

## WILMA PERKINS

Wilma first started in athletics during her school years where she excelled in her favourite events, sprints and long jump at both state and national levels in NSW. At the age of twenty Wilma married husband Stan and so began a lifelong involvement in athletics for them both where ever they were living at the time

Wilma's involvement in Masters' athletics began in earnest in 1980 when Wilma and Stan moved to Brisbane, she joined Veterans athletics competing as a pre vet at the age of 31. As a busy mother of five children Wilma completed her studies and qualified as a Secondary Health and Physical education teacher early in 1987. In the same year at the WMA championships in Melbourne Wilma became really serious about competing at world level taking full advantage of the opportunity, winning

- gold in the 100m 12.59, 4x400 and 4 x 100 the latter in a world record time,
- silver in both 200/26.44 and 400/58.60
- bronze in the long jump/5.45

The success Wilma achieved at the 1987 WMA championships paved the way for her competitive career spanning more than 30 years and demonstrates her versatility covering 19 individual events, sprints, hurdles, long jump, high jump, pole vault, throws all disciplines, pentathlon, heptathlon, relays, throws pentathlon. Wilma's amazing versatility has seen her accumulate in excess of 6 world records, 51 national records, 146 state records and more than 80 medals at World Championships not to mention, OMA and AMA Championship medals

For more than 30 years Wilma has also been involved in many Masters athletics administrative positions

- QMA Board – 11 years, President 5 years, Life member 14/06/2014
- AMA Board - 23 years, Vice president 3 years, President since 2014, Delegate to WMA since 1999
- OMA Board – 20 years, President 2008 – 14, Vice President 2002 – 08, Council 1998 -02, 2014 - 2018
- Management Board formed for the 2001 WMA Stadia Championships in Brisbane, and was the key local person for the organisation of the championships liaison with the LOC. She is currently one of three key persons who finalise the competition schedules for all WMA Championships.
- WMA Stadia committee since 1999
- LOC committee for WMA Championships Perth 2016.
- WMA Women's committee 2009 – 2014

Wilma's consistent performances and dedication to Masters athletics over many years has seen her receive several awards

- 1984 Sportswomen's Association of Australia - Queensland Award
- 1985-1986 Queensland Sportswoman of the Year
- 1989 Sport Australia Award
- Awarded a WMA bronze pin for services to World masters athletics
- Awarded City of Logan sports award recognising members who contribute to the sports community 2010, 2013 Logan city sports veteran, 2015 sports veteran of the year jointly with Marion Hermitage And 2017 City of Logan Sportswoman of the Year Trophy presented by Layne Beachley
- AMA Throws championship award for shot put 2017

In every respect Wilma has been a remarkable asset to Masters athletics in Australia and the Oceania region, a very quiet and modest achiever willing to take accept any responsibility without hesitation in a variety of positions within the organisation a wonderful role model for us all therefore a very worthy recipient of a AMA Hall Of Fame nomination

**Information sources – Mike Hall, Heather Doherty, Judy Cooper, Stan Perkins**

