



28th Australian Sport Awards Dawn Fraser Award

The Dawn Fraser Award is the preeminent sport award in Australia. Dawn Fraser, who the award is named after, was recognised as one of Australia's greatest female athletes in 1988.

The Dawn Fraser Award introduced by the Confederation of Australian Sport (CAS) is awarded to any athlete who annually meets the following criteria.

- achievements at the highest level in international sport
- international recognition as a sporting champion
- recognition for making a significant contribution to the Australian sporting and/or general community
- availability to the Australian public and supporters and promotion of the Australian culture and character

About Dawn Fraser

Born in Balmain, Sydney in 1937 Dawn began swimming seriously at the age of 16. She competed in her first Olympic Games at the age of 19 and won gold in the 100m, she then went on to win two more gold medals in the 100m at the next two Olympic Games. This made her the first swimmer to win the same event in three consecutive Olympic Games.

Dawn was the first female to swim the 100m in under a minute and had to wait eight years after her retirement, for this record to be broken. Overall, Dawn held thirty nine world records and was the 100m freestyle record-holder for sixteen years from 1956 to 1972. She has won the highest number of Olympic medals in any sport of any male and female Australian, amassing thirty Australian championships, eight Olympic medals (four gold and four silver), eight British Empire and eight Commonwealth Games medals (six gold and two silver).

Dawn, because of her achievements in swimming, has also won an array of awards. She was named Australian of the Year in 1964, made a Member of the Order of the British Empire in 1967 and was awarded with an Order of Australia medal in 1998. Possibly the proudest moment in Dawn's life was when she was named best female swimmer of the century in 1999 by a panel of jurists including International Olympic Committee President, Mr Juan Antonio Samaranch and Prince Albert of Monaco.



Awards Media Partner



Former winners of the Dawn Fraser Award include:

- 2006 Emma Snowsill
- 2005 Grant Hackett
- 2004 Petria Thomas
- 2003 Michael Milton
- 2002 Pat Rafter
- 2001 Sarah Fitz-Gerald
- 2000 Karrie Webb

