

OFFICIALLY GREAT



One of the most important figures in domestic athletics will be recognised this weekend as Roger Simons is presented with an award on his retirement after many years of service to athletics in the UK.

Roger has been involved in athletics for 60 years and played a role in the governing body since 1982, continually improving club competition.

He currently serves on the UK Members Council and has previously been a UK Athletics board member. He has also held a number of other key roles within the governing body including Head of Track & Field Policy and Support Team, Chair of National Officials and Appointments Committee and Chair of the UKA Eligibility Committee.

For several years, Roger has played a vitally important role in putting the domestic calendar in place, the selection of technical officials, athlete eligibility and implementation of the UK Athletics rule book.

He was also a key member of the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games working group and represented UK Athletics as their member of the British Paralympic Association.

During several decades of involvement in the sport,

Roger has contributed at all levels both in the UK and abroad. He has been Chairman and President of his local club, Shaftesbury Barnet Harriers, Promotions Officer and Chairman of the British Athletics League, Chairman of South West Athletics, Chair of the Technical Committee for the 2003 IAAF World Indoor Championships and 2007 European Indoor Championships, Founder and Chairman of the British Association of Track and Field Leagues and Chair of the UK Athletics Technical Committee.

Cherry Alexander, British Athletics Major Events Director, believes that Roger will leave a long-lasting legacy from his several decades involved in athletics.

She said: "Roger has played a massive role in shaping the way that athletics functions in the UK and leaves the sport in a much better place than when he first got involved."

"His amazing dedication to athletics will be greatly missed, but it is perhaps a fitting time for him to retire after working tirelessly on a new Rule Book for 2016 and being part of the Competition Strategy and Official Strategy groups."