

The Carbine Club of NSW



John Devitt AM

Born: February 1937, NSW

Carbine Club Member since: 1974 (Special Member)

Current employment: Retired

John Devitt is one of Australia's sporting greats and a multiple Olympic medallist. The former Australian sprint freestyle swimmer's career included a gold medal winning performance in the men's 4x200m freestyle relay at the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne. At his home Olympic Games John also finished with a silver medal in the men's 100m freestyle.

John continued his success in the pool winning his second Olympic gold in the men's 100m freestyle at the 1960 Rome Olympic Games. He also finished with a bronze medal in the men's 4x200m freestyle relay at the Games.

Following a career of distinction in the pool John continued his involvement in the sport of swimming, becoming an International Director and Board Member of Speedo (1957-1979). In 1988 he was elected Director of Australian Swimming, a position that he held until 2004. He was also President 2001-2004

John also was a member of the Australian Olympic Committee (1985-2001) and in 1991 he was elected as Vice President, a position he held until his retirement in 2001.

John's outstanding sporting achievements and his commitment to sport post his athletic career have seen him receive several accolades for his efforts. In 2000 he was awarded the International Olympic Committee Silver Award and he has also been inducted into the Australian Sports Hall of Fame in Melbourne and the Swimming Hall of Fame in Fort Lauderdale USA. In 2008 he was awarded the FINA Prize and in 1989 he became a Member of the Order of Australia.