

# Steve Moneghetti AM

## *Australian sporting legend*

Steve Moneghetti was one of Australia's most respected marathon runners in a career spanning four Olympic Games, four Commonwealth Games and six World Championships. But for all of his considerable achievements as an athlete - a clean sweep of medals at the Commonwealth Games, including gold in 1994 in Victoria, Canada, a bronze medal at the Athens 1997 World Championships, and a fifth placing at the Seoul 1988 Olympics - it was his extraordinary contribution to sports administration and the promotion of athletes' welfare which has made the most significant impact.

His selfless contribution, not only to his chosen sport of athletics, but to numerous sports disciplines, has left an indelible mark on Australian sport. In numerous roles ranging from captain of the Australian athletics team, to the Chef De Mission at three Commonwealth Games, and to administrative positions which have helped to provide better facilities and greater support for athletes, Steve has made a lasting legacy for future generations.

Hailing from regional Victoria, Steve first cut his teeth in an under 14s cross-country race in Burrumbeet, honing his craft with Ballarat Harriers before moving to Ballarat YCW. It wasn't long before he had become one of the most promising distance runners in the country.

Steve competed in 29 national teams, starting as a cross country and 10,000m athlete before becoming one of Australia's greatest marathon runners. He won a bronze medal in his first marathon - the Edinburgh 1986 Commonwealth Games - as part of four appearances at the Commonwealth Games, including winning a gold medal in Victoria, Canada in 1994.

He competed in four Olympic Games marathons, with his best performance being fifth in Seoul in 1988. Fittingly, his last race representing Australia was on home soil when he finished 10th at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, less than a week after his 38th birthday.

If that had been the end of Steve's contribution, it would have been sizable enough. But in the back end of his athletic career, he displayed a passion for promoting the welfare of athletes as well as innovation and engagement he would show later in leadership roles.

Moneghetti was the Australian team captain at the Kuala Lumpur 1998 Commonwealth Games and the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. He was "Mayor" of the athletes' village at the Melbourne 2006



Commonwealth Games and Chef De Mission at the Delhi 2010, Glasgow 2014, Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.

His belief that athletes must always be put first saw him and Commonwealth Games Australia CEO Perry Crosswhite express their concern about the cauldron like conditions that athletes had to wait in before the Opening Ceremony ensuring their welfare was first and foremost. Steve arranged for the Gold Coast Games for the athletes to march at the front of the parade which culminated in a magic moment when flag bearer Mark Knowles walked back through the team, ensuring all competitors were able to touch the flag.

As a board director of Sport Australia, including as deputy chair, and during three terms as Chair of the Victorian Institute of Sport, Moneghetti played a key role in promoting the welfare of athletes at all levels as well as helping to fund and facilitate numerous projects to improve the facilities and conditions for Australian sportsmen and women.

He has also given his time to countless charities, community and non-for-profit organisations. He has also been a driving force since the inception of the Run For the Kids community participation event, which has raised more than \$18 million for the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne.

Steve was inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 2021 as a General Member for his contribution to sport through administration.

### **Steve Moneghetti talks about:**

- Goal Setting
- Long Term Planning
- Teamwork
- Time Management

### **Client testimonials**

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“ Steve really engaged the audience and our team were very interested in both his presentation and with the individual interactions they had with him before and after this. Steve knows his stuff and knows how to tie it into the business context. Very professional.

- **ANL Container Line Pty Limited**

“ Steve spoke perfectly for the audience of young people, stressing the fact that if you have a go you will succeed, exactly what we needed.

- **Castlemaine Junior Sports Star Awards Inc.**

“ Steve was a pleasure to work with. He arrived early and went straight about talking to those guests who had already arrived and bonding with fellow runners. His talk was both inspirational and relevant to those in business, as he spoke on the importance of having goals and never losing sight of them - "Everyone has potential, it is up to each individual as to whether they develop that into a talent". Steve spent considerable time signing items and speaking to participants after the event and it was fascinating to watch and hear from someone who is so incredibly focused.

***- Maroondah City Council***

“ Steve provided conference attendees with an insight into the level of commitment, planning, persistence and effort required to be successful in your chosen field. It was obvious from his presentation that he made an effort to prepare and familiarise himself with the RMA and the role of our members. Steve was both entertaining and informative, providing us with many tips and ideas for dealing with life and work situations.

***- Revenue Management Association***

“ Steve was a breath of fresh air at the end of a long 2 day conference. Wonderfully funny and energetic and completely down to earth. Everyone in the room could relate to him. His links to leadership in his speech were inspiring and smart.

***- Australian School of Applied Management***

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