

Karen Jackson

Geelong's first Open Overall Australian Champion.

Karen trained very hard throughout her skiing career. She went to America to get the best coaching she could find. It has been said that Karen punched above her weight. She frequently skied right up to her best making it difficult for her opposition. She was a true 3 event skier with triumphs in Slalom, Trick, Jump and Overall.

She had classically good style and technique. Always very neat and controlled. She can thank her natural talent and her coaches.

Her coaches were

Jack Ellison – at age 6

Mike Ferraro & Chet Raley in Florida USA for tricks & slalom

Ray Stokes for slalom and jump

Also various Australian coaches at ski schools.

Her PB's

- Slalom 0.5 at 55kph 11.25m at the 2004 Okeeheelee record tournament in Florida USA.
- Tricks 6160 at the Australian Masters at Latrobe on 22/1/2005
- Jump 44.2m at 04AUS310 the 2004 Australian Masters at Latrobe.

VICTORIAN RECORDS

She broke seven Victorian Over 21 records and one Open Women's record.

| Age limit | Event | Score | Tournament/Location | Date |
|-----------|--------|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------|
| O21 | Tricks | 6050 | Masters Latrobe | 15/02/2003 |
| O21 | Slalom | 3 at 12m 55k | Nationals Port Macquarie | 21/04/2003 |
| O21 | Jump | 40.7m | Nationals Port Macquarie | 21/04/2003 |
| O21 | Jump | 43.1 | Florida State Championships | 13/07/2003 |
| O21 | Slalom | 0.5 at 11.25m 55k | Okeeheelee Record Slalom + Trick | 29/07/2003 |
| O21 | Jump | 44.2m | Masters Latrobe | 26/01/2004 |
| O21 | Tricks | 6100 | Victorian Championships Mulwala | 20/03/2004 |
| Open | Tricks | 6100 | Victorian Championships Mulwala | 20/03/2004 |

AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVE

She represented Australia 16 times:-

Junior World Championships in 1994 in Mexico and 1996 in Canada.

Asian Australasian championships in 1998 in Melbourne, in 2000 in Christchurch New Zealand and in 2004 in Zhanjiang, Guangdong in China.

Aussie Kiwi Challenge 8 times:- 1993 in Geelong, 1994 New Zealand, 1995 in Geelong, 1996 New Zealand, 1997 in New Zealand, 1999 in New Zealand , 2000 in Albury and 2001 in New Zealand.

Trans-Tasman Challenge 2005 in Melbourne.

World Games in Akita Japan in 2001 and in Duisburg Germany in 2005.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1991 tricks in Under 14 Girls at Myuna Bay NSW

1992 tricks, jump and overall in Under 14 Girls at Albany WA

1993 Slalom, Tricks, Jump and overall in the Under 14 Girls at Moorook in South Australia

1994 Tricks in Under 18 Girls at Canberra ACT

1995 Tricks, Jump and Overall in Under 18 Girls at Latrobe Valley.

1997 Slalom, Tricks, Jump and overall in the Under 18 Girls at Nambour Queensland.

2004. Her crowning glory. Karen won the Overall Open Women's Championship. This is in addition to being runner up in 2003 and 2005.

VICTORIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS AND AWARDS

1987 Under 10 Tricks

1991 Under 14 Tricks

1992 Most Improved

1993 Under 14 Slalom, Tricks, Jump and Overall

1994 Under 18 Slalom and Overall

1997 Most Improved

1998 Open Jump and Overall

2002 Open Slalom, Tricks, Jump and Overall

2003 Open Slalom, Tricks, Jump and Overall

2004 Open Slalom, Tricks and Overall

2005 Open Tricks, Jump and Overall

GEELONG CLUB AWARDS

Over the years Karen has won many Geelong Club Awards.

4 times Most Improved Junior Tournament Skier for the Beretta Family Trophy in 1992, 1993, 1994 and 1997.

5 times the Best Raw score for the Shaw Family Trophy. 1996, 1997, 1998, 2003 and 2004.

2 times winner of the President's Trophy. 2004 and 2005.

2 times Club Slalom Champion 2001 and 2003.

3 times Club Trick Champion. 1989, 2000 and 2001.

2 times Club Jump champion, 1996 and 2004.

5 times Club Overall Champion. 1994, 1997, 2000, 2001 and 2005.

FAMILY SUPPORT.

Karen followed her older brother Mark into tournament skiing. Mark won the Bruce Owen Trophy in 1986 and Beretta Family Trophy in 1988. He was National Under 14 Trick Champion in 1990. Karen stayed in the sport much longer than Mark.

Her Dad, Bobby, was a prominent tournament driver. He was on the GWSC Committee and was Vice President.

Karen's biggest supporter is her Mum, Di. Di is a Level 1 judge in all 3 events. She judged at World Junior titles in Mexico & Canada, Asian-Australasian championships at Melbourne, New Zealand & China and at Moomba for a number of years.

Di still joins the judging panel at tournaments in Geelong long after has Karen stopped competing. She was also the Australian Team manager for the Aussie Kiwi Challenge in 1993 and 1995.

Di was secretary of the GSSC and is an Honorary Life Member.