



2021 Special Recognition Service Awards



Rick Berman

JA Master LDR official and referee, Rick has taken over the role of Open/Masters XC Officials Coordinator from Mark Winitz, managing meet officials for all PA Grand Prix races. Rick has also played a major role in organizing the upcoming 2022 National Club XC Championships at Golden Gate Park. As CIO of the Pacific Foundation, Rick's IT expertise has been invaluable for setting up payment platforms, email communications, and other behind-the-scenes infrastructure.



Cris Houston

A cornerstone of Youth Athletics in the Pacific Association, Cris has served on the Board of Athletics as Youth XC Chair and Youth Racewalk Chair. Cris organizes the Pacific Association's annual Youth XC Grand Prix and in 2018 served as Officials Coordinator for the USATF XC Junior Olympics in Reno. Cris has directed Youth Track & Field meets in the midst of COVID, including the 2021 "Top 5" Meet, ensuring youth athletes have continuity in the sport.



Jim Manha

As a multifaceted Master official, Jim officiates all levels of meets in the Pacific Association and nationwide as throws official, referee, starter, and racewalk judge, among other duties. Jim has assisted the Officials Committee by helping coordinate officials mentorship, teaching training clinics, and assisting in the modernization of the officials meet calendar system. Jim also serves as Officials Coordinator for Stanford, various PA meets, including the successful 2021 "Welcome Back" meet, and Paralympics meets.



Joe Nemeth

A Master Implement Inspector, Joe has served as lead weights & measures official in the association for several decades. Many meets in the Pacific Association, including countless conference championships, National championships, and International meets have owed their success to Joe's dedication. Joe has also served as coordinator of Hartnell home meets for many years, and regularly teaches Implement Inspection training clinics and mentors junior officials.