Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE2237

Gilbert, Karla

(1975 -)

Born	19750228, Southport Queensland Australia
Occupation	Ironwoman, Surf Lifesaver

Summary

Karla Gilbert's record speaks for itself. She has won back to back world Ironwoman championships (2000 and 2002), seven consecutive Ironwoman series wins (1996-2002), sixteen Australian championships, seven Queensland titles and numerous other championship events. There is absolutely no doubt of her dominance in the sport throughout the 1990s and early 2000's. Furthermore, through her involvement at the highest level, Gilbert has helped to raise public awareness of surf lifesaving in the community.

Gilbert entered the sport in 1980, when her parents joined her in the Nippers program at Palm Beach. She won her first attempt at a professional ironwoman event (the first even professional ironwoman race in Australia) ten years later in 1990. She was only fifteen years old.

Events

2003 - 2003
Inducted into the Gold Coast Sporting Hall of Fame

2005 - 2005
Inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame

Published resources

Site Exhibition
She's Game: Women Making Australian Sporting History, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2007, http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/sg/sport-home.html

Resource
Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

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