

# DAVID NEESHAM

## MELVILLE (WA)

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GOLD MEDALLIST (COACH) - FINA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP, SYDNEY (1995)  
BRONZE MEDALLIST (COACH) - FINA WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS PERTH (1998)  
BRONZE MEDALLIST (COACH) - FINA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP, NANCY (1997)



David Neesham originally represented the Melville Club of Perth but spent 1970 and 1971 in Canberra where he became the first ever member of the NSW team to represent a country region. He was a prominent member of the Australian Team at Munich (1972) and Captain of the Montreal (1976) and Moscow (1980) Olympic Water Polo Teams. David could very well have been a four time Olympian as he was yet another member of the ill-fated Australian team that was denied entry to the Mexico City Games in 1968. He also competed in three World Championships in Belgrade (1973), Cali (1975) and Berlin (1978) as Captain, accruing 288 caps for Australia.

He was the complete player, a brilliant defender particularly at centre back and an outstanding attacker with an excellent shot to finish.

David also played in over 10 interstate games for both WA and NSW over 15 consecutive national championships, which spanned from 1966 to 1980, winning two national titles with NSW (1970, 1971) and two with WA (1969, 1976).

Upon his retirement as a player he immediately assumed the WA coaching role from 1981 to 1982 and picked up the reins again from 1987 to 1989, capturing a fifth national title for WA in 1987. David took on the coaching mantle again from 1995 to 1998 as Australian Women's Head Coach and captured a World Cup gold and two other bronze medals. Seven years later he also coached the Australian Men's Team from 2005 to 2007.