



SIR DON ROWLANDS MEDAL

Sir Don Rowlands KNZM, CBE, AM, was an icon in the sport of rowing, both in New Zealand and internationally.

He represented New Zealand at rowing on many levels: as a Rower, Manager, Selector, NZRA President, Board Director, Life Member and Vice Patron. He was an integral member of Karapiro Rowing Inc. and Chairman of the Organising Committee of the World Rowing Championships at Lake Karapiro 1978. As patron of the event, he was actively involved in the 2010 World Rowing Championships at Lake Karapiro.

Internationally, he served on FISA, the governing body for World Rowing, and was also the FISA Continental Representative for Oceania from 1974 to 1992. He was involved in the construction of rowing courses all around the world. He was a former Vice President of the New Zealand Olympic Committee and was awarded the Olympic Order Medal in 1982 and the FISA Distinguished Service Medal in 2009.

He is the recipient of two Halberg Awards for leadership and service to sport. He was inducted into the New Zealand Business Hall of Fame in 2014 in recognition of his accomplishments in the business sector and was similarly inducted into the New Zealand Sports Hall of Fame in 2016 in recognition of his accomplishments in rowing.

Sir Don received his Knighthood for services to sport and to business in 2015.

The Award

The Sir Don Rowlands Medal has been created by Rowing New Zealand in memory of Sir Don, and is to be awarded for an "Outstanding Contribution to New Zealand Rowing". Consistent with its namesake, the Award is intended to be an iconic award of Rowing New Zealand.

Criteria

The Award shall be made to an individual(s) who by his or her efforts over an extended period of time has excelled in, promoted or enhanced the sport of rowing in New Zealand to an outstanding degree.

Process

By nomination to the RNZ Board with appropriate supporting documentation.

The Award has no mandatory time line for presentation, it being awarded when an appropriate recipient is approved by the RNZ Board, but not more than annually.

Symbol of Award

The symbol of this Award shall be a medal – the "Sir Don Rowlands Medal".