
**MM11/21 PASSING OF NEITA MATTHEWS OAM - Mayor, Councillor
Jerome Laxale and Councillor Roy Maggio**

File Number: MYR/07/10/20 - BP21/843

This Mayoral Minute is to advise of the passing of Neita Matthews OAM.

Neita was a well known local identity, particularly amongst the netball fraternity for over 50 years.

Neita commenced her netball career at the age of eight and went on to become a highly respected umpire in both NSW and Australian netball.

In 1967 Neita moved to Sydney and became involved with Eastwood Ryde Netball Association (ERNA) becoming its president in 1994 – a role she held until 2004.

Neita held various positions in the netball movement including a Life Membership of Eastwood Ryde Netball Association (1977) and Netball NSW (1980).

She was a Patron of Netball NSW (1987 – present), recipient of the Australian Sports Medal (2000) and Centenary Medal for service to the community through amateur sport (2003), Anne Clark Award for services to netball (2004) and the Order of Australia Medal on the 2007 Australia Day Honours List.

In addition, Neita was made a life member of the Ryde Sports Foundation in 2018, in recognition of her 30 years as a Committee member of the Foundation.

It wasn't only sport that Neita had a passion for. She played an active role as an advocate during her time on Council's Access Advisory Committee, and volunteered with Riding for the Disabled, Addington House and Scouts.

In 2005, Neita was the Ryde Citizen of the Year.

Neita is survived by her children Peter, Greg and Ian. Following Neita's death, flowers were sent to her family and also granddaughter Jess on behalf of Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That Council mark the passing of Neita Matthews OAM with a minute's silence.
- (b) That in consultation with the Matthews family, a plaque, bench or similar be installed at Meadowbank Park, with funding to come from the Mayoral budget.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Report Prepared By:



Mayor, Councillor Jerome Laxale

Council, submitted on 28 September 2021.