

MEDIA RELEASE

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**NATIONAL
SPORTS
MUSEUM**
moments that made us

Rose honoured at the National Sports Museum

To honour the career and life of boxing champion Lionel Rose, the National Sports Museum has unveiled a new display.

Rose was one of Australia's most successful sporting greats and was the first indigenous Australian to win a world title. He passed away on May 8 at the age of 62.

The display features a trophy awarded to Rose when he successfully defended his world Bantamweight title against Takao Sakurai in Tokyo on July 2, 1968. That same year he was named Australian of the Year.

The trophy is on display from today until June 19. It joins several other items that reflect the boxing champion's career, including a pair of boxing boots from 1971 when he retired, and a second trophy he was awarded for his 1968 title defence fight in Japan.

The display of boxing memorabilia at the National Sports Museum includes other items celebrating the history of boxing in Australia, including Johnny Famechon's world championship belt.

General Manager of the National Sports Museum, Margaret Birtley said the museum was proud to commemorate Lionel Rose with these exhibits.

"Our display celebrates and respects a great athlete's life and achievements. It's a tribute to Lionel Rose's outstanding career, and one which I think will interest boxing and sporting fans alike."

The National Sports Museum is located inside Gate 3 (Olympic Stand) at the MCG. Opening hours are 10am - 5pm. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

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