



# E-NEWS



By now most of you will be aware of the passing of Hazel McDonnell, on the 18<sup>th</sup> January from a heart attack. For decades she was a QMA competitor, official and administrator. Hazel was a cheerful and energetic presence at QMA events and a friend to many. She will be missed.

Hazel will be remembered with deep respect and gratitude for her exceptional service to athletics, particularly within Masters' Athletics and the Technical Officiating community. Her appointment to the 2018 Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast was a moment of immense pride. Hazel was very proud to have been chosen for a 'home' Games and after being at the Glasgow Commonwealth Games as a spectator in 2014.

Hazel was a friend to all, a mother figure within the wider athletics family and well known for her unmistakably loud laugh which stemmed from her wicked sense of fun. She embodied fairness, dedication, and lifelong involvement in

athletics. Her professionalism, calm authority, and meticulous attention to detail made her highly regarded as a Technical Official. Athletes and fellow officials valued her integrity, knowledge, and her willingness to mentor others, always working to uphold the highest standards of competition.

Hazel's outstanding contribution to the sport was formally recognised in 2018 when she received the Oceania Athletics Association Merit Award. Her Merit Award reflected not only her years of service but the lasting impact she had on the sport and its people. It stands as a testament to her leadership, quiet at times, not so quiet at others, and her unwavering commitment to Masters' Athletics.

Hazel was always generous, dependable, and endlessly giving. She supported athletes of all ages, offering her time freely, and working tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure events ran smoothly and fairly. Her legacy lives on in the competitions she helped deliver, the officials she guided, and the Masters athletes whose journeys she shaped.

Hazel McDonnell's contribution to athletics will not be forgotten. She will be fondly remembered and deeply missed by the athletics community.

We extend our deepest condolences to Hazel's family.

## Recent QMA State Events

In January, we had the 3000 Walk / Run Championships and the Pentathlon Championships in Brisbane. Both events were held in conjunction with a Brisbane competition.

Highlights included Carol Davis breaking the W75-79 QMA record with 3781 points. Congratulations Carol!

Adrian Keen set a new M55-59 Discus record of 45.05m. Congratulations Adrian!



## Help Shape our Future

By now most of you should have received an email from the QMA Management Committee about the Strategic Plan which focuses – Improving the **Athlete Experience**; Increasing participation through **Promotion and Publicity**; and improving **Administration** of QMA. We are currently setting up 3 working groups to help devise and implement strategies to achieve these goals, and we want your involvement. Please email the secretary on [secretary@qldmastersathletics.org.au](mailto:secretary@qldmastersathletics.org.au) to register your interest if you haven't already done so or for further information.

## Master Rankings

A list of all QMA South and ANQ members has been sent to John Seto from the World Masters Rankings. This means that all members should have access to the ranking website.

## Thanks John

John Milne has decided to step back some of his involvement in QMA. We would like to thank him for his time and effort across the last few years.

## Uniforms


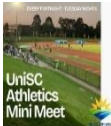











Orders for Nationals will be received mid-February. Next order will close this week. Click uniform picture to follow link to shop.

Please send any questions (including about sizing, opportunities to try on etc) to the Uniform Coordinator at [uniforms@qldmastersathletics.org.au](mailto:uniforms@qldmastersathletics.org.au)



## Memorial Day

Memorial Day is on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February including the Tom Gould 300m Handicap and Ruth Frith Javelin Handicap. [Full details on website](#)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
2 <b>February</b>	3	4	5	6 *Entries close for QMA State Champs	7	8 Gold Coast Meet (15th) 
9 Entries close for the QMA Throws Pentathlon Champs	10  Field Events only	11	12	13 Late entries close for QMA State Champs (+\$30 late entry fee)	14 QMA Women's Throws Pentathlon Champs  AMA Combined Event Champs 	15 QMA Men's Throws Pentathlon Champs  AMA Combined Event Champs 
16	17	18	19	20	21 QMA State Champs 	22 QMA State Champs 
23	24	25	26	27	28	1
2 <b>March</b>	3 	4	5	6 AMA Nationals 	7 AMA Nationals 	8 AMA Nationals 
9 AMA Nationals 	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 *Entries close for Tom Gould Handicap (See website for conditions of entry.)	22
23	24 	25	26	27	28 Memorial Day (Tom  Gould Handicap,	29
30	31					

## What's Happening in Queensland and Beyond

### World Masters Athletics



WMA is in Daegu in Korea this year from August 22 to– September 3.

### National



AMA National Championships 6-9 March 2026, Canberra. Click picture to find out more.

QMA (and AMA) Marathon Championships will be held with the Gold Coast Marathon in July 2026 – Entries are open. Numbers for this event are limited so please enter early. Click picture for full information.



### State



QMA State Champs February 21-22, 2026.

Draft program on website. Click emblem to view and for more info. Entries will open in the week commencing 5<sup>th</sup> January and will close 6<sup>th</sup> Feb (Late 13<sup>th</sup> +\$30).

### Brisbane Region

Next comps:- 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> February (with AMA Multis and QMA Pentathlon),  
28<sup>th</sup> February (**Memorial Day**)



We need your help! Brisbane is still short of helpers. If you want to keep competing, please help us out. -Come early, or leave late or between events, or at your event. A Volunteer Sign-On Sheet will be at the sign-up table on the day of competition. We hope that all competitors will put up their hands to assist during the season.



### Gold Coast Region

Next comps:- 15<sup>th</sup> February



### Toowoomba Region



Look up and *like* the Toowoomba Master Athletics page on Facebook for more information.

### Sunshine Coast

Sunshine Coast University Mini Meets every second week that Masters can enter– next one 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 24<sup>th</sup> March, (Track Challenge 14<sup>th</sup> February)



***That's it for this month!***

**QMA Management Team**

***Don't forget to check webpage for further info!***