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Incorporating Olympic Communicators  
Under licence from the Australian Olympic Committee



# Don Elgin

**“If you can’t win, make the person in front break the record!”**

Don Elgin was raised in the NSW town of Tocumwal. Being born without the lower portion of his left leg was not a barrier for this boy who would make his first Australian team at 18 years of age.

Don went to the 1994 World Championships in Berlin, where he won a gold medal as part of the 4 x 100m relay team. Following this event, Don’s focus moved from the sprint events to the Pentathlon.

The Pentathlon is made up of five events, discus, long jump, shot put, 400m and 100m. To be successful, an athlete must maintain a balance of strength and speed. Don made the 1996 Atlanta Paralympic team where he finished 4<sup>th</sup>.

Currently on scholarship at the Victorian Institute of Sport Don competed in the Sydney 2000 Paralympic Games where he won bronze in the Pentathlon. At Athens 2004 he again won a Bronze in the same event, achieving a PB and true to his motto, *“If you can’t win, make the person in front break the record”* the two competitors who beat him broke the world record.

Also at Athens 2004, as an emergency replacement, Don won two more medals, a Bronze medal in the 4 x 100m and a Silver in the 4 x 400m Relays.

Don continues to train towards his ultimate goal of being number one in the World in the below knee amputee Pentathlon. In addition to his training schedule and his professional commitments with Australia Post, Don is a regular corporate speaker and highly regarded for his highly entertaining style.

## CLIENT FEEDBACK

*“I have observed Don first hand on a number of occasions and I admire the way in which he can amuse, inspire and challenge his audience. I would have no hesitation in highly recommending Don for any speaking engagement.”*

**Paul Kiteley, Athlete Services Manager, Victorian Institute of Sport**

*“Now you realise why Don is one of our team leaders, a bloody important part of our team”*

**Chris Nunn, Head Coach, Australian Track and Field Team, Sydney 2000 Paralympic Games.**

*“Don is an exceptional and intelligent speaker who draws heavily on his own background and experience as a Paralympic champion to inspire and motivate.”*

**Greg Hartung, President, Australian Paralympic Committee**

*“I have heard many speakers, both professional and ‘hobbyists’ in the twenty-seven years I have been working. Don Elgin is one of only a few speakers who have left me with lasting impressions. Don’s presentation’s are of the highest standard in quantity and quality.”*

**Australia Post**

*“Don gives you the feeling that you can do it – get off your bum and get stuck in.”*

**Deakin University**

*“Fantastic presentation, something that all our students would have benefited from, not just the athletics team”*

**Mentone Girls Grammar**

*“Don is a great communicator with a personable nature that really enthuses his audience. Don has always managed to be able to target his presentation exactly at the audience and get rave reviews, and subsequent bookings afterwards.”*

**Active Approach**

*“Don is a very entertaining and inspirational speaker who appeals to a wide audience. I have received excellent feedback from every speaking engagement that he has performed for us. He adapted his presentations very well depending on the situation and our requirements.”*

**Franklins Ltd**

*“Excellent. Don has a very endearing and approachable manner. He also managed to weave in our conference message into his talk. A very inspiring speaker.”*

**SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals**

*“Excellent. Wonderful speaker, extremely well received.”*

**hoo marketing**

*“Excellent. Most inspirational speaker, he made the night unforgettable.”*

**Marriot Foundation**

*“Don spoke very well and was very entertaining. He has a fantastic story and is a great inspiration and motivator.”*

**ESSO**

*“Excellent. Don Elgin was an excellent choice for our audience of 190 Building Professionals and partners. In tracing the last ten years Don showed that he had courage and determination to succeed. An excellent role model. Thanks Don for an excellent talk.*

**Australian Institute of Building (Victoria)**

*“Don was an outstanding success. His bright, engaging personality, and natural sense of humour meant that staff could relate to him. Don is an ordinary person with an extraordinary story. Don is certainly entertaining, but more than that, he is positively inspirational.”*

**Australia Post**

*“Excellent. Don was very personable, able and willing to deal with people from Director level to young trainees. His performance had the audience in raptures and offered a range of emotions from laughter to poignant comment.*

**Melbourne East Group Training (MEGT)**