



# Jason Sleep

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## Wheel Talk Presenter Profile

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### INTRODUCTION

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<b>Date of Birth:</b>	2/7/70
<b>Sport:</b>	Waterskiing and Athletics
<b>Discipline:</b>	MP2 Division & Wheelchair Racing
<b>Disability:</b>	Paraplegic
<b>How acquired:</b>	Motor bike accident
<b>Residence:</b>	Bendigo, Victoria
<b>Occupation:</b>	Athlete & Wheel Talk Presenter

### BIOGRAPHY

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**Sport career highlights:**

World Champion Slalom Skier, 2007  
Australian Record Holder, 2007  
Australian Slalom Champion, 2006-2007

**Honours/ Awards:**

Wheelchair Sports Victoria Athlete of the Year, 2007  
Bendigo region Sport Star of the month of May, 2007

Jason Sleep, the Wheelchair Sports Victoria Athlete of the Year in 2007 is an accomplished and champion waterskiier. The current waterskiing world champion and 4 times Australian champion, Jason acquired his disability when he was injured in a quad-bike accident. He was a keen water skier prior to his accident, coming from a water skiing family. So it was understandable that Jason continued to ski after his accident and has gone on to achieve extraordinary results.

However, at the end of 2008 Jason thought it was time to expand his sporting pursuits and include an additional sport to his sporting repertoire in 2009. Jason has a passion for many sports and has taken up wheelchair racing with the fierce passion that he applies to all of his sporting pursuits.

Living with his wife and two daughters in Bendigo, Jason became involved with wheelchair racing because of the appeal of a new sport to conquer. Having won everything possible in waterskiing, the desire to test his abilities in a new discipline is compelling. Jason's long-term goal is to become a Paralympian in the sport.

When Jason is not 'pushing' around the track in his chair or flying across the water on a ski, Jason is a popular Wheel Talk Disability Awareness Program presenter for Wheelchair Sports Victoria. The 'Wheel Talk' program teaches students about spinal cord injury and prevention, in addition to the range of sport and recreational opportunities available to people living in the community with a disability. Jason has played an important role in assisting the organisation to raise awareness and educate over 17,000 participants annually throughout Metropolitan Melbourne and Regional Victoria.