

# Victoria University Sport Awards 2025



# Full Blues

1974	John Butkiewicz	Lacrosse	2008	Victor Siciliano	Australian Rules
1980	Larry Sengstock	Basketball	2008	Marinella Salafia	Australian Rules
1983	Tony Dodemaide	Cricket	2008	Rohenna Young	Australian Rules
1983	Campbell Rose	Sailing	2008	Susan Dobson	Badminton
1984	Danny Morseu	Basketball	2008	Luke Farrelly	Baseball
1986	Andrew Gaze	Basketball	2008	Jonathon Kloester	Basketball
1988	Mike McKay	Rowing	2008	Jessica McKenzie	Basketball
1998	Rachael Dacy	Athletics	2008	Alyce Bertola	Basketball
1999	Megan Peters	Athletics	2008	Sher Wei Ng	Golf
1999	Sharyn Mullins	Basketball	2008	Craig Whitehead	Golf
2000	Rebecca Sullivan	Judo	2008	Sallyanne Eaton	Golf
2000	Jacqueline Wozniak	Judo	2008	James Karagiozis	Handball
2000	Skye Anderson	Netball	2008	Jay Abiera	Handball
2000	Ali Abdo	Wrestling	2008	Dennis Iverson	Judo
2001	Benjamin Phibbs	Australian Rules	2008	Amanda Wilson	Netball
2001	Ryan Power	Australian Rules	2008	Stephanie Ng	Taekwondo
2001	Hayley Blackburn	Basketball	2008	Tarren Otte	Synchronized Swimming
2001	Jemma Anderson	Basketball	2008	Daniela Di Toro	Wheelchair Tennis
2001	Melissa McCauley	Netball	2009	Patrick McGrath	Australian Rules
2001	Tumay Hamza	Taekwondo	2009	James Molony	Australian Rules
2001	Micah Venturini	Volleyball	2009	Tess McEvoy	Australian Rules
2002	Luke Doerner	Hockey	2009	Norieul Kinross	Australian Rules
2002	Scott Smithwick	Australian Rules	2009	Eugenia Tsiakalakis	Australian Rules
2002	Ana Marinovic	Basketball	2009	Chantal Mardini	Australian Rules
2002	Caryn Manley	Basketball	2009	Panagos Apostolikas	Football
2002	Elizabeth Williams	Cycling	2009	Joshua D'Alessi	Football
2002	Sarah Harding	Kendo	2009	Emma Fonua	Football
2002	Melissa Diston	Netball	2009	Michael Patrovski	Football
2002	Ellen Steele	Swimming	2009	Myriad Bartlett	Football
2002	Marie-Lizza Danila	Swimming	2009	Katherine Sylvester	Kendo
2002	Kevin Anderson	Taekwondo	2009	Olivia Cameron	Netball
2003	Mohamad Zeed	Athletics	2009	Chilhoon Kim	Taekwondo
2003	Michael Hooper	Australian Rules	2010	Jarrold Gilchrist	Waterpolo
2003	Katie Rossiter	Netball	2010	Angelica Gogos	Australian Rules
2003	Victoria Graham	Snowboarding	2010	Ashleigh Guest	Australian Rules
2004	Jessica Shearing	Basketball	2010	Stephen O'Bryan	Australian Rules
2004	Belinda Griffiths	Handball	2010	Sinead Flanagan	Baseball
2004	Lachlan Anderson	Hockey	2010	Rachel McGeown	Basketball
2004	Charlotte O'Loughlin	Rowing	2010	Katie Shanahan	Basketball
2004	Elizabeth Dwyer	Rowing	2010	Elyse Villani	Cricket
2004	Rebecca O'Loughlin	Rowing	2010	Ashleigh Bourke	Football
2004	Steven Manceski	Soccer	2010	James Burridge	Netball
2004	Brett Manzella	Soccer	2010	Kate McCalmun	Netball
2004	Peter Siveski	Soccer	2010	Leah Dougherty	Sport Aerobics
2005	Constantine Dokolas	Soccer	2010	Luke Sims	Squash
2005	Leah Percy	Touch	2010	Sanghun Han	Taekwondo
2006	Kevin Conlong	Golf	2010	Daehwi Choi	Taekwondo
2006	Stacey Keating	Golf	2010	Jaeung Choi	Taekwondo
2006	Alisha Fowler	Golf	2010	Keunman Park	Taekwondo
2006	Benjamin Ferrif	Golf	2010	Gene Kapaufs	Wrestling
2006	Anthony Fulton	Australian Rules	2010	Mehrdad Tarash	Wrestling
2006	Ashlee Depetro	Netball	2010	Sam Zonca	Volleyball
2006	Casey Price	Netball	2011	Hannah Ibrahim	Australian Rules
2006	Mickayla Ward	Netball	2011	Nicola Stevens	Australian Rules
2006	Gerard Murphy	Netball	2011	Mark Peduto	Australian Rules
2006	Stefan Beuke	Soccer	2011	Josh Pound	Australian Rules
2006	Chad Timmermans	Snowboard	2011	Susan Sears	Beach Volleyball
2007	Julie Corletto	Netball	2011	Ivo Dos Santos	Judo
2007	Danielle Stewart	Netball	2011	Jessica Harrington	Netball
2007	James Matthews	Netball	2012	Prabhjot Rai	Athletics - Field
2007	Catherine Atkinson	Netball	2012	Julia Baker	Australian Rules
2007	Leigh Howlett	Trampolining	2012	John Kyprianou	Australian Rules
2007	Erin Carroll	Badminton	2012	Mitchell Pearce	Australian Rules
2007	Tania Luiz	Badminton	2012	Kane Twentyman	Australian Rules
2007	Emily Riordan	Hockey	2012	Ross Smith	Badminton
2008	Liam Adams	Athletics	2012	Renuga Veeran	Badminton
2008	Liam Adams	Cross Country	2012	Jeremiah Juric	Basketball
2008	Liam Adams	Distance running	2012	Nicole McMahon	Basketball
			2012	Benjamin Glynn	Beach Volleyball
			2012	Amanda Yew	Cheer
			2012	Natalie Commons	Cheer
			2012	Julie Hunter	Cricket
			2012	Matthew Gaité	Handball

