

Chris McCubbins

Chris McCubbins was born in Enid Oklahoma in 1945.

As a youth, he never got a hit in Little League baseball, he was the last person to be selected in school yard games, and he was the last player to be substituted into basketball games in the Church league. He did not make the Junior High track team.

At Enid High School in 1962, Chris went out for cross-country running in grade 11, and was the fastest runner on the team. His mile time on the track was 4:41. The next year, he won his conference in cross-country running, He was sick for the State Championships, but ran a 4:24 mile, which placed him 3rd.

Chris attended Oklahoma State University from 1963 to 1967. In 1965, he placed 5th in the NCAA cross-country running championships. Two years later, he won the NCAA [steeplechase](#) championship, and later that summer he won the gold medal for the USA in the steeplechase at the 1967 Pan Am Games, right here in Winnipeg. He also finished first at the *Europe vs Americas Steeplechase* in Montreal.

In 1969, Chris represented the USA at the world cross-country running championships in Scotland, and in 1969 and 1970, he competed in [modern pentathlon](#) for the US Army, placing 5th in the national modern pentathlon championships in 1970.

Chris moved to Winnipeg in September 1970, started teaching in the [Winnipeg 1 School Division](#) in 1974, and became a Canadian citizen in March 1976.

In 1975 (representing Canada), Chris ran a 10K in 28:16 at the *Montreal pre-Olympics* meet. That time still stands as a Manitoba record in the 10K. In early 1976 he ran a 5K in 13:44 in Knoxville Tennessee. At the [1976 Summer Olympic Games](#) in Montreal in the 10K race, he had not fully recovered from a groin injury, and ran a personal worst.

Chris later represented Canada at a world cross country running meet in Glasgow Scotland, and his last international race was at the world cross-country running championships in 1984 in New Jersey.

Chris dominated the local road running scene for so many years, and in 1986, [Runners' World](#) magazine rated Chris as the #4 masters road runner in the world, and in 1987 he set a North American record for Masters in the 15K: 45:34.

Chris has coached many local athletes over the last 30 years, and provided valuable mentorship to so many in the running community. He was also very involved in setting up and maintaining our Cross Country courses at Harborview Park.

Chris will be very much missed....