

ASICS MELBOURNE MARATHON 2002

Melbourne Marathon Spartans Club

The 10th anniversary of the Melbourne Marathon brought together a group of 88 men and women who all had one thing in common, each of them had competed in every Melbourne Marathon to date. This group of people formed the Melbourne Marathon Spartans Club in recognition of the efforts and dedication they have made to running in the Melbourne Marathon.

Spartan members can be recognised by their Green or Gold singlets and they have their own race number.

Today there are more than 900 people who qualify to be a Spartan with one wheelchair athlete, Ian Gainey but there are only 24 who have competed in all 24 Melbourne Marathons.



The Spartans who have competed in all 24 Melbourne Marathons

PHILIP	BADMAN	S2
PETE	BATTRICK	S5
FRANK	BIVIANO	S7
RAYMOND	BLANCHFIELD	S8
JOHN	DEAN	S20
JOHN	DOBSON	S21
KEN	ELCOCK	S22
DAVID	FOSKEY	S25
JIM	FULLER	S28
NEVILLE	GARDNER	S30
VERN	GERLACH	S33
JACK	GUBBINS	S37
STAN	HANLEY	S38
BRUCE	HARGREAVES	S39
KEITH	HUNTER	S40
LEO	JONES	S44
MANUEL	KARAGEORGIU	S45
ROSS	MARTIN	S55
GREG	MATHEWS	S56
PETER	RYAN	S69
WAYNE	THOMPSON	S78
ROGER	WEINSTEIN	S81
MAXIM	WOOD	S87
SHIRLEY	YOUNG	SF2

NOTABLE SPARTANS

Peter Ryan AO S69 (President of Spartans)

Peter has been involved for many years at Hawthorn Football Club working on the recruiting committee. He doesn't get to see the Hawks play very often as he spends most of his time watching country and suburban football looking for up and coming recruits.

Peter was awarded an Order of Australia medal three years ago for his contribution to sport for the disadvantaged.

For many years now he has almost single headedly organised a football competition for mentally disabled and disadvantaged youths where teams come from as far away as Bendigo.

Peter has acquired footballs, jumpers etc from several league clubs. He has a pool of umpires who give their time free.

He has also harangued Spartan members into giving any used running shoes to him, to hand on to the large number of disadvantaged youths that he looks after.

John Dean S20

Before John took up marathon running he was a very fit and determined squash player and the following story should verify that.

In 1975 at aged 32, John made it into the Guinness Book of Records by playing continuous squash for 72 hours, during that time he had almost a 100 opponents. The record stood for many years before a South African beat it.

In talking about his continuous marathon effort John admitted to running on occasion with injury and suggested there were probably many others who did similar things.

On three different years John ran with a stress fracture of the foot, a broken collarbone and a stress fracture of the shin.

Shirley Young SF 2

Shirley is our only female who has done them all. Suffice to say Shirley is a legend in Veteran athletics and has held and still holds many Australian and overseas records in veteran distance running including gruelling 24 hour runs.



John Dean and Peter Ryan in 1992



Shirley Young in 1990