



National
**ABORIGINAL &
TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER**
Sports Awards
~2023~
A Celebration of our Stars

Celebrating Indigenous Sporting Brilliance: The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sports Awards Returns After a 20-year Hiatus

Melbourne, Victoria – 26 October 2023 – It's time to witness history in the making as the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sports Awards (NATSISA) return after a remarkable 20-year hiatus. This is an event that will resonate not just with sports enthusiasts, but with every Australian who understands the profound cultural significance of Indigenous sports and is eager to be part of an evening that defines a generation.

A GRAND REVIVAL OF INDIGENOUS SPORTING LEGACY

The Awards will be hosted on the 11th of November 2023 at the 'Olympic Room' of the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG), marking a momentous milestone in celebrating Indigenous sporting achievements and heritage. The revival of this event comes as an electrifying postscript to a chapter in history.

A NIGHT OF UNITY AND CELEBRATION

Wayne Coolwell, Chairperson of the National Indigenous Sports Foundation, echoes the sentiment of the evening, stating, "Sport is absolutely central to the spiritual, social, cultural, and physical well-being of First Nations people." This rekindling of NATSISA is a testament to the enduring spirit of Indigenous sports and culture, and a moment of unity that extends beyond the sporting arena.

BE PART OF AN UNFORGETTABLE EVENING

Hosted by the charismatic media personality, Shelley Ware, The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sports Awards promises a night of rich culture, as well as an intimate one-on-one conversation with the legendary AFL star, Eddie Betts.

NEW AWARDS, NEW HORIZONS

The 2023 Awards introduces two prestigious award categories, reflecting a deeper commitment to recognising excellence in Indigenous sports. The Trailblazer Award acknowledges those who have paved the way for the stars of today, while the Lifetime Achievement Award honours those who have achieved greatness beyond measure in their chosen sports.

The distinguished judging panel, comprising of Olympian Kyle Vanderkuyp, Koori Mail editor Darren Moncrieff, NRL Star Dean Widder, AFL legend Neville Jetta, Rugby Union legend Mark Ella, and Jody Barney, a proud Deaf Aboriginal/South Sea Islander woman, have had the privilege of selecting the worthy award recipients.

Corporate Event sponsors include:

- Melbourne Football Club
- HART Sport
- RH Sports
- Koori Mail

The award categories and their relevant sponsors on the evening will be:

- National Sports Volunteer sponsored by Art Yarramunua
- National Sporting Organisation sponsored by Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative
- National Sports Team sponsored by Pullman Melbourne on the Park and Accor Group
- National Sportsperson with a Disability sponsored by Fellowship for Indigenous Leadership
- National Sports Official of the Year sponsored by City of Melbourne Indigenous Programs
- National Sports Media Representative sponsored by Confederation of Australian Sport
- National Sports Coach of the Year sponsored by Vic Health
- National Junior Sportsperson of the Year sponsored by the AFL
- National Sporting Competition of the Year sponsored by No Limit Boxing Promotions
- National Sportsperson of the Year sponsored by Barpa Constructions
- National Senior Elder Sportsperson of the Year sponsored by First Peoples Assembly of Victoria
- National Lifetime Achievement Award sponsored by Australian Sports Museum
- National Trailblazer Award sponsored by Dhudhuroa and Waywuru Nations Aboriginal Corporation.

SEIZE THE MOMENT!

This is not just an event; it's a chance to be part of history. Don't miss the opportunity to be in the room where Indigenous sporting excellence will take centre stage. Celebrate history: Make history.

Join the Celebration! **Click HERE** for ticket sales.

For further information and to interview key people please contact:

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