

2017 Merbein & District Community Bank 97.9 Triple M . Northern Mallee Sports Star Gala Awards Evening Sports Star Newsletter Supplement

The 2017 Merbein & District Community Bank 97.9 Triple M Northern Mallee Sports Star Gala Awards evening was held at the Mildura Club Da Vinci on Friday 9th February, 2018 . With the room filled with representatives from all different sporting codes Mr Bill Sauer was again the MC for the evening interviewing the "Sporting Stars" as well as entertaining the audience.

After presenting the Sporting Blues, Masters, Junior Encouragement, Senior Team, Junior Team, Club, Coach, Administrator, Disability, Aboriginal and Volunteer Awards; Guest Speaker Catherine Skinner Gold Medallist, 2016 Rio Olympics in the field of Trap Shooting. Winning gold at Rio was Catherine's first international shoot. Catherine spoke of her journey to the Olympics highlighting the highs and lows that she experienced over this time. Catherine took up shooting at the age of 12 when she could obtain a junior licence.

Catherine had to have a shoot-off to qualify for the final 6, and after that she shot 14 out of 15 to shoot for gold. During the competition she was able to keep her composure during bad weather, technical difficulties and any other issues with her winning gold by 1 shot.

Whilst Catherine travelled locally and internationally with shooting she was still studying Chemical Engineering at University with her degree taking eight years to complete. Catherine spoke about having a plan for both your sport and after sport. What success brings and how to deal with this. At the conclusion of the night Catherine gave freely of her time for photos, autographs or just to speak to individuals. Many thanks Catherine for enlightening us with your journey to the gold medal.

The final segment of the evening being the announcement of the 2017 Merbein & District Community Bank 97.9 Triple M Northern Mallee Sports Star of the Year being Luke Argiro who was nominated by the Mildura Clay Target Club Luke was presented with the Peter Manolas Trophy as the 2017 Merbein & District Community Bank 97.9 Triple M Northern Mallee Sports Star of the Year.





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Mallee Sports Assembly congratulates all nominees and winners of the Sports Star awards. The category winners on the night were:

- Telstra Business Centre (Mildura) Award -**
- AV Trophies Junior Encouragement Award –**
- Viatek Senior Team Award –**
- WIN Network Junior Team Award –**
- Autosynergy Club Award -**
- Mildura Waves Coach Award –**
- Sunraysia Daily Administrator Award –**
- Rural Access Athlete with a Disability Award –**
- Department of Justice & Regulation Aboriginal Award**
- Mildura Rural City Council Volunteer Award –**
- Sporting Blues -**

- Master Award Glen Walker - Swimming - Coomealla Mildura Triathlon Club
- Sebastian Pollifrone—Athletics (Field) Mildura Little Athletics Club
- Full Noize Racing Team - Mildura Motorcycle Club
- Mildura City Soccer Club U12 team
- North West Victorian Motorcycle Club
- George Moraitis - Mildura City Soccer Club
- Scott Anderson - Irymple Cricket Club
- Cosi Cirillo – Mildura City Soccer Club, Football Federation Sunraysia
- Melissa Bailey - Bambill Football Netball Club, Mildura City Soccer Club, Football Federation Sunraysia
- Ron Boyd - Mildura Workers Bowls Club
- Baden Kalms - Volleyball, Sebastian Pollifrone - Athletics (Field)



Sporting Blues Recipients - Presented by Kym Mayne to Baden Kalms and Sebastian Pollifrone



Master Athlete - Presented by Jack Galloway Telstra Business Centre Mildura to Glen Walker -Coomealla Mildura Triathlon Club



Junior Encouragement Award - Presented by Peter Hahn –AV Trophies to Sebastian Pollifrone Mildura Little Athletics Club



Senior Team Award - Presented by Gayle Danson representing Viatek to Andrew Summerhayes and Mr Monson representing Full Noize—Mildura Motorcycle Club





Junior Team Award - Presented by Charlie Chambers WIN TV to George Moraitis - Mildura City Soccer Club U12 Team representative



Club Award - Presented by Frank Cavallo Autosynergy to Julie Waters - North West Vic Motorcycle Club



Coach Award - Presented by Rod Simms Mildura Waves to George Moraitis - Mildura City Soccer Club



Administrator Award - Presented by Angus Dearlove Sunraysia Daily to Scott Anderson - Irymple Cricket Club



Disability Award - Presented by Jeni Snadden Rural Access to Cosimo Cirillo - Mildura City Soccer Club & Football Federation Sunraysia



Volunteer Award - Presented by Mayor Eckel Mildura Rural City Council to Ron Boyd - Mildura Workers Bowls Club



Aboriginal Award - Presented by Rhonda Gallienne Dept Justice & Regulation to Melissa Bailey - Mildura City Soccer Club, Bambill FNC and Football Federation Sunraysia.





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