



South Australian Masters Athletics

HALL OF FAME



George White

Member of SAMA for 33 years



Inductee No 2: George White



BIOGRAPHY

OPEN ATHLETICS

George began his running career in Australia in the West Australian Goldfields town of Kambalda when in 1975, without any prior training, he entered in a 5km fun run. Placing second (although suffering the next day) he vowed to continue running and has competed ever since. His best achievement in the west was a 2hr 50min marathon run in Perth.

In 1975, in the Western Australian Goldfields, George formed and ran the Kambalda Athletics Club (Little Athletics through to Seniors) until 1979.

Moving to South Australia in 1979 with his employment, George began his race-walking career.

George won 17 Open State Walk Titles in distances from 3km to 30km and achieved a best placing of sixth in the Open 20km walk national championships. All of these titles were won while of Masters age with four of them as an active Masters member.

Open State Titles as follows:

1981	10000m Walk	1984	5000m Walk
1982	3000m Walk		10000m Walk
	10000m Walk		20km Walk
	20km Walk	1985	5000m Walk
	30km Walk		10000m Walk
1983	5000m Walk		20km Walk
	10000m Walk	1991	30km Walk
	20km Walk	2006	30km Walk
	30km Walk		

In 1983 he broke the State Open records for the 5000m and 1000m Track Walks.

MASTERS ATHLETICS ACHIEVEMENTS

It was the 1987 World Masters Athletic Championships in Melbourne that was his introduction to the Vets (as a Victorian) but he transferred back to South Australia in 1990 and became a member of SAMA.

In Masters competition he has won 50 Australian Walk titles at 1500m, 5km, 10km and 20km, set eight Australian records and currently holds 74 SAMA walk records which began in 1991 and continue until 2021 in distances varying from 800m to 30km.

Since the SAMA Athlete of the Year Awards were instigated in 2006, George has won the 'Walks Award' every year, up to 2020. He also won the 'Most Outstanding Male Athlete Award' in 2012, 2015, 2016 and 2020 and the Most Outstanding Performance in 2018.

At World Masters Athletics (WMA) level he has won 5 World Championships and another six medals as well as being the member of a number of successful team gold winning results. He has recorded several wins at the World Masters Games (3 golds and a silver) and at the USA Masters Championships.

At Oceania Masters Athletics (OMA) Championships George has dominated the various walk categories in his relevant age group collecting 26 gold medals in nine Championships. He further displayed his versatility by winning gold, silver and bronze medals across 5000m, 8k Cross Country and Half Marathon races at two of those Championships (Tauranga, NZ and Rarotonga, Cook Islands).



Inductee No 2: George White



George was recognised by Australian Masters Athletics (AMA) as winner of the Most Outstanding Individual Performance for 2018.

George was awarded Life Membership of SAMA in 2011, received Life Membership of Athletics South Australia (ASA) in 2020, of OMA in 2022 and also in 2022 was inducted into the AMA Hall of Fame as inductee No 23.

MASTERS ATHLETICS ADMINISTRATION

South Australian Masters Athletics (SAMA)

In 2001, George joined the SAMA committee as Registrar. He was the SAMA Secretary from 2003 to 2013 and was President 2013 to 2018. From 2003 to 2007 he was also the Club Statistician.

In 2020 George re-joined the committee as Secretary for one year. In 2022 George re-joined the committee once again.

He remains responsible for all SAMA Championship events and the AMA 20km walk Championships.

During SAMA weekly competitions George has performed, and continues to perform, many officiating duties ranging from race starter to walks judge.

Furthermore, he has also been the driving force (often as Competition Director) of a variety of master's athletics events including three AMA Track & Field Championships held in Adelaide.

Over the years George has established the SAMA membership on to a computerised database, created a Strategic Plan and many policies (later incorporated into the SAMA By-Laws). These policies were to form the basis for AMA policies and the Risk Management Plan has been fundamental to our participation in Masters Games, the AMA Championships and various fun runs.

George actively sought grants to assist SAMA's activities, securing over \$20,000 from the Office of Recreation and Sport, The Department of the Ageing, the City of Bay Trust and the Adelaide City Council.

