PRESS RELEASE

14 February 2016

Two of the Mount Isa Athletics Clubs longest serving volunteers were awarded Life Memberships at the Clubs recent AGM.

Kath and Tony Hujanen first arrived at the Club way back in 2003 when their youngest son Mitchell (now 17) was only four years old. Right from the start the pair stepped up and helped out wherever they could and particularly as age marshalls for the group. A couple of years later their youngest Ryan joined up and as it turned out they were in for the long haul.

As the boys got older both Kath and Tony started putting their hands up for active roles in the community for the betterment of whatever their kids were involved in. Luckily this included joining the Mount Isa Athletics Club committee. After a couple of years as general members they then found themselves in the roles of Secretary and Vice-President respectively.

In the weeks prior to the Clubs AGM the current committee had a secret vote to see if all were in agreement so Kath and Tony could be presented with their plaques at the meeting. The meeting was just about to draw to a close when the new Club President, Paul Smith, announced there was one more thing on the agenda and in true secretarial form Kath was frantically fumbling through her papers trying to find what she had missed.

Fellow committee member and personal friend Ken Dickson casually mentioned their dedication and proposed the life memberships which was unanimously accepted. During the process Kath was seed shedding a little tear of gratitude.

Later Kath and Tony said “we get into these things to make sure that our kids have good experiences as they grow up but the athletics club has given us more than that, it has given us a bunch of new friends. I would go as far to say that it is more of a family than a committee”.

Youngest son, Ryan, was asked his views on the parents awards and he said “Mitch and I are both really proud of Mum and Dad and it is great to see them happy and feeling appreciated”.

Mount Isa Athletics is an affiliated member club of Athletics North Queensland Inc.