



## Plano Pacers Running Club, Inc. Hall of Fame

The Plano Pacers Running Club was formed in 1978 by the City of Plano Parks and Recreation Department and a group of thirty local runners. The objectives of the Running Club were the promotion and encouragement of healthful jogging and distance running. The objectives were supported by stressing the fun and exhilaration of running and its contribution to physical fitness, weight control and health. The club was directed to stimulate and maintain motivation among runners by increasing communication among runners and prospective runners. The club's plan was to publish a newsletter, hold regular meetings, fun runs, races, running clinics and related programs. The club would also mobilize their influence to promote the development of trails, tracks and running support facilities within the city.

The Plano Pacers Running Club has successfully operated as a family-oriented organization for three decades. A great number of runners and non-runners have contributed to meeting the objectives defined by the City of Plano and the founding members. In 2009, the Plano Pacers Running Club established a Hall of Fame to recognize those individuals who have made significant contributions to the club.

The Plano Pacers Running Club would like to recognize Mike Picard for his contributions and service to the club over the last two decades. Mike has worked in the background, quietly volunteering his time to the club with little or no recognition, yet without his help, many of the fundamental race-day tasks would have been major problems for most race directors. Joining the club in 1993, Mike spent a number of years participating regularly in club races and social events. In January 2002, Mike accepted the responsibility as one of the Pacer equipment managers. On race day he loaded up all required equipment from the storage shed, delivered it to the park, set up all course signs, and placed cones on the course which was mostly run on the roads. If that wasn't enough, Mike, along with Terry Ziegler and later his son Jonathan, stocked the water stations for over a decade. After the race was over, he reversed the order of tasks until all equipment was back in the storage shed. Mike's actions demonstrated you could be a fully engaged volunteer and still participate in the races.

Mike served on the Pacer Board of Directors, providing guidance and insight to the management of the club and sound advice to club presidents. Starting in 2012, he began directing the monthly Prediction Runs, which included race day registration, timing, awards, results and providing information for posting to the Pacer web site. Dependable, accountable and always ready to help for over a decade only partially describes Mike's actions with the Pacers. The contributions that Mike has provided are little known, since he prefers the spotlight to be on others. But without his help, life for the Pacer membership would certainly be more difficult, races less desirable, and management more confused.

Mike's contributions are significant because they help satisfy the objectives of the Plano Pacers Running Club. For all the reasons documented in this letter the Plano Pacers Running Club takes great pride in naming Mike Picard a member in the Plano Pacers Running Club Hall of Fame.

---

Charlie & Terry Gonzalez  
President, Plano Pacers

---

Date