

Our Proud Olympic History

Los Angeles 1984

Eventing

Wayne Roycroft

Vicki Roycroft

Andrew Hoy

Merv Bennett

Jumping

Jeff McVean

Greg Eurell

George Sanna

Dressage

Margaret Mclvor



Andrew Hoy and *Davey* at the 1984 LA Olympic Games

The Olympic Team to represent Australia in Eventing at Los Angeles in 1984 was Wayne Roycroft on *Regal Monarch*, Merv Bennett on *Regal Reign*, Vicki Roycroft on *Looking Ahead* and Andrew Hoy on *Davey*. The team began their training in Canberra with help of the newly formed Australian Institute of Sport., Then moved to Merv Bennett's property in Worrigege for a brief stint before departing for LA.

All horses performed nice tests leaving the Australians within reach of a medal after the dressage phase. Cross-country day saw Wayne take an unfortunate wrong turn during the very complicated steeplechase course eliminating him from the competition. Merv, Andrew and Vicki all had clear rounds with a few time penalties each. The showjumping course was quite big resulting in very few clear rounds on the day, one of which was Vicki. Andrew had one rail down and Merv two. The final placings saw Andrew finish in 15th position, Merv in 19th and Vicki in 21st with the Australian team in fifth place overall - a commendable result considering the run of bad luck suffered by the team with injuries to horses throughout preparation and only one team member eventually riding their intended mount in the competition.

The Jumping Team of Jeff McVean on *King Omega*, Greg Eurell on *Mr. Shrimpton* and George Sanna on *Kite* finished in 9th place with Jeff finishing the highest of the Australians in 23rd place. Margaret Mclvor was the first Australian rider to compete at an Olympic Games in Dressage finishing in 42nd place riding *CK*.