David Woods

Balmain (NSW)

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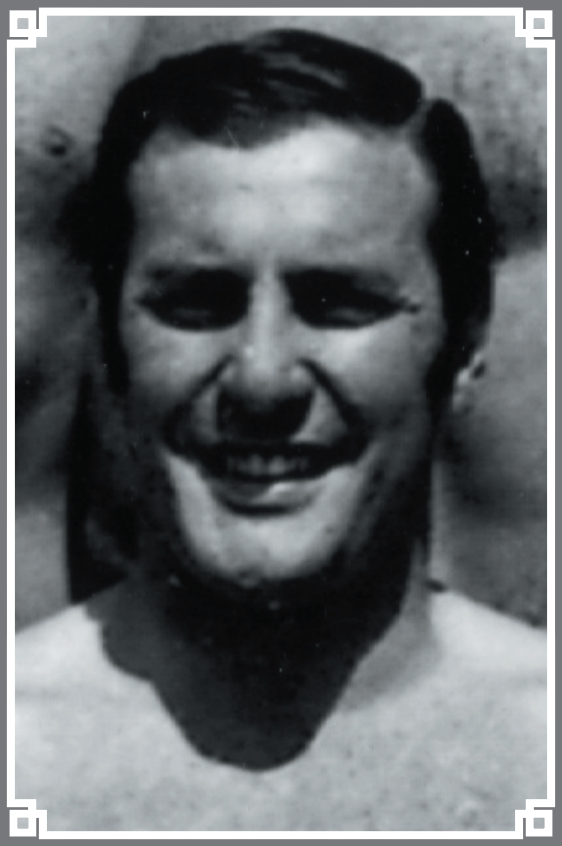
Silver Medallist (Coach) - FINA Women's World Cup - Long Beach (1991)



Playing for the Balmain Club in Sydney, David Woods was selected for ten straight years for his country between 1967 and 1976, during which time he played 219 matches for Australia.

He was a dominant figure with his overwhelming stature and amazing dexterity in the water. Broad shouldered and tall at 195cm he was an extremely fast swimmer. He played in two Olympic Games at Munich (1972) and Montreal (1976), and a further two World Championships at Belgrade (1973) and Cali (1975) as captain.

He could very well have been a three time Olympian as he was a member of the ill-fated Australian team that was denied entry to the Mexico City Games in 1968. On the State level "Woodsy" played 130 games for NSW and under his captaincy the Blues won five Australian Championships in a nine year period from 1966 to 1975.

At the 1967 Championships he scored a record 43 goals and was voted into the NSW Sporting Hall of Fame, David also represented NSW at swimming and Sydney at rugby union, playing for Drummoyne from 1966 to 1971. He was also a successful surfer from the Freshwater Club, and showed outstanding potential as a rower. He was the Captain / Coach of NSW from 1969 to 1972 and Coach from 1978 to 1980, winning five from seven national championships as coach. He was the Australian Men's Coach in 1981 and Women's Head Coach from 1991 to 1994, gaining a silver medal at the FINA Women's World Cup at Long Beach (1991).

David was Chairman of New South Wales Water Polo Inc from 1998 to 1996 and has been President from 1996/97 a role currently still held; David is a Life Member of NSWWPI.
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