

Vale: Ray LAWRENCE

1946 – 2015

Posted on Monday, May 25th, 2015

It is with deep sadness that New South Wales Touch Football wishes to advise the passing of Ray Lawrence.



Ray, or as he was affectionately known, 'Bullet', was a Touch Football Australia and New South Wales Touch Association Hall of Fame member. Ray became involved in Touch Football at the age of 32, quickly rising up the ranks from representing Manly, to New South Wales and Australia.

Ray held an enviable record, representing New South Wales for 14 years in a row. Ray also represented Australia 11 times, comprising of five World Cup appearances and six Test matches.

Ray was a regular participant at Australian and World Masters Games events, competing in every Australian Masters Games since the first event in 1987, where he would dart between Touch Football, Athletics and Golf events, as well as driving the team bus for his Sydney Blue Pointers.

Ray will be greatly missed and his dedication to the sport of Touch Football will never be forgotten.

New South Wales Touch Football conveys its deepest sympathies and condolences to Ray's family.

Rays Funeral details : –
Monday 1st June
Eastern Suburbs Crematorium
12 Military Rd Matraville at 11.30 AM

Afterwards you are welcome to attend the Lakes Golf Club
Corner King St. & Vernon Ave Mascot. NO FLOWERS but please feel free to
donate to the cancer council at <http://give.cancercouncil.com.au>

2012 Pan Pacific Masters

Ray 'Bullet' Lawrence had to live up to his nickname at this year's Pan Pacific Masters Games (3 – 11 November) as he darted between athletics, golf and touch competitions as well as driving the team bus for Sydney Blue Pointers.

The 66-year-old managed his competition and bus duties with ease claiming one silver and two bronze in athletics as well as making the mens 60+ touch football gold medal match today at Owen Park on the Gold Coast.

Despite his love for all three sports, his passion lies with his touch football side which has been competing together since the first Australian Masters Games in 1987.

“We have competed at every Pan Pacific Masters Games since its inauguration in 1998 and we have also played at every Australian Masters Games since its first event in 1987,” said Ray.

“We also compete at the World Masters Games whenever it's held in Australia.

“We have won gold in every master event we have competed in except for two.”

The side has experienced many changes over the years but Ray always finds a way to recruit new members to the squad.

“I play touch twice a week with a local team in a Sydney over-30 competition and in the side we have five players who are over 60,” said Ray.

“We continue to recruit new touch football players we know through our local club and as long as they are over 60 and are still standing and breathing then they meet the criteria.”

One of Ray's highlights this week was the opportunity to catch up with event ambassador and Olympic gold medallist Glynis Nunn-Cearns at the athletics track.

“I competed in the 300 metre hurdles and I ran into Glynis Nunn-Cearns who was also competing,” said Ray.

“I told her that I hadn't competed in a 300m hurdles before and to my surprise neither had she.

“I think there is a great photograph of me going over a hurdle with my arms and legs all over the place.”

The Touch Football Australia Hall of Fame inductee believes his longevity in the game is because he doesn't drink or smoke and is adamant he will be playing for many years to come.

“Luckily I'm fit enough to keep on playing as I don't smoke or drink which I think has something to do with my ability to keep on competing,” said Ray.

“I will keep on playing for as long as I can and already the team has its sights set on the 2013 Australian Masters Games in Geelong.”

