

## Joan Christensen



Most of Canadian Masters Athletics' volunteer administrators are recruited from the ranks of competitive members, who contribute their time and effort so that the sport that they love can continue to thrive and grow. Joan Christensen is one of those athletes. She joined CMAA in 1993, and was soon helping out with registration, timing and lap-counting at Toronto and area meets. In 1997, as a member of the CMAA executive, she agreed to take over the maintenance of the membership files, a role she fulfilled for the next 14 years. During those years she attended almost all Executive meetings, contributing to discussion and decision-making in all areas, not just membership. She also assisted with team management for WMA events, twice as Assistant Manager, twice as Manager. In 2011 she processed all the entries for the WMA meet in Sacramento.

While carrying out all these duties, Joan was also competing in track, road and cross-country running, winning "boxes of medals". A highlight of her running career occurred in 1995, when she won her first international medal, a bronze, as a member of a W55 4 X 100m relay team at the WMA meet in Buffalo. Her running successes included winning her age category in 11 of her 14 CMA XC championships; and in 8 of the 11 Half Marathons she ran. When injuries

intervened, she switched to racewalking, winning another international medal, this time silver, in the 10K racewalk in San Sebastian. She is now back to running, including her favourite cross-country races.

For her many contributions and accomplishments we congratulate Joan, and welcome her into the Canadian Masters Athletics Hall of Fame.