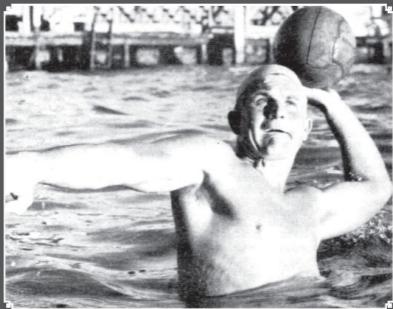


# TOM HOAD

MELVILLE (WA)



Tom Hoad represented the Melville club of Perth and in his inaugural year in the West Australian State team, helped take out the national title for WA under Hungarian player/coach Anton Bolvari. He was an integral member of the Australian Olympic team in Rome (1960) and was elected captain thereafter at the Tokyo (1964) and Munich (1972) Olympic water polo tournaments. He was also a member of the 1965 Australian team, which defeated a number of national teams for the first time in a record 56 match tour of Europe, accruing 185 caps throughout a 12-year career with the Australian team. Tom could very well have been a four-time Olympian when he was selected captain of the ill-fated Australian team that was denied entry to the Mexico City Games in 1968. Throughout his playing career Tom also played in over 106 interstate games which spanned 13 National Championships from 1959 to 1972. He was an essential component of the West Australian side being selected captain from 1963 and capturing two more national titles in 1964 and 1969. Tom possessed a superb left hand shot, including a deceptive lob and was very fast in explosive drives. Not content to allow his knowledge of the game to just slip away, he took on the Australian coaching role from 1976 to 1983, except for a one year break in 1981. As coach he accrued an additional 457 caps and under his leadership Australia finished 11th in Montreal (1976), 7th in Moscow (1980) and 5th in Los Angeles (1984). More recently, Tom coached the Fremantle Mariners to three National League titles in 1998, 2000 and 2001 out of an unprecedented nine consecutive NWPL grand-final appearances. Tom also served on the FINA Technical Water Polo Committee and was Chairman of the 1998 World Swimming Championships in Perth. Photo - AAWPA Archives.