



Australian Masters Athletics

Promoting active healthy athletics competition through our network of state and territory associations

Special Edition

A Tribute to David Carr

15 June 1932 - 18 July 2023



A Legend of Australian Masters Athletics

David was the MAWA Patron, Life Member and Champion Athlete, he had been unwell following his trip to Poland in 2022 to receive the 2022 WMA Best Male Masters Athlete of the Year Award



From David's induction into the AMA Hall Of Fame 2015:

“An amazing athlete who refuses to slow down”

David has been a founder and continual member of Veterans/Masters Athletics WA since 1974. Over the years he has been an outstanding competitor in all events from 100m to marathons, an official, coach, President of V/MAWA and Convenor of state and national championships. His service has been recognised by his Life membership of both MAWA and Athletics Western Australia.

David has set numerous World, National and State records many of which are long standing. He is the recipient of many prestigious awards including the AMA most outstanding individual performance, Most outstanding male athlete, Middle distance Award and the Brian Foley Trophy for best age graded performance at National Championships.

At the 2013 WMA Championships Porte Allegre he was selected to be the Australian Flag Bearer.

David's determination and dedication has ensured his pursuit of excellence, he is a great ambassador for Masters athletics.



David in Torun when he was presented his WMA Best Male Athlete of the year Award

L-R: Lynne Schickert - WMA Executive Vice President,
David Carr,
Margit Jungmann WMA President

When David was recently named the 2022 World Best Male Athlete, WMA interviewed David:

WMA Interview:

Please tell us about yourself.

My wife, Patricia, was a very good LJ and TJ athlete winning gold in the TJ at the WMA championships in Melbourne 1987. Pat is no longer competing but still has the state LJ & TJ records for W65,70,75. We have three children. Therese occasionally attends and competes in MAWA events as she did at the road run of 4K yesterday. My first career was in the navy and in my 20's I became a secondary school teacher. When I retired, I was vice principal of a senior secondary school in Perth. One cannot achieve much without friends, family, clubmates, officials and helpers. Our family was involved with Little Athletics. My daughter, Therese, was the fourth woman in WA to complete a marathon. (People's Marathon 1979-3hrs:33mins) and daughter, Peta, won the City to Surf. (1975). Patricia upstaged me in Melbourne (1987) with gold and a world record in the W55 triple jump. They all understand the joys and grinds of the sport. MAWA has always provided the structure, organisation, venues, events and competitions for athletes of all disciplines.

What was your most memorable or noteworthy master's athletics accomplishment in 2022?

Five Gold medals in Tampere. 400 to 5000 including steeple. Six world records in the M90 division. MAWA has Thursday evening track and field events and qualified Athletics WA officials have been in attendance to make sure things are properly done. What are you most looking forward to in the coming year? To set a M90 800 m record. A favoured event but I do not have this record. Great battles with Earl Fee in WMA championships are remembered. Porto Rico 2003 was a classic.

What else would you like people reading the announcement of nominees and winners to know about you?

Coaching of younger athletes at MAWA a number of whom have set world records and been placed at WMA championships.

Congratulations, David, on your fantastic achievements during 2022 and being named World Masters Best Male Athlete 2022.



Australian [#mastersathlete](#) David Carr, 90, has been competing in [#mastersathletics](#) since 1974 and he's been an athlete since 1948, setting multiple national and international middle distance records. So he knew what he was doing when he set off in the men's [#1500m](#) event. He dominated all but the final lap even though he was the sole competitor in his age group, which meant he was running with youngsters in the 85-89year old category. Even then, only one of them edged past him at the finish. He will also have known, as he crossed the line and looked at the clock, that his time of 7:38.08mins was just a second short of the world record for his 90-94 year old age group, which stands at 7:37.08. He ran a magnificent race and was obviously thrilled with his performance, just as he will also have been frustrated to narrowly miss that world record time. I've said this before. At the [WMA - World Masters Athletics #worldchampionships](#) events, you're not applauding the oldest age groups for simply showing up. You're applauding them for their athleticism and drive: they show us what's possible in our 70s, 80s, 90s and yes, beyond, and they also show us that if you're an elite athlete, whatever your age, the competitive spirit does not dwindle. It was a real privilege to see David in action in the main stadium here in Tampere, Finland, this afternoon



Thanks David