlete competing from a country without indoor facilities.

Congratulations: M60 Peter Crombie NSW

MIDDLE DISTANCE / STEEPLECHASE

Our recipient commenced the year in fine form when they competed at the Oceania Masters Athletics Championships and were successful in winning gold in the 400m, 800m, 1500m and the 5 km events. At the AMA Championships our recipient continued their winning way with gold in the 400m, 800m and 1500m. But their most outstanding performance during the year was setting a World Record for the 1 mile and an Australian Record in the 3000m.

Congratulations: M80 Norm Pearce Queensland

DISTANCE

Our recipient for this award does not travel to many Championship events, preferring to compete on their local scene. Thus they have a low profile nationally but are well known in their own state. In June our recipient competed in an inter-venue event where they won the age graded trophy with a 94.5% for the 5 km event. At the time our recipient was at the very end of their age group. One month later they ran a 93.25% for the 10km road race, again at an inter-venue competition. At the Australian Masters Games in Alice Springs, our recipient won the 800m, 1500m, 3000m, mile and the 10km road race. The 10km was the final event with a field of 54, and our recipient was the first female home, regardless of age group and disregarding that they were giving away up to 30-35 years on younger athletes.

I should also add that our recipient set a pending world record on entering their new age group of W65 when they recorded a time of 20:57.4 for the 5 km.

Congratulations: W65 Theresia Baird Victoria

WALKS

Once again the walks award is one of the toughest categories to win. Three of our members managed to set six World Records during 2006. However, our recipient established four of these records. These were in the 5km and 20km walks and twice in the 10km. However, their best achievement was probably their walk on the very difficult 50km Geelong course. Whilst Nathan Deakes was setting his much heralded World Record, our recipient was walking a 99.9% age graded effort which converts to a time only a minute or so outside Nathan's time.

Congratulations: M60 Andrew Jamieson Victoria

JUMPS

Our recipient has put together some outstanding performances in their specialty event. Age graded performances of 105.6% and 106.1% saw her 2cm short of the current world record. Our recipient was overlooked by British Athletics for their Commonwealth Games Team in Melbourne even though she competed in the UK and Europe and performed better than the selected girls. Perhaps this was because our recipient is 38 and lives in Australia. But we will not overlook her outstanding performances.

Congratulations: W35 Irie Hill Victoria

THROWS

2006 was a very big year for our thrower of the year. One year ago our recipient won four gold and one silver medal at our AMA Championships. This effort included an Australian Record in the weight pentathlon. Later in the year the Pan Pacific saw a clean sweep of the throwing events with five gold medals.

However, the highlight of the year was the Australian Open Nationals and Commonwealth Games Selection Trials where our recipient threw 18.55m in the shot, was placed fourth and set a Commonwealth Games B Qualifier and an Australian Masters Record, a mere 22cm short of being a competitor in the Games.

At the end of the season our recipient was ranked number one for shot in the Masters world rankings for the third year in a row as well as number two in the weight pentathlon.

Congratulations: M40 Stuart Gyngell NSW

MULTI EVENTS / RELAYS

Our recipient won her age group in a number of Multi Events Championships throughout the year. She was successful at Oceania in the pentathlon and within the following two months won the AMA Championships in the heptathlon and her State Pentathlon Championship. To back up the quality of her performances our recipient also set Oceania records in the 100m, 200m, 400m and triple jump as well as winning high jump and long jump. Later in the year she set Pan Pacific Records in the 60m, 100m, 200m and 300m as well as winning the 400m and triple jump and being part of a record breaking relay team.

At the Australian Championships in Canberra, our recipient won silver in the 100m and 200m and a gold medal in the relay. She also concluded the year by setting an Australian Record for the 60 metres of 7.92s and a 100 metres Record of 12.46. This is indeed a mighty multi event achievement.

Congratulations: W40 Julie Brims Queensland

MOST OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE

Our recipient for this award has established a most unique participation achievement. For the past forty years they have been a member of the local organizing committee that has been responsible for the organization of the Lake Burley Griffin 20 mile Race Walk Classic. And for every one of those forty years, from 1966 to 2006, they have been a participant in that same event.

Congratulation: M60 Robin Whyte ACT

MOST OUTSTANDING MALE ATHLETE

Our recipient for the most outstanding male athlete has had an incredible year of top performances. January saw our recipient at the Oceania Championships in Christchurch where they won the 100m, 200m, 400m and the 800m, all in Games record times. In February he travelled to Melbourne to participate in the John Landy Trophy where he not only won this special event at his first attempt but also blitzed the record by several seconds.

March saw our recipient winning their State Championships in the three sprints, including a World Record in the 400m, a record that he had gotten so close to several times during the preceding 12 months.

By April it was time for the AMA Championships in Canberra and gold medals in the 100, 200m and 400m. All were in Championship record times.

October brought success at the Central Australian Masters Games in Alice Springs in the same events and again in Games record times for each event.

In November, it was time for the Pan Pacific Masters Games at the Gold Coast and Games records in the 60m, 100m, 200m and the 400m.

Congratulations: M70 Hugh Coogan Queensland

MOST OUTSTANDING FEMALE ATHLETE

Our recipient for this award has put together some amazing performances over the year and at our AMA Championships 12 months ago she won gold in the long and short hurdles as well as the 200m and the long jump. However, her start to the year was even better than this with eight gold medals at the Oceania Championships along with two relay gold and all were Oceania Championship record performances.

However, her most outstanding success came at the World Masters Athletics Indoor Championships in Linz, Austria. To win the long jump with an Australian record performance was outstanding but to also win the 400m and the pentathlon with World Records in both events was an incredible achievement.

Congratulations: W45 Marie Kay Queensland

ADMINISTRATOR / OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

Our recipient was nominated because of his long time contribution to Masters Athletics within his state and to Australian Masters Athletics.

He was part of a small member group who, in about 1995 took action to revitalise his Veterans Athletics Club by changing the culture of the Club to provide regular competition suited to all levels of competitors. This has proved an outstanding success with membership doubling and an extremely successful competition and social program being implemented. An important part of this change process was the upgrade of the Club Newsletter and our recipient took over as the Editor in 1997 and continued in this role until 2005, handing over a very successful communication tool to the replacement editor.

Our recipient also contributed at the National level as the AMA Travel Director and organised the travel arrangements on behalf of AMA members for the World Championships in Durban in 1997 and Gateshead in 1999.

Whilst our recipient is no longer part of his State's Masters Committee, he continues as one of the team providing valuable support to the Committee and for the ongoing competition program. Every week he is one of the prime helpers at competition and has for years organised entries for the State Championships. He also took a major role in the conduct of the 2002 AMA Nationals held in Adelaide and the 2005 Australian Masters Games. He remains involved with The World Police and Fire Games and the Australasian Masters Games to be held this year.

Congratulations: Frank Rogers South Australia