2012	Nikola Kupres	Handball	2017	Paige Hill	Artistic Rollerskating
2012	Sara Collins	Judo	2017	Sarah-Rae Slater	Basketball
2012	Hannah Trotter	Judo	2017	Maeve Coughlan	Judo
2012	Tayissa Coppinger	Netball	2017	Monique Clark	Netball
2012	Seda Demirkiran	Taekwondo	2017	Emily Rogers	Synchronised Swimming
2012	Shannon Kincade	Taekwondo	2017	Bailey Lewis	Taekwondo
2012	Gregory Farrell	Triathlon	2017	Shereden Hesketh	Tenpin Bowling
2012	Greta Stefula	Volleyball	2018	Douglas Crawford	Alpine Skiing
2012	Jacinta Carroll	Waterski	2018	Maria Strong	Athletics
2013	Alwyn Jones	Athletics	2018	Mitchell Dielemans	Basketball
2013	Alex Benbow	Australian Rules	2018	Kristy Harris	Boxing
2013	Ben Clifton	Australian Rules	2018	Georgia Powning	Distance Running
2013	Alex Bogart-King	Basketball	2018	Carlo Manolitsas	Distance Running
2013	Shane Crick	Basketball	2018	Harry Mezger	Distance Running
2013	Casey Wright	Cross Country Skiing	2018	Montana Whiteley	Distance Running
2013	Mark Varkopoulos	Football	2018	Craig Payne	Dodgeball
2013	Karina Lingner	Handball	2018	Craig Hagan	Dragon Boat
2013	David Webster	Rowing	2018	Edward Murphy Brown	Football
2013	Keisuke Yamada	Rugby	2018	Liam Park	Judo
2013	Miao Miao	Table Tennis	2018	Madison Wilson	Canoe
2013	Minseung Choi	Taekwondo	2018	Jake Noonan	Netball
2013	Sascha Bondarenko-Edwards	Triathlon	2018	Luke Marko Rawlings	Netball
2013	Brendan Ashcroft	Ultimate	2018	Sarah Szczykowski	Netball
2013	Trent O'Dea	Volleyball	2018	Charmaine Murphy	Tenpin Bowling
2013	Ella Sablijak	Wheelchair Basketball	2018	Edward Murphy	Tenpin Bowling
2013	Josh Hose	Wheelchair Rugby	2019	Alana Park	Triathlon
2014	Ellen Pettitt	Athletics	2019	Shanie Landen	Athletics
2014	Michael Robertson	Australian Rules	2019	Jake Perry	Athletics
2014	Gronya Somerville	Badminton	2019	Jackson Macrae	Australian Rules
2014	Eren Yondemli	Basketball	2019	Evie Patterson	Basketball
2014	Jessica Francke	Basketball	2019	Andre Ascui	Cycling
2014	Ashleigh Gunn	Basketball	2019	Chloe Turner	Cycling
2014	Brea Roadley	Canoe Kayak	2019	Harry Mezger	Cycling
2014	Nathaniel Fox	Football	2019	Julian Ursini	Cycling
2014	Tamara Elshaar	Netball	2019	Montana Whiteley	Cycling
2014	Sally Portbury	Netball	2019	Carlo Manolitsas	Cycling