As Statistician he created a historical database of records set since the club's inception and began the practice of issuing record certificates for new state records. In 2006 he established the SAMA athletic awards to mirror those of AMA.

In 2012 as part of the research into the club's history he arranged for all old copies of the SAMA newsletters to be scanned and available to all.

Outside of SAMA competition George was the Registrar for the 2002 AMA Championships in Adelaide, was a key organiser in the 2005, 2007, 2011 and 2015 Australasian Masters Games held in Adelaide (which together returned about \$10,000 to the club) and organised events for the World Police and Fire Games in 2007. He also organized the athletics at the SA Regional Masters Games in Port Pirie 2012, Naracoorte 2014, Clare 2015 & 2017 and Murray Bridge 2018.

George was recognised by AMA as Administrator of the Year for 2008.

He was convenor and Championship Director for the 2009 and 2016 AMA Championships held in Adelaide, securing sponsorship and grants which ensured their financial success.

As President of SAMA from 2013-2018, and subsequently as a representative of SAMA, George has made significant contributions to the development of strong ties between SAMA and ASA, including the arrangements for over 30s members of ASA clubs to have joint membership with SAMA, to take part in State Age Group (SAG) Championships and be eligible to set SAG records.

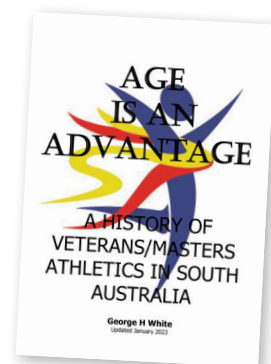


Inductee No 2: George White



In that capacity he has also been a strong advocate for the 'One Sport' concept to span from Little Athletics to Masters Athletics.

George wrote (and in early 2010 published) a book titled "Age is an Advantage", which documented the history of Masters Athletics in South Australia from its beginnings. He has continued to update that history regularly in the form of a comprehensive PDF document which is available on the SAMA website.



Australian Masters Athletics (AMA)

On two separate occasions (2006/08 and 2012/17) George was a Director of the Board of AMA.

Firstly, as Director Governance and as the head of a small sub-committee he revised all AMA policies as well as their Strategic and Risk Management Plans.

On the second occasion he was Director of Competition and undertook a major revision of the Competition Manual and program for the annual National Championships. George was responsible for an oversight of AMA technical rules and specifications and ensuring compliance with IAAF (as it was at the time) and WMA rules and specifications.

He worked closely each year with the relevant state Local Organising Committee (LOC) for the AMA Championships to ensure the event was on schedule and the rules were complied with.

Oceania Masters Athletics (OMA)

George was a Council Member of OMA from 2010 to 2022.

He continues to be their Records Officer where he is responsible for maintaining the Championship records and ensuring the paperwork for any world record application forwarded to WMA is in order.

George undertook a full review of the OMA Governance documentation and in 2020 finalised a complete revision resulting in a simplified set of documents for use by the Council. One of the documents, OMA's Strategic Plan, was modified and is current until 2022.

World Masters Athletics (WMA)

George has been a member of the WMA Records Committee since 2011 representing the Oceania Region. This Committee is responsible for the overall maintenance of the various categories of WMA records and for the resolution of any questions or disputes that may arise.



Inductee No 2: George White



RECORDS SET (Australian, OMA, State)

