

Rod Dixon

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Athletics

For 17 years, Rod Dixon was one of the best runners in the World. He is a four-time Olympian (1972, 1976, 1980 and 1984), Olympic Bronze medalist (Munich 1972, 1500m), two-time IAAF World Cross Country Championship medalist, and won the 1500m Championships of the United States, France, Great Britain, and New Zealand. He has won almost every major road race in the United States but Dixon is perhaps best known for his thrilling come-from-behind victory in the 1983 New York City Marathon.

Professional

A passion for running and healthy lifestyle led Dixon to create the Rod Dixon's KiDSMARATHON Foundation, an 8-10 week in-school running and nutrition education program that enables students to complete a full (26.2 mile) marathon by running approximately 3 miles per week. Students learn the value of good exercise and nutrition habits for healthy living and, best of all, they have fun. The program has grown to include 25,000 children annually in greater Los Angeles, 5,000 in Connecticut and 10,000 in New Zealand.

Dixon served as a special event consultant and coordinator for a variety of events around the world, including: LA Marathon, NY City Marathon, Boston Freedom Trail Road Race, Auckland Around the Bays race, Manufacturers Hanover Corporate Challenge and SF Bay to Breakers.

Awards

Dixon was honored by the City of New York and the United Nations, who jointly presented him with the Abebe Bikila Award for services to international athletics. Runner's World Magazine awarded him the Most Versatile Athlete of the quarter century, honoring his excellence from 1500 meters (the metric mile) to the marathon (26.2 miles).

Personal

Dixon lives most of the year in California, and is an active runner and cyclist. He has four children and four grandchildren.