2014	Jackson Harrison	Rowing	2019	Georgia Powning	Cycling
2014	Lauren Staveley	Snowboarding	2019	Georgia Powning	Track and Field
2014	Kotuku Ngawati	Swimming	2019	Shannon Barnes	Floorball
2014	David Powell	Table Tennis	2019	Vanessa Augustini	Netball
2014	Jiheon An	Taekwondo	2019	Ella Bertacchini	Netball
2014	Solyi Im	Taekwondo	2019	Tayla Nolte	Taekwondo
2015	Nikki Spencer	Basketball	2022	Jack Hale	Athletics
2015	Liam McInerney	Basketball	2022	Erik Kafritsas	Basketball
2015	Frank Barilla	Football	2022	Myra Wood	Basketball
2015	Masih Safi	Football	2022	Eleanor Bolland	Basketball
2015	Vani Shamoan	Football	2022	Ebony Sans	Basketball
2015	Beau Summers	Football	2022	Tegan Hindle	Basketball
2015	Madison Tormey	Beach Volleyball	2022	Sophie Molineux	Cricket
2015	Alex Welsh	Para - Cycling	2022	Steve Obeid	Cricket
2015	Todd Hodgetts OAM	Athletics - Shot Put	2022	Maxi Shanahan	Football
2015	Aoife Coughlan	Judo	2022	Madeleine Wright	Indoor Cricket
2015	Eoin Coughlan	Judo	2022	Noah Nightingale	Judo
2015	Lauren Scherf	Basketball	2022	Ryley Rametta	Judo
2015	Angus Robinson	Mountainbike Orienteering	2022	Danny Vojnakovic	Judo
2015	Azizulhasni Awang	Track Cycling	2022	Ben De Bortoli	Karate
2015	Clare Cherry	Weightlifting	2022	Max Noble	Karate
2015	Michael Ridley	Ultimate	2022	Rron Govori	Lacrosse
2016	Kaitlyn Wakartschuk	Basketball	2022	Michael Davis	Shooting
2016	Jack Saunders	Basketball	2022	Manar Mahfouz	Swimming
2016	Nicolas Gonzalez	Football	2023	Millie Bongiorno	Alpine Snowboard
2016	Brayden Pastore	Netball	2023	Liam Cashin	Athletics
2016	Jaeyheok Lee	Taekwondo	2023	Matias Gonzalez	Football
2016	Lauren Camilleri	Boxing	2023	Ronaldino Salvatore	Football
2016	Daniel Bailey	Cheerleading	2023	Leon Sejanovic	Taekwondo
2016	Casey Morrison	Cheerleading	2023	Sarah Upton	Taekwondo
2016	Sergei Evglevski	Shooting (Pistol)	2024	Darcy Beer	Beach Volleyball
2016	Phong Tran	Taekwondo	2024	David Hammersley	Beach Volleyball
2016	Jack Murphy	Triathlon	2024	Riley Galea	Canoe Kayak
2016	Dion Finocchiaro	Ultra Marathon	2024	Bianca Puglisi	Cross Country
2016	Noah Jenney	Lacrosse	2024	Saffron Canny-Smith	Short Track Speed Skating
2016	Jack Saunders	Basketball			
2017	Harry Laidlaw	Alpine Skiing			

