

IAN MILLS

RICHMOND (VIC)

222 CAPS, 1964-1976

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Ian Mills from the Richmond club in Melbourne represented Australia in two Olympic Games that were twelve years apart, Tokyo (1964) and in Montreal (1976). He was also a member of the Australian team at the first two World Championships in Belgrade (1973), and Cali (1975) and accrued a total of 222 Australian caps.

'Millsy' could very well have been a four-time Olympian as he was a member of the ill-fated Australian team that were denied entry to the Mexico City Games in 1968. Then in 1972, candidates for Australian team selection were warned that there would be no break between the lengthy pre-Games tour and the Munich Olympic Games. Although he was a certainty for selection, he withdrew for business reasons, but some players broke the tour and returned to Australia regardless!

He was also a long-standing representative for Victoria, being selected continuously from 1962 to 1980 and as captain for the latter eight years. He won six national titles with Victoria during that remarkable span. Ian Mills was an excellent defender, good in counter attacks and was brilliant tactician.