Record level	Event	Age Group	Performance	Date	Location
Australian	1500m Walk	M60	7.05.85	05/11/05	Adelaide
Australian	3k Walk	M45	12.58.20	17/11/90	Melbourne
Australian	10k Walk	M45	48.11.50	01/05/95	Townsville
Australian	15k Walk	M50	78.04	14/06/97	Adelaide
Australian	15k Walk	M70	87.13	04/07/15	Adelaide
Australian	20k Walk	M60	1.42.20	17/04/06	Canberra
Australian	30k Walk	M60	2.56.52	09/07/06	Adelaide
		M70	3.14.05	29/08/15	Adelaide
Current OMA Championship Record	3000m Track Walk	M60	15.18.74	2008	Townsville
		M65	15.44.53	2010	Papeete
		M70	16.41.63	2015	Rarotonga
Current OMA Championship Record	5000m Track Walk	M65	26.47.54	2010	Papeete
SAMA Record Current State	800m Walk	M65	3.54	Mar 2013	Adelaide
		M70	4.05	Mar 2016	Adelaide
		M75	4.30	Oct 2020	Adelaide
SAMA Record Current State	1000m Walk	M65	5.11	Oct 2014	Adelaide
		M70	5.27	Mar 2016	Adelaide
		M75	5.39	Nov 2020	Adelaide
SAMA Record Current State	1500m Walk	M45	6.44	1992	Adelaide
		M50	6.55	1997	Adelaide
		M60	7.05.85 (AR)	Nov 2005	Adelaide
		M65	7.40.63	Nov 2010	Gold Coast
		M70	8.09	Mar 2016	Adelaide
		M75	8.49	Jan 2021	Adelaide
SAMA Record Current State	1 Mile Walk	M65	8.43	Jan 2015	Adelaide
		M70	9.01	Jan 2016	Adelaide
		M75	9.38	Mar 2021	Adelaide
SAMA Record Current State	2k Walk	M60	10.18	Mar 2008	Adelaide
		M65	10.30	Mar 2012	Adelaide
		M70	11.13	Jan 2016	Adelaide
		M75	12.08	Feb 2021	Adelaide



Inductee No 2: George White



RECORDS SET (Australian, OMA, State) *continued*

Record level	Event	Age Group	Performance	Date	Location
SAMA Record Current State	3k Walk	M45	13.10	Mar 1991	Adelaide
		M50	13.49	Mar 1996	Adelaide
		M55	14.16	Feb 2001	Adelaide
		M60	14.45	Feb 2007	Adelaide
		M65	15.44.53	July 2010	Tahiti
		M70	16.37	Mar 2016	Adelaide
SAMA Record Current State	4k Walk	M70	24.34	Mar 2019	Adelaide
		M75	24.28	Oct 2020	Adelaide
SAMA Record Current State	5k Track Walk	M45	22.42	July 1991	Adelaide
		M50	23.58	Mar 1997	Adelaide
		M55	24.09	Nov 2002	Adelaide
		M60	24.33.50	April 2007	Hobart
		M65	26.47.54	July 2010	Tahiti
		M70	27.56	Apr 2016	Adelaide
		M75	30.35	Feb 2021	Adelaide
SAMA Record Current State	10k Track Walk	M45	46.47	April 1992	Adelaide
		M50	48.25	Dec 1997	Adelaide
		M60	55.41	Feb 2010	Adelaide
		M65	55.59	Mar 2012	Adelaide
		M70	58.15	Mar 2016	Adelaide
		M75	65.30	Feb 2021	Adelaide
SAMA Record Current State	5k Road Walk	M65	28.44	June 2014	Adelaide
		M70	27.35	June 2016	Adelaide
		M75	31.12	June 2020	Adelaide
SAMA Record Current State	10k Road Walk	M45	45.49	May 1991	Adelaide
		M55	51.09	May 2001	Adelaide
		M60	50.22	Sept 2007	Hobart
		M65	55.06	April 2012	Melbourne
		M70	56.59	June 2015	Adelaide
		M75	62.09	July 2020	Adelaide



Inductee No 2: George White



RECORDS SET (Australian, OMA, State) *continued*

Record level	Event	Age Group	Performance	Date	Location
SAMA Record Current State	15k Road Walk	M50	78.04	June 1997	Adelaide
		M55	78.53	July 2004	Adelaide
		M60	75.05	July 2005	Adelaide
		M65	84.19	July 2010	Adelaide
		M70	87.13	July 2015	Adelaide
		M75	94.37	July 2020	Adelaide
SAMA Record Current State	20k Road Walk	M45	1.37.07	May 1991	Adelaide
		M50	1.41.04	April 1997	Adelaide
		M55	1.46.20	Aug 2003	Adelaide
		M60	1.42.20 (AR)	April 2006	Canberra
		M65	1.58.04	Aug 2014	Adelaide
		M70	2.03.07	Aug 2015	Adelaide
		M75	2.13.23	Aug 2020	Adelaide
SAMA Record Current State	30k Road Walk	M45	2.43.13	June 1991	Adelaide
		M60	2.56.52 (AR)	July 2006	Adelaide
		M65	3.13.45	Aug 2012	Adelaide
		M70	3.14.05 (AR)	Aug 2015	Adelaide
SAMA Record Current State Unjudged	Half Marathon Walk	M55	1.47.11	May 2004	Adelaide
		M60	1.47.44	May 2006	Adelaide
		M65	1.46.24	May 2011	Adelaide
City to Bay Best Timed Unjudged	12k Walk	M45	57.10	Sept 1992	Adelaide
		M55	59.04	Sept 2004	Adelaide
		M60	60.31	Sept 2005	Adelaide
		M65	64.35	Sept 2010	Adelaide
		M70	68.03	Sept 2015	Adelaide
Pan Pacific Masters Games Current Record	3k Walk	M65	14.54.33	Nov 2010	Gold Coast