# Acknowledgement of country

Victoria University (VU) acknowledges the Elders, families and forebearers of the Boonwurrung, Woiwurrung (Wurundjeri) and Wathaurung (Wadawurrung) who are the custodians of University land and have been for many centuries.

We acknowledge that the land on which we stand is the place of age-old ceremonies of celebration, initiation and renewal, and that the Kulin people's living culture had, and has, a unique role in the life of this region. VU supports the aim of Reconciliation Australia to build better relationships between the wider Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples for the benefit of all Australians.



Artist: Paola Balla, Moondani Balluk, 2017



# Wominjeka | Welcome

On behalf of VU Sport, it is our pleasure to welcome you to the 22nd Annual Victoria University Sport Awards. Tonight, we honour and celebrate excellence, the defining quality of our student-athletes, teams, and VU sporting community. Congratulations to all of you on your achievements and contributions that together have made 2025 an outstanding success.

To our Team VU Vultures, it was an incredible honour to serve as your Team Captains at the UniSport Australia Nationals in 2025. Not only was this one of our most successful Nationals to date, but it was also a testament to the pride we all take in representing VU. Witnessing the entire team come together with such dedication and spirit truly embodied our “Vulture Culture.” From the exceptional achievements of our elite student-athletes to the unwavering support from the entire VU community, this year was about so much more than just competition.

Congratulations to all award nominees and winners of the awards tonight—your remarkable efforts have set a high standard, we look forward to celebrating with you and to the even greater successes to come in the year ahead.



**Matias Gonzalez**  
University Team Captain



**Alannah Raniolo**  
University Team Captain

Victoria University continues to stand as a global leader in sport, offering one of Australia’s most comprehensive tertiary education ecosystem for health, sport, and active living. Our proud tradition of sporting excellence shines through—whether competing on the world stage at major international events or competing for VU at university and national championships.

This year, our elite student-athletes continued to inspire on the national and international stage. While VU teams and individuals competed with distinction embodying the VU spirit across UniSport Australia Nationals, leagues, and inter-varsity tournaments. These fabulous on field performances would not be possible without the unwavering support provided by family, friends and support programs that have combined to shape these incredible athlete journeys.

Tonight, we honour and celebrate exceptional athletic achievement and also acknowledge the invaluable contributions of support that include, student team managers, coaches, and volunteer committee members. Your commitment and contributions have formed the foundation of our vibrant sporting community and continue to ensure VU leads as a thriving place to study and work.

Sport creates lifelong memories, and we hope tonight adds to those cherished moments for you, as we reflect on the triumphs of 2025 and look forward to an exciting future for sport at Victoria University. For those completing studies this year, we encourage you to stay engaged through future Sport Awards and the VU Alumni network.

Thank you for joining us for what promises to be a great night of celebration.

**Scott Cashmere**  
Manager - Sport Services

**James Nightingale**  
Director - VU Sport

# Representative sport history

Competitive sport involving Australian universities has a long and proud tradition with competitions in Rowing, Rugby, Athletics and Australian Rules dating back to the late 19th century. More recently national and regional College of Advanced Education (CAE) competitions were established in the early 1970s and conducted up to 1992. With the merger of the university and college sectors in the early 1990's the number of universities and students involved increased dramatically. In recent times Australian universities have competed in a range of national championships in over forty team and individual sports at national and regional University Games and championships. Australia is also an active member of FISU, the body governing international university sport, and is represented in World University Games (Universiades) and Championships.

In 2018, Australian University Games transitioned to a divisional, national championship model. The Nationals are comprised of two flagship events, the UniSport Nationals Div 1 and 2, and a number of standalone competitions throughout the year, including Nationals Snow, Indigenous Nationals, T20 cricket, 3x3 basketball, triathlon, and others. UniSport Nationals provide quality and spirited competition attracting increasingly competitive individuals and teams and the opportunity for students to meet people across campuses and colleges of VU and all over Australia. Victoria University has a proud record of performance at University Championships, 2025 has seen another outstanding year of student sporting achievements and we look forward to seeing what success 2026 brings.

