



LEIGH MATTHEWS

Talent Profile





There is no more respected figure in Australian Football. With more than 50 years of excellence as player, coach and media expert, Leigh Matthews is synonymous with winning. Considered by many to be the greatest player of all-time, his incredible coaching record and astute media insights have rounded out a resume worthy of a Hall of Fame Legend.



NATIONALITY

Australian

DATE OF BIRTH

3/1/52

TEAMS

3AW Football
Seven AFL
Brisbane Lions (Coach)
Collingwood (Coach)
Hawthorn (Player)
Chelsea

CAPABILITIES

Keynote
Guest Panellist
Ambassador
PR Campaign
Appearances

INTERESTS

Wellbeing
Leadership
Family

BIO

Leigh played his junior footy for Chelsea and was already playing senior suburban football by the age of 16 when the Hawks recruited him in 1969, winning their Best First Year Player as a forward pocket before moving into a midfield/forward role in 1970 where he took the competition by storm.

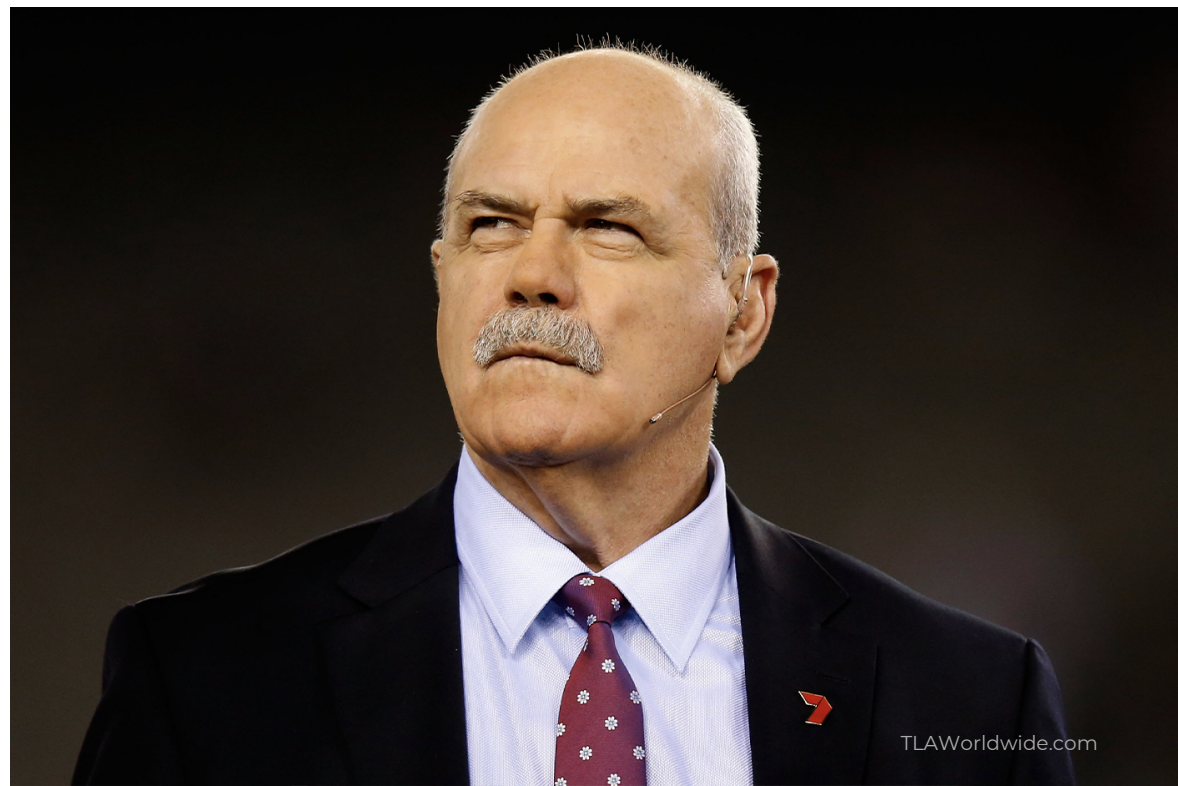
In his 16 year playing career, Matthews played 332 games for Hawthorn and amassed an astonishing list of records and accolades that rank favourably alongside any to have played the game.

Four Premierships, eight Best and Fairests in a period of complete dominance for the Hawks, a League leading goalkicker and Players' Association MVP, three-time All-Australian in the era of national carnivals and 14 games for the Big V as one of the most skilful, explosive, fearless and terrifying competitors in the game's history, capable of turning a game with a moment of magic or mayhem.

He retired as an all-time great player at the end of 1985, taking on the Assistant Coach role with Collingwood. But when senior coach Bob Rose stepped down just X games into the season, Matthews was suddenly thrust into the senior role.

He was the key figure in rebuilding the Magpies from a position of on and off-field peril in 1986 to win a famous 32-year drought-breaking premiership just four years later, in what was one of the most brilliantly orchestrated turnarounds in football history.

Matthews would go on to coach the Magpies for nine years before deciding to take a step back from the relentless demands of coaching.



CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

1996	AFL Team of the Century
2019	Hawthorn Team of the Century
2001-2003	Brisbane Lions Premiership Coach
2001-2003	All Australian (Coach)
1990	Collingwood Premiership Coach
1983	Hawthorn Premiership Player (C)
1978	Hawthorn Premiership Player (VC)
1976	Hawthorn Premiership Player (VC)
1971	Hawthorn Premiership Player
1975	Coleman Medallist
1972	All Australian
1982	Hawthorn Best & Fairest
1980	Hawthorn Best & Fairest
1976-1978	Hawthorn Best & Fairest
1974	Hawthorn Best & Fairest
1972	Hawthorn Best & Fairest
1971	Hawthorn Best & Fairest
1981-1985	Hawthorn Captain
1981-1984	Hawthorn Leading Goal Kicker
1975	Hawthorn Leading Goal Kicker
1973	Hawthorn Leading Goal Kicker
2001-2003	Jock McHale Medallist
1990	Jock McHale Medallist



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