Inductee No 2: George White



MEDAL PLACINGS

World Masters Athletics Champs (WMA), World Masters Games (WMG), Australian Masters Athletics (AMA), Oceania Championships (OMA), Australian Masters Games (AMG)

Competition	Event	Age Group	Placing	Performance	Date	Location
WMA Champs	5k Walk	M40	Gold	22.00	Nov 1987	Melbourne Australia
	20k Walk		Silver	96.48		
			Gold	Team Gold		
WMA Champs	5k Walk	M40	Silver	22.06	July 1989	Eugene, USA
WMA Champs	5k Walk	M50	Gold	23.47	July 1995	Buffalo, USA
	20k Walk		Gold	1.44.28		
WMA Champs	20k Walk	M50	Gold	1.50.12	July 1997	Durban South Africa
				Team Gold		
WMA Champs	20k Walk	M55	Gold	1.50.50	July 2001	Brisbane Australia
				Team Gold		
WMACHamps	10k Walk	M60	Bronze	54.07	Sept 2007	Riccione, Italy
	10k Walk		Gold	Team Gold		
	20k Walk		Bronze	1.51.50		
	20k Walk		Gold	Team Gold		
WMA Champs	10k Walk	M60	Gold	56.14	2011	Sacramento USA
				Team Gold		
	20k Walk	M45	Gold	2.03.46		
				Team Gold		
WMA Champs	5k Walk	M70	Silver	29.03	2015	Lyon, France
	10k Walk	M70	Gold	59.16		
	10k Walk	M65	Gold	Team Gold		
	20k Walk	M70	Gold	2.08.02		
WMA Champs	10k Walk	M70	Gold	61.34	2016	Perth Australia
				Team Gold		
World Masters Games	5k Walk	M60	Gold	26.33	2005	Edmonton Canada
	20k Walk		Gold	1.46.00		
World Masters Games	5k Walk	M60	Gold	27.07	2009	Sydney Australia
	10k Walk		Silver	56.26		
OMA Champs	1500m Walk	M45	Gold	6.44	1992	Norfolk Island
	5k Walk		Gold	23.59		
	10k Walk		Gold	49.27		



Inductee No 2: George White



MEDAL PLACINGS *Continued*

World Masters Athletics Champs (WMA), World Masters Games (WMG), Australian Masters Athletics (AMA), Oceania Championships (OMA), Australian Masters Games (AMG)

Competition	Event	Age Group	Placing	Performance	Date	Location
OMA Champs	5k Walk	M55	Gold	25.50	2004	Rarotonga Cook Islands
	10k Walk		Gold	52.03		
OMA Champs	3k Walk	M60	Gold	15.34	2006	Christchurch New Zealand
	5k Walk		Gold	25.54		
	10k Walk		Gold	56.10		
OMA Champs	3k Walk	M60	Gold	15.19	2008	Townsville Australia
	5k Walk		Gold	26.14		
	10k Walk		Gold	54.08		
OMA Champs	3k Walk	M65	Gold	15.44	2010	Papeete, Tahiti
	5k Walk		Gold	26.48		
	10k Road Walk		Gold	59.55		
OMA Champs	5000m	M65	Silver	21.23	2012	Tauranga New Zealand
	3k Walk		Gold	16.41		
	5k Walk		Gold	28.50		
	10k Walk		Gold	56.41		
	8k C. Country		Bronze	49.19		
	Half Marathon		Silver	1.43.26		
OMA Champs	3k Walk	M65	Gold	16.54	2014	Bendigo Australia
	5k Walk		Gold	28.45		
	10k Walk		Silver	57.11		
OMA Champs	3k Walk	M70	Gold	16.42	2015	Rarotonga Cook Islands
	5k Walk		Gold	28.46		
	10k Walk		Gold	59.46		
	8k C. Country		Bronze	38.38		
	Half Marathon		Gold	1.46.11		
OMA Champs	3k Walk	M70	Gold	17.36	2019	Mackay Australia
	5k Walk		Gold	30.29		
	10k Road Walk		Gold	62.03		
AMA Champs	5k Walk	M40	Gold	22:36	1990	Melbourne
	20k Walk		Gold	97:53		
AMA Champs	5k Walk	M45	Gold	22:46	1991	Canberra
	20k Walk		Gold	98:50		