## Championships

<b>1997</b>	Australian Rules - Men	AUG Melbourne	<b>2010</b>	Netball - Women (Div 2)	AUG Perth
<b>1997</b>	Diving	AUG Melbourne	<b>2011</b>	Basketball - Men (Div 2)	AUG Gold Coast
<b>1998</b>	Australian Rules - Men	AUG Melbourne	<b>2012</b>	Handball - Mixed (Div 2)	AUG Adelaide
<b>2000</b>	Netball - Women	AUG Ballarat	<b>2012</b>	Judo - Women	AUG Adelaide
<b>2004</b>	Soccer - Men	AUG Perth	<b>2012</b>	Taekwondo - Women	AUG Adelaide
<b>2005</b>	Golf - Women	AUC Perth	<b>2013</b>	Tennis - Men (Div 2)	AUG Gold Coast
<b>2006</b>	Netball - Women	AUG Adelaide	<b>2014</b>	Basketball - Men (Div 2)	AUG Sydney
<b>2008</b>	Netball - Mixed	AUG Melbourne	<b>2018</b>	Basketball - Men	Nationals Div 1 Gold Coast
<b>2008</b>	Golf - Men	AUG Melbourne	<b>2019</b>	Football - Men	Nationals Div 2 Gold Coast
<b>2010</b>	Australian Rules - Women	AUG Perth	<b>2022</b>	Basketball - Women	Nationals Div 1 Perth
<b>2010</b>	Netball - Mixed	AUG Perth	<b>2024</b>	3x3 Basketball - Men	Nationals Div 2 Sunshine Coast











# 2025 Representative Sport

In 2025, Victoria University's representative sport program continued to build on its strong foundations, with student athletes showcasing exceptional commitment, teamwork, and the hallmark Vulture culture across a wide range of intervarsity and national competitions.

The year began with participation in several UniSport national championship events, including Athletics Nationals (April, Gold Coast, QLD), Swimming Nationals (May, Sydney, NSW), Triathlon (May, Wollongong, NSW), Indigenous Nationals (June, Perth, WA), and Cross Country (August, Ballarat, VIC). Notably, Charlotte Jackson secured a silver medal in the U20 6km event, at the Cross-Country Nationals Championships.

VU teams also took part in several state-based intervarsity competitions, strengthening local rivalries and providing valuable competitive experience throughout the year. Highlights included participation in the Victoria Regional IV Series, featuring Mixed Lacrosse 5s and Mixed AFL 9s, as well as the Southern Shield Netball Tournament, where VU athletes demonstrated strong teamwork, sportsmanship, and pride in representing the university in their home state.

Three teams represented VU at the 3x3 Basketball Championships hosted by Monash University. This competition served as a valuable opportunity for our new teams to compete together before the University Basketball League (UBL) season commenced. The UBL shifted to Semester 2 in 2025, featuring interstate matchups against the University of Sunshine Coast and the University of Newcastle. With many athletes graduating out in 2024, both the men's and women's teams entered a rebuilding phase. Despite fielding largely new rosters, the squads demonstrated resilience, growth, and a strong commitment to development throughout a competitive season.

At the 2025 UniSport Nationals on the Gold Coast in late September, 80 students proudly represented VU under the leadership of captains Matias Gonzalez and Alannah Ranolio. Teams competed across Men's and Women's Basketball, AFL 9s Mixed, Men's Football, and both Mixed and Women's Netball, alongside individual competitors in Men's Golf and Women's Taekwondo. A standout individual performance came from Sarah Upton, an elite taekwondo athlete and Bachelor of Paramedicine student, who claimed gold for the third consecutive year in her division of Taekwondo Poomsae — an extraordinary achievement that continues to exemplify the excellence and dedication of VU's student athletes.



# Victoria University's Elite Sport and Performer Program (ESPP)

2025 was a big year for Victoria University's Elite Sport and Performer Program (ESPP), which got a fresh new look to better reflect the incredible talent across our university. The program now goes beyond elite athletes to include top coaches, officials, and performers—welcoming an AFL umpire, a stuntman, and an opera singer, among many other standout sportspeople and artists.

**Bianca Puglisi** and **Fred Pace** proudly represented Australia and VU at the 2025 Summer World University Games in Rhine-Ruhr, Germany. Bianca took on the Half-Marathon with grit and determination, while Fred showed off his skills in Taekwondo. Their efforts on this global stage, hosted by the International University Sports Federation (FISU), were a proud moment for the whole uni.

At Uni Nationals, our athletes kept the momentum going. **Sarah Upton** took home gold in Taekwondo Poomsae for the third year in a row, showing incredible consistency and talent. First-year student **Charlotte Jackson** made a strong debut, picking up silver in the Women's U20 6km event. Uni Nationals remains Australia's biggest university sports competition, and our students continue to rise to the occasion.

