

## Pat Rawlings OAM (NSW) Team Manager # 5

Pat Rawlings' involvement in softball spanned 40 years across four states - South Australia, Victoria, Tasmania and New South Wales. She was NSW Team Manager from 1969 – 1988, NSW Softball President, Softball NSW Life Member and NSW's ASF representative. In 1980, Pat was appointed Manager of the Australian Women's Team Manager in 1980, a position she held until 1986.

On a national level, Pat was part of one of the most instrumental changes to softball in Australia. In 1983, in recognition of her team and event management experience and expertise, Pat was appointed to a committee to develop a long range plan for softball. The outcomes of the plan lead to constitutional reform and in 1984 the first Australian Softball Federation (ASF) Board was established.



During this time, Pat joined with Edna Nash (NSW President) and John Reid (WA) to organise the inaugural Open Men's National Championship, the John Reid Shield, held in 1984. The foresight of these people and the establishment of a men's pathway for softball in Australia undoubtedly has contributed Australia's current world ranking and championship success.

Pat remained an ASF Board member until 1997, a tenure of 13 years. In addition to her responsibilities for international matters, Pat was the ASF representative at many national underage events and two Arafura Games.

Pat was tour leader at the 1990 World Championship in Normal (Illinois) and the 1994 Championships in St John's (Newfoundland, Canada). She led the Australian supporters to Atlanta in 1996 to watch Australia's first appearance at an Olympic Games.

Throughout Pat's career, she received many honours in recognition of her contribution to softball. In 1991, she was inducted into the ASF Hall of Fame and in 1994 became an ASF Life Member. Fittingly, Pat was also recognised outside the Softball community, being awarded the Order of Australia Medal in 1991 and an Australian Sports Medal in 2000.

## **AWARDS**

1991 Order of the Medal of Australia
1991 Softball Australia Hall of Fame
1994 Softball Australia Life Membership