Inductee No 2: George White



MEDAL PLACINGS *Continued*

World Masters Athletics Champs (WMA), World Masters Games (WMG), Australian Masters Athletics (AMA), Oceania Championships (OMA), Australian Masters Games (AMG)

Competition	Event	Age Group	Placing	Performance	Date	Location
AMA Champs	5k Walk	M45	Gold	22:44	1992	Hobart
	20k Walk		Gold	101:36		
AMA Champs	5k Walk	M45	Gold	22:44	1993	Adelaide
	20k Walk		Gold	23:06		
AMA Champs	5k Walk	M45	Gold	23:06	1994	Sydney
	20k Walk		Gold	102:32		
AMA Champs	5k Walk	M45	Gold	23:27	1995	Townsville
	10k Walk		Gold	48:12		
AMA Champs	5k Walk	M50	Gold	24:12	1996	Perth
	20k Walk		Gold	104:49		
AMA Champs	5k Walk	M50	Gold	23:58	1997	Melbourne
	20k Walk		Silver	101.40		
AMA Champs	5k Walk	M50	Gold	24:39	2000	Hobart
	20k Walk		Gold	109:39		
AMA Champs	5k Walk	M55	Gold	25:14	2001	Sydney
	20k Walk		Gold	106:54		
AMA Champs	5k Walk	M55	Gold	24:52	2003	Perth
	20k Walk		Gold	108:58		
AMA Champs	5k Walk	M55	Gold	25:15	2004	Melbourne
	20k Walk		Silver	107:10		
AMA Champs	5k Walk	M55	Gold	27:09	2005	Brisbane
	20k Walk		Gold	111:17		
AMA Champs	5k Walk	M60	Gold	25:38	2006	Canberra
	20k Walk		Gold	102:20		
AMA Champs	5k Walk	M60	Gold	24:34	2007	Hobart
	5000m		Bronze	19:58		
	10k Walk		Gold	50:22		
AMA Champs	5k Walk	M60	Gold	26:47	2008	Sydney
AMA Champs	5k Walk	M60	Silver	27:04	2009	Adelaide
	10k Walk		Gold	56:12		
AMA Champs	1500m Walk	M60	Gold	8:09.1	2010	Perth
	5k Walk		Silver	27:22		
	10k Walk		Silver	56:30		



Inductee No 2: George White



MEDAL PLACINGS *Continued*

World Masters Athletics Champs (WMA), World Masters Games (WMG), Australian Masters Athletics (AMA), Oceania Championships (OMA), Australian Masters Games (AMG)