Outside of uni competitions, VU athletes made their mark across a range of sports. **Karla Heric** competed at the World Cheerleading Championships in Florida in the Level 6 Non-Tumbling Division, representing Australia with flair. **Xavier Huxtable** turned heads at the Rip Curl Pro at Bells Beach, beating the world No.1. **Millie Bongiorno**, Australia's top female Alpine Snowboarder, had a standout year — competing on the World Cup tour, representing Australia at the World Championships, and winning gold at the Nor-Am Cup in the US. **Riley Galea** represented Australia at the 2025 ICF U23 World Canoe Championships in France, 2025 ICF World Cup in Slovenia and 2025 ICF World Cup in Germany.

On the national scene, **Blake Cachia** helped the U23 Victorian Team go undefeated and win gold at the Australian Men's and Mixed Netball Championships. **Rhys Davey** made waves at the Rowing Australia National Championships, winning gold in the Under 19 Men's Quad Scull and becoming a national champion with his crew. **Georgia Taylor** represented Victoria at the 2025 U18, U21 and Open Indoor Hockey Championships, where she co-captained the U18 team, finished as the top goal scorer, and helped secure a bronze medal. **James Lodge** made his debut in the Porsche Michelin Sprint Challenge with Ashley Seward Motorsport, landing five podiums. **Oscar Mugerwa** showed incredible versatility, reaching national level in both basketball and rowing.

Our professional athletes also had a big year. **Ellie Blackburn**, Western Bulldogs AFLW games record holder, was named one of the 25 Greatest Bulldogs of the past century — the only woman on the list. **Billy Crofts** was named Western Bulldogs VFL Best and Fairest, made the VFL Team of the Year, and helped secure the 2025 VFL Grand Final win. **Nicole Faltum** lifted the Big Bash League trophy with the Melbourne Renegades, and alum **Mel Sambrooks** made history as the first female boundary umpire to officiate a men's AFL match.

With 2026 just around the corner, we can't wait to see what our incredible students do next as we look ahead to the Milano Cortina Winter Olympics and the Glasgow Commonwealth Games.



Picture: Billy Crofts, Oscar Mugerwa & Georgia Taylor



# Excellence, equity and opportunity across high performance

Supporting and celebrating elite sportspersons for 30+ years. Endorsed member of the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) Elite Sport Education Network (formerly Elite Athlete Friendly University Network) since 2005.

## 475+

students supported for the duration of their studies

## 283

Full Blues awarded, recognising outstanding performances

## 20

Sport Hall of Fame inductees

## 2025 snapshot:

### 120+

students at national, international, professional levels

### 42

courses of study - TAFE Certificate to PhD

### 60%

women

### 47

sports & disciplines

### 5

campuses

Elite Student Athlete  
Bianca Puglisi



# 2025 Victoria University Sport Awards

The University's Sport Awards is managed by VU Sport, which offers students a diverse range of opportunities. These include access to sporting clubs, representative teams, support services for elite sportspersons and performers, social sport programs and the management of sport and fitness facilities.

## The Sport Awards system endeavours to:

- ◆ Recognise and reward the outstanding sporting achievement of individual students representing the University
- ◆ Encourage students to represent the University and improve the overall performance at national competitions
- ◆ Recognise and reward the outstanding sporting achievement of individual students representing state or country
- ◆ Strengthen and further develop University sport clubs
- ◆ Increase awareness of sporting opportunities

## The Sport Awards Committee meet each year to consider nominations for the following awards:

### BLUES & HALF BLUES

Awarded for outstanding performance representing the University at regional and national championships. Australian selection at World University Games and Championships. World Championship, Olympic or Commonwealth Games selection. Outstanding performance at state, national or international levels.

### SERVICE AWARDS

Awarded to individuals who have provided outstanding service to the development and maintenance of sporting clubs and representative teams of the University (students and non students).

### COLOURS

Awarded to each student who represented the University in a medal winning team at an Australian University Championship.

### SPORTS TEAM OF THE YEAR

Awarded for outstanding team achievement at an Australian University Championship for that year.

### SPORT CLUB OF THE YEAR

Awarded to the club that has achieved significant success and improvement. Delivered outstanding participation, performance and/or development outcomes and demonstrated an inclusive and positive club culture.

### OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

Awarded to members of the VU community (student, staff, alumni or other individuals) who have shown outstanding service to sport at the University as either a player, coach, volunteer and/or administrator.

### CLUB COMPETITOR AWARD

Where a student has rendered exceptional sporting service to a University club in that they have won the senior best player award and polled in top 10 of association best player award.

### RISING STAR AWARD

Awarded to a student in their first year of study considered to have achieved outstanding sporting performance with great potential for future success in their sport.

### SPORTS PERSON OF THE YEAR

Awarded to the best performed student for that year (male and female).

### JACINTA CARROLL ACADEMIC AND SPORTING EXCELLENCE AWARD

Where a student has achieved outstanding performance both sporting and academically.

### HALL OF FAME

Where a Full Blue holder has achieved outstanding sustained performance in sport, completed studies at Victoria University and has retired from elite level sport.



**Elite Student Athlete**  
James Lodge





**Elite Student Athlete**  
Karla Heric







# Order of proceedings

6pm	Pre - Awards Hors D'oeuvres
6:30pm	Victoria University Sport Awards Presentation
	Opening of Proceedings Welcome
	Individual Awards Blues
	Team Service Awards Club Competitor Award Outstanding Service Award
	Student Athlete Panel
	Rising Star Award Jacinta Carroll Academic and Sporting Excellence Award Sports Person of the Year Female Male
	Sport Hall of Fame Citation and Induction
8pm	Food and refreshments

# Victoria University

## Sport Awards recipients

### Blues

Ellie Blackburn	Full Blue	Australian Rules	2025
Mayuol Makuac	Full Blue	Basketball	2025
Karla Heric	Full Blue	Cheerleading	2025
Bianca Puglisi	Full Blue	Half Marathon	2025
Blake Cachia	Full Blue	Netball	2025
Charlotte Jackson	Half Blue	Cross Country	2025
Nicole Faltum	Half Blue	Cricket	2025
Tess Flintoff	Half Blue	Cricket	2025
Tayla Vlaeminck	Half Blue	Cricket	2025
Georgia Taylor	Half Blue	Hockey	2025
Oscar Mugerwa	Half Blue	Para Rowing & Basketball	2025
Rhys Davey	Half Blue	Rowing	2025
Michael Douch	Half Blue	Kendo	2024
Xavier Huxtable	Half Blue	Surfing	2024

### Team Service

Casidhe Green	Service	2025
Hamish Inglis	Service	2025



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## **Rising Star Award**

James Lodge – Race Car Driving

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## **Jacinta Carroll Academic and Sporting Excellence**

Georgia Taylor – Hockey

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## **Outstanding Service Award**

Rocco Papalia

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## **Club Competitor Award**

Billy Crofts – Australian Rules

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## **Sports Person of the Year**

Female: Millie Bongiorno – Alpine Snowboarding

Male: Oscar Mugerwa – Para Rowing & Basketball

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## **Hall of Fame**

Brendan Joyce – Basketball

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# Victoria University Sport Hall of Fame

<b>2024</b>	Jacinta Carroll	Waterskiing
<b>2023</b>	Elle Steele	Para Swimming
<b>2022</b>	Josh Hose OAM	Wheelchair Rugby
<b>2019</b>	Miao Miao	Table Tennis
<b>2018</b>	Ali Abdo	Wrestling
<b>2017</b>	Mel Jones OAM	Cricket
<b>2016</b>	Kelvin Templeton	Australian Rules
<b>2015</b>	Julie Corletto	Netball
<b>2014</b>	John Butkiewicz	Lacrosse
<b>2013</b>	Luke Doerner	Hockey
<b>2012</b>	Tony Dodemaide OAM	Cricket
<b>2011</b>	Brad Johnson	Australian Rules
<b>2010</b>	Peter Thomson AO CBE	Golf
<b>2008</b>	Rachael Dacy	Pole Vault
<b>2007</b>	Danny Morseu	Basketball
<b>2006</b>	Campbell Rose	Sailing
<b>2005</b>	Larry Sengstock	Basketball
<b>2004</b>	Rebecca Sullivan	Judo
<b>2003</b>	Mike McKay OAM	Rowing
<b>2002</b>	Andrew Gaze AM	Basketball



VU Sport Hall of Fame  
Jacinta Carroll – Waterskiing









# 2025 Sport Hall of Fame Inductee

## Brendan Joyce Basketball

### International representation

- ◆ 2013 - 2016 Head Coach Australian Opals
- ◆ 2001 - 2008 Assistant Coach Australian Boomers
- ◆ 2016 Olympic Games Rio Australian Opals 5th (5W & 1 L)
- ◆ 2014 FIBA World Championship Turkey Australian Opals - Bronze Medal (5W & 1L)
- ◆ 2013 & 2015 FIBA Oceania Australian Opals - Gold Medals
- ◆ 2008 Olympic Games Beijing Australian Boomers - 7th
- ◆ 2004 Olympic Games Athens Australian Boomers - 9th
- ◆ 2003 FIBA Oceania Championship Gold Medal
- ◆ 2006 FIBA World Championship Japan
- ◆ 2006 Commonwealth Games Australian Boomers Assistant Coach - Gold Medal

### 2013 - 2016 Head of Basketball Women Program – AIS / Centre of Excellence

- ◆ 2016 FIBA World Cup Spain Australian Sapphires U17 - Gold Medal
- ◆ 2015 FIBA World Cup Russia Australian Gems U19 - Bronze Medal
- ◆ 2014 FIBA World Championship Turkey Australian Opals - Bronze Medal

### International League Coaching

- ◆ 2021 - 2024 T1 - Taiwan Professional League
- ◆ 2022 Championship Head Coach Kaohsiung Aquas
- ◆ 2022 Coach of the Year
- ◆ 2023 Taiwan T1League Allstars Head Coach

### Australian National Basketball League (NBL)

- ◆ Coached more than 400 NBL games, Wollongong Hawks, Gold Coast Blaze
- ◆ 9 x NBL Finals
- ◆ 7 x NBL Final 4 - NBL Runner Up 2005
- ◆ NBL Championship Coach 2001 Wollongong Hawks
- ◆ 2 x NBL Coach of the Year 1999 and 2001
- ◆ 2 x NBL Coach of the Year 2005 and 2008
- ◆ NBL Allstars Head Coach 2005

### Playing Career:

#### National Recognition

- ◆ Australian Boomers Squad member (1981/1982/1988)
- ◆ Australian U23 Captain (1981)
- ◆ Australian U20 team (1978-79)

#### National Basketball League

- ◆ 289 NBL games - Nunawading Spectres, Westside Melbourne Saints, Brisbane Bullets
- ◆ 2 x NBL Allstar Player 1988 & 1989
- ◆ Captain 2 x NBL teams - Nunawading Spectres, Westside Melbourne Saints
- ◆ Played NBL final series eight times
- ◆ NBL Runner Up 1981
- ◆ Avg 10 points per games, 6 assists, 4 rebounds, 2 steals
- ◆ Career high 30 points vs Melbourne Tigers
- ◆ Career high 19 assists vs Sydney Kings 1985
- ◆ Career high 8 x 3 point shots made vs Hobart 1990
- ◆ Winner of Most Assists 1988 4 x Runner Up

#### Victoria University Recognition

- ◆ 2016 Centenary Hoadley Medal Recipient
- ◆ 2016 Distinguished Alumni Award Finalist

#### Victoria University

(Footscray Institute of Technology)

- ◆ 1987 Bachelor of Arts Recreation

**Elite Student Athlete**  
Riley Galea







# Thank you

**Sport Awards Committee:**

- ◆ Liam Adams
- ◆ Kevin Ball
- ◆ Scott Cashmere
- ◆ Matias Gonzalez
- ◆ Jessica Harrington
- ◆ Julz Nannetti
- ◆ James Nightingale
- ◆ Alannah Raniolo
- ◆ Michaela Petronio
- ◆ Alison Whan
- ◆ Rohenna Young

**2025 competitors, coaches  
and Team Managers**

**Representative Sport  
Management Team:**

- ◆ Rohenna Young
- ◆ Julz Nannetti
- ◆ Yoshi Yamada
- ◆ Rachael Cullen
- ◆ Casidhe Green
- ◆ Matias Gonzalez
- ◆ Alannah Raniolo

**Executive:**

- ◆ Vice-Chancellor  
and President  
Professor Adam  
Shoemaker
- ◆ Deputy Vice-Chancellor  
External Relations and  
Partnerships  
The Honourable Wade  
Noonan

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## SSAF FUNDED

**Supporting Representative, Club and Campus  
Sport programs to enhance the student  
experience.**





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