In 2005 the first nonathlete was inducted. Race Director, Ken Baggs who with wife Glenda, had been at the helm of IRONMAN Australia, IRONMAN Western Australia and several IRONMAN 70.3 races along with some Australian Long Course Championships and Coordinator of the former Ironman Australia Qualifying Series of, then named Half IRONMAN, races.

Ken’s career eventually spanned 30 years dating back to 1985 but 2005 was the last race at Forster-Tuncurry and the new location was to be Port Macquarie. Ken and Glenda were to continue their roles at the new location but in a parting gesture the International Management Group (IMG) who ultimately held the Ironman license for 15 years, decided to induct Ken without his knowledge. It had always been a well-kept secret as to any Induction and whilst Jason Shortis had been surprised at his induction by Bruce Thomas, he had been chosen to induct Ken thinking this was the only one that year. There was great confusion by them both when it all unfolded. Glenda had decided triathlon no longer held the same passion so retired as the Race Administrator in 2010 but Ken continued until his retirement in 2014 but remains involved from the sidelines helping and advising the current administration from time to time.

Ken can still be seen at the Bike Turnaround at IRONMAN Australia right on cut off, and still helps the team with Tail End Charlie on race day. Ken is IRONMAN Australia and the sport will be forever indebted to him.

Written by Ken Baggs & Ben Herbert

Accomplishments

Medal of the Order of Australia, 2005
For service to athletics through the establishment and administration of the annual ironman triathlon in Forster-Tuncurry.

Race Director
IRONMAN Australia, 1987 – 2012
IRONMAN Western Australia 2004 - 2012

IRONMAN Hall of Fame
Inductee, 2018