Competition	Event	Age Group	Placing	Performance	Date	Location
AMA Champs	1500m Walk	M65	Silver	7:59.7	2011	Brisbane
	5K Walk		Gold	27:26		
AMA Champs	1500m Walk	M65	Gold	7:56.0	2012	Melbourne
	5k Walk		Gold	27:26		
	10K Walk		Gold	55:06		
AMA Champs	1500m Walk	M65	Gold	8:02.0	2013	Canberra
	5k Walk		Gold	27:06		
	10k Walk		Gold	55:46		
AMA Champs	Half Marathon	M65	Silver	105:28	2014	Bendigo
AMA Champs	1500m Walk	M65	Gold	8:09.1	2014	Hobart
	5k Walk		Silver	27:59		
	10k Walk		Gold	59:07		
AMA Champs	1500m Walk	M70	Gold	8:21.0	2016	Adelaide
	5k Walk		Gold	28:34		
	10k Walk		Gold	57:32		
AMA Champs	1500m Walk	M70	Gold	8:54.8	2017	Darwin
	5k Walk		Gold	31:10		
	10k Walk		Gold	63:30		
AMA Champs	20k Walk	M70	Gold	129:03	2017	Adelaide
AMA Champs	20K Walk	M70	Gold	132:55	2018	Adelaide
AMA Champs	1500m Walk	M70	Silver	8:40.6	2019	Melbourne
AMA Champs	20k Walk	M70	Silver	128:23	2019	Adelaide
AMA Champs	20k Walk	M75	Gold	133:23	2020	Adelaide
AMA Champs	20k Walk	M75	Gold	138:20	2021	Adelaide
AMA Champs	1500m Walk	M75	Silver	9:31.0	2022	Brisbane
	5k Walk		Silver	32:54		
	10k Walk		Silver	68:25		
Australian Masters Games	1500m W	M60	Gold	7:21.12	2005	Adelaide
	5000m W		Gold	25:28.80		
	10000m W		Gold	50:58		



Inductee No 2: George White



MEDAL PLACINGS *Continued*

World Masters Athletics Champs (WMA), World Masters Games (WMG), Australian Masters Athletics (AMA), Oceania Championships (OMA), Australian Masters Games (AMG)

Competition	Event	Age Group	Placing	Performance	Date	Location
Australian Masters Games	1500mW	M60	Gold	7:36.11	2007	Adelaide
	5000mW		Gold	26:29		
	10000mW		Gold	57:19		
	1500m		Gold	5:42.73		
Australian Masters Games	1500mW	M65	Gold	6:07.89	2011	Adelaide
	5000mW		Gold	27:35.24		
	10000mW		Gold	57:03		
	5000m		Gold	21:53.74		
	Half Mar		Gold	97:39		
	3000mW		Gold	16:08.87		
Australian Masters Games	3000mW	M70	Gold	17:11.039	2019	Adelaide
	1500mW		Gold	8:33.55		
	5000mW		Gold	30:59.82		
	10000mW		Gold	60:30		
Pan Pacific Masters Games	1500mW	M65	Gold	7:40.63	2010	Gold Coast
	3000mW		Gold	14:54.33		
	5000mW		Gold			
	10000mW		Gold	57:26		
Pan Pacific Masters Games	1500mW	M70	Gold		2018	Gold Coast
	3000mW		Gold	18:55.03		
	5000mW		Gold	31:31.21		
	10000mW		Gold			



Inductee No 2: George White



PERSONAL QUALITIES OF THE NOMINEE

George has well and truly made his mark in the sport of athletics both as an athlete and as an administrator, particularly in Masters athletics, over a period spanning more than 35 years.

His contribution to athletics in South Australia has been all encompassing and George was truly worthy of the recognition of Life Member of SAMA in 2011 and then Life Member of Athletics South Australia in 2020 and Life Member of Oceania Masters Athletics in 2022.

He is well respected by his fellow athletes and by the people he has worked with in the organisation of athletics at club, state, national and international level.

As an athlete George has been a shining light to Masters athletes both at state and national level by virtue of his dedication and persistence in his race-walking career, sometimes in the face of adversity. In late 2017 he suffered a heart attack whilst officiating during club competition, but just six months later was competing again at his previous high level with the same determination and drive that has been an example to his peers for many years.

As an administrator, George's substantial contribution to the organisation of Masters athletics at club, national and international level has been exemplary. He has dedicated his life to athletics since his retirement from paid work, being involved at all levels of administration from officiating at SAMA competitions, to serving on multiple committees and boards of many Masters athletic organisations, to running major athletics meets and advocating Masters athletics whenever the opportunity arises.

All these achievements have contributed to the advancement of athletics at state, national and international level and George is truly worthy of the recognition afforded by appointment to the South Australian Masters Athletics Hall of Fame.



Sydney 1992



Buffalo 1995



Inductee No 2: George White



Riccione 2007



Mackay 2019



Adelaide 2016



Lyon 2015