

## **JACQUI COOPER BIO TO BE USED FOR EVENT MARKETING**

Jacqui Cooper represented Australia in the sport of aerial skiing for over 20 years. Spotted on a trampoline in Melbourne at age 16 she was quickly recruited with a vision for her to be a World Champion 10 years later. With a detailed plan in place and unwavering commitment from Jacqui she became a World Champion; and in the decade that followed, Jacqui Cooper dominated and revolutionised her sport.

In a long and decorated career, Jacqui has competed in 139 World Cup Events, nine World Championships and has been selected to five Winter Olympic teams, the first Australian Woman in history (Summer or Winter Games) to have enjoyed this honour. And with a record five world titles, 39 World Cup medals, 24 World Cup wins and three major World Championship medals, Jacqui Cooper is indisputably the greatest aerial skier of all time.

Jacqui's sport, however, is unforgiving; she has multiple reconstructions for her knee, elbow, shoulder and hip. In 2001 she broke her back in an attempt to win a record third World Title; she went on and won it. In 2002 at the Salt Lake City Winter Olympics Jacqui shattered her knee and broke her leg just two days before scheduled to compete, destroying a dream years in the making.

In 2010, Jacqui competed in Vancouver after a year of intense hip and knee rehabilitation, shocking doctors, and spectators with her brave attempt to be competitive, despite the odds. She spent most of the months leading into the competition in a wheelchair, learning to walk again, and gaining confidence in a sport that is often brutal and cruel. She stunned the world when she placed fifth, the best Olympic result of her career.

***"Jacqui Cooper is a true legend. She did not win a medal, but her performance in finishing 5th in the women's freestyle aerial event epitomised all that is so great about Australian sport." – Matt Miller, CEO Australian Sports Commission***

In between training and competing in events Jacqui devoted much of her time to various Sporting Committees around the world making sure she can be a voice for her peers at a National and International level. Over two decades spent time on the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) Board, the AOC Athlete's Commission (Deputy Chair), Ski and Snowboard Australia Board, the Australian Institute of Sport Athletes Commission, the International Ski Federation (FIS) Athletes Committee, the FIS Freestyle Athletes Committee, the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Athlete's Committee and the WADA education committee.



Over 20 years Jacqui has won many awards in recognition for her achievements in sport and for her involvement in the community. During her career she was honoured as the Victorian Young Australian of the Year for Sport, Victorian Sports Woman of the year and a multiple winner of Ski and Snowboard Athlete of the year. Her most recent award was the Governor's Award, presented to her at the Victorian Sports Awards in 2008 for being a role model, a champion, and a woman who is successful in sport and life.

Jacqui's most recent award was presented to her by the man that recruited her into the sport of Aerial skiing when she was 16 years old. In May 2025 at the Snow Australia annual awards Geoff Lipshut presented Jacqui with the prestigious Snow Australia Medal. The medal is an acknowledgement of her stellar career, her trail blazing legacy, and her longevity in the sport that she dominated and revolutionised. It is a lifetime achievement award that represents commitment, resilience, stoicism, leadership and success.

In addition to sport, Jacqui's passion is the education of young people on the importance of a healthy lifestyle, nutrition, being role models, pursuing your dreams, being active, and goal setting. Jacqui speaks to all levels of students.

Since retiring from sport Jacqui wasted no time using her skills, entrepreneurial qualities and attributes that made her incredibly successful in sport and in business.

Jacqui is a very successful motivational speaker, MC and workshop facilitator engaging with audiences in Australia and overseas. Her client list has topped 2,000 for audiences as small as a handful of people, to thousands of people seated in stadiums. Jacqui's story is one of triumph, tragedy, defeat, and success. It's a story that makes you believe in the strength of the human spirit. Her passion, persistence, and unwavering commitment and to a sport that is brutal and cruel, is absolutely awe inspiring.

Through honest, authentic and energetic storytelling, Jacqui connects with her audience, making her session compelling, relatable, and inspirational. She leaves a lasting impression of "Success is not final; failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts".