

Mount Isa Athletics



PRESS RELEASE

21 February 2012

The Mount Isa Athletics Club can now celebrate their first Life Member in Maureen Sweeney. Sweeney (then club secretary) was surprised with the announcement at the clubs recent AGM as the committee members had conspired to keep it a secret until its presentation at the meeting.

Maureen first arrived at the club way back in 2002 with her three children Shannon, James and Liam. At that time the club was known as "Mount Isa Little Athletics" and in her ten years with the club she has been instrumental in the growth and restructure of the club to "Mount Isa Athletics" which now caters for athletes of all ages and can boast being the second largest athletic club in North Queensland as well as producing State and National level athletes. Maureen immediately volunteered where ever she was needed and then took up the reins of secretary in 2005.

2006 saw a major change around in the committee and decline in the club but with Sweeney's determination and the aid of a band of new committee members the club was back on track and running smoothly by 2008. Maureen remained in the secretarial roll for six years and has this year stepped down, or rather aside for someone else to learn the ropes.

When Maureen was asked what the biggest change she has seen in the club she replied "Defiantly the amount of equipment we have. We started out with one container of equipment and operated under the tiny carport at Sunset Oval. We now have three containers full and are in need of another for new High Jump mats and Hurdles we are planning on purchasing this year"

Maureen herself along with her husband Tony started competing in 2009 and not to be out done by her talented children, currently holds a number of North Queensland Championship Records in the throwing events.

As you would expect Maureen's volunteer work is not limited only to Athletics. Over the years she has been heavily involved in every interest her highly active children have had which include Soccer, Swimming, Cycling, Karate, Cricket, all aspects of School and most of all Irish Dancing where she was an active volunteer for fourteen years.

When asked why she devotes so much of her time to volunteer work she answered "If it's going to benefit the kids why wouldn't you do it."

CLUB VENUE

Sunset Oval
Able Smith Parade
Mount Isa, Queensland

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