

Eddie Gilbert Medal

Rohanee Cox (North)

A product of Broome, WA, Rohanee won a Basketball scholarship to Willetton Senior High School in Year 8. Her talent on the court later resulted in her being selected for the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra where she trained for several years. After walking away from the game for three years due to injury and the birth of her daughter, Rohanee returned to the WNBL with the Townsville Fire in 2005. Known as the 'Comeback Girl' she went on to Co-Captain the Townsville Fire in 2008 and later achieved what most could only dream- winning a silver medal with the Australian Opals at the Beijing Olympics in 2008.

Regional Winners

Roneece Cupitt (South East)

A strong figure in the Brisbane Indigenous community for the past 16 years, Roneece is involved in many facets of sport. She began coaching in 1992 in Athletics at St Patrick's Winton before taking coaching roles in swimming and later hockey. A talented hockey player herself, Roneece contributes to the sport as a player, coach and fundraiser. In 2000, Roneece became a member of the St Peters Swimming Association, later becoming Secretary and President. Roneece's involvement includes work in North West Queensland with the Gulf Sport and Recreation Association and Hockey Queensland.

Joshua Ah Wong (Central)

Growing up in East Mackay, Joshua displayed talent on the athletics track. Competing in the sport for only five years, he has competed at state and national level in 100m, 400m and 800m events. An active member of the community, Josh has helped the Saint Mary's School for Multicultural Day and organised the Aboriginal Games activity at schools in Townsville, Longreach and Mackay as part of their NAIDOC week activities. In 2007 Joshua was awarded for his contribution to athletics and the Central Queensland community when he won the Leigh Ann Goodwin Indigenous Sports Youth Award.

Nathan Jawai (Far North)

From the tip of Cape York in Bamaga to the world stage, Nathan is poised to become one of Australia's greatest basketballers. Having only played the game since the age of 16, Nathan was a member of the Cairn Taipans NBL team where he was recognised as the 2008 NBL rookie player of the year and the Taipans most valuable player. Only five years after beginning his basketball career, Nathan, known as 'Baby Shaq' was this year drafted at pick 41 to the Toronto Raptors in the NBA.

Chris Sandow (South West)

Kingaroy's Chris Sandow started his career in Brisbane with South Logan Magpies. He represented Queensland in under-17s and under 19s schoolboys before going on to play for the Gold Coast Titans. After a short stint with the Titans, he has not looked back since transferring to the Rabbitohs. In 2008 he has taken out the 2008 Dally M Rookie of the Year Award, the inaugural George Green Medal as the NRL's Indigenous Rising Star and gained selection in the Indigenous Squad for the Dreamtime match which forms part of Rugby League's Centenary celebrations. He also won the Peter Moore Award as South Sydney's rookie of the year. Off the field Sandow is taking part in the South's Cares Program. He is also completing a traineeship with ARL Development whilst carrying out his Certificate III in Community and Recreation.

Patock Tamwoy (Torres Strait)

Hailing from Badu Island, 22-year-old Patrick Tamwoy was this year selected to travel to New Zealand with the National Indigenous Touch Football Team. He was also selected in the North Queensland open men's touch football team to play at Nationals next year. He was a member of the TI Rugby League Grand Final Team with Badu Island and also excels at Basketball.

Phillip Harrison (North West)

A leader of the Normanton Stingers Rugby League Team, Phillip won player of the finals in the Stingers' victory over Hughendon in the Mid-West Rugby League's Bob Katta Cup. He is part of the Stingers team that won a 2008 National Crime and Violence Prevention Award. He took part in a ground breaking campaign in Far North Queensland where he was used as a role model to create a culture in which domestic violence is not the norm. There has been a 55% drop in domestic violence since the program was instituted.

Robbie Williams Encouragement Award & Leigh Ann Goodwin Youth Award

Joel Hagan

Joel's interest in sport spans Rugby League, AFL and athletics. His abilities in both Rugby League and AFL were shown this year when he represented both Queensland teams in the U12s. His involvement in athletics has also seen him represent the Queensland's athletics team in 2007 and 2008. His quick pace saw him brake records in 100m at Darling Downs regional level and recently almost broke the U12 100m record at QEII. His next competition is for Queensland at the Pan Pacific Games in Canberra.