

80s sport

1980

- Australian Formula One driver, Alan Jones wins the driver's championship
- US announces boycott of Moscow Olympic Games to protest USSR invasion of Afghanistan (21 March)
- The Australian Olympic Federation votes 6–5 in favour of sending a team to the Moscow Olympics despite the Federal Government's request for a boycott to protest USSR's invasion of Afghanistan (23 May)
- Australia's Evonne Cawley wins her second Women's Singles tennis title at Wimbledon (5 July)
- Queensland defeat NSW 20–10 in first State of Origin rugby league match (8 July)
- The 1980 Moscow Olympics are televised on Seven, live via satellite (19 July – 3 August)

1981

- Anti-Cancer Council launches its 'Slip, Slop, Slap' Campaign
- The Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) in Canberra is officially opened by Prime Minister, Malcolm Fraser (26 January)
- Trevor Chappell in a one-day match against New Zealand bowls the final ball underarm to Brian McKechnie, creating a cricket scandal (1 February)
- Parramatta wins the rugby league premiership for the first time, defeating Newtown 20–11 (27 September)

1982

- [Sir Edward Williams](#), Brisbane Commonwealth Games Chairman, named Australian of the Year (26 January)
- Sydney Swans, the first VFL club outside Victoria, play their first home game at the Sydney Cricket Ground (29 March)
- The Commonwealth Games open in Brisbane (30 September)

1983

- Leading international marathon runner of the 80s, [Robert De Castella](#), named Australian of the Year (26 January)
- Cliff Young, a 61 year-old potato farmer, wins a Sydney to Melbourne foot race (3 May)
- Dick Smith completes the [first solo flight](#) around the world in a [helicopter](#) (22 July)
- Alan Bond's yacht [Australia II](#) wins the America's Cup (27 September)
- Pat Cash clinches Davis Cup tennis win for Australia over Sweden (28 December)

1984

- USSR announces boycott of Los Angeles Olympics (12 May)
- Tim MacCartney-Snape and Greg Mortimer become the first Australians to reach the summit of Mount Everest (3 October)

1985

- Australian boxer, Jeff Fenech wins World Bantamweight title (26 April)
- Adelaide hosts the first Australian Grand Prix to be held as part of the Formula One championship (8 November)

1986

- Nike releases Air Jordan shoes in Australia (March)
- Argentina wins soccer World Cup in Mexico (29 June)
- The Commonwealth Games open in Edinburgh, Scotland (24 July)

1987

- Pat Cash defeats Ivan Lendl to win Wimbledon Men's Singles tennis title (5 July)
- Sydney Swans player Warwick Capper totals 103 goals for the season (September)

1988

- Gaby Kennard becomes the first Australian woman to fly solo around the world
- Solo yachtswoman, [Kay Cottee](#), named Australian of the Year (26 January)
- [Kay Cottee](#) arrives back at Sydney Harbour in her yacht *First Lady*, becoming the first woman to sail solo non-stop around the world (5 June)

1989

- Test cricket captain [Allan Border](#) named Australian of the Year (26 January)
- [Wayne Gardner](#) wins inaugural Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix at Phillip Island (9 April)
- Allan Border's Australian cricket team regains the Ashes in England (1 August)
- Canberra Raiders win their first rugby league grand final, defeating Balmain 19–14